

# Information for Graduate Students in Academic Year 2015

Kobe University will adopt the quarter system, making changes to the AY2016 academic calendar that will take effect throughout the University. From AY2016 Kobe University will offer classes according to the format detailed below. Please be aware that in AY2016 the procedures for registration, tuition fees and school credits will continue to operate according to the academic semester system.

The application of the quarter system varies from school to school, so please check with the administration office of each school for their detailed schedule.

*\* The dates below are the proposed schedule for AY2016 and may change, so please check the latest information on Uribo-Portal.*

## 1. Academic Calendar

We will divide the academic year into 4 terms, and name each term “quarter”.

The dates below are for the standard university-wide schedule, and the duration of classes may vary depending on the graduate school. For details, please contact the relevant graduate school office.

<p><b>Until the end of Mar. 2016</b></p> <p><b>Semester System</b></p> <p>1 class per week for 16 weeks (including examination days)</p>	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.
	The 1 <sup>st</sup> Semester						The 2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester					
	Classes					Summer vacation	Classes					Spring vacation
<p><b>From AY2016</b></p> <p><b>Quarter System</b></p> <p>1 class per week for 8 weeks or 2 classes per week for 8 weeks (including examination days)</p>	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.
	The 1 <sup>st</sup> Semester						The 2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester					
	<b>The 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter</b> Classes Apr.1-June 9		<b>The 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter</b> Classes June 10-Aug. 9		Summer vacation	<b>The 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter</b> Classes Oct.1-Dec. <b>45</b>		<b>The 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter</b> Classes Dec. <b>56</b> -Feb.10		Spring vacation		

## 2. Class schedules

Taking the nature of different classes into consideration, we will offer classes according to patterns I – III described below. Patterns I and II are “quarter classes”, and III will take the format of “semester classes”.

### I ) 1 class per week for 8 weeks (including examination days)

The term during which classes are offered is half the length of the current term, and the credit is also halved. In most courses, passing two new classes corresponds to passing one class under the old semester system.

### II ) 2 classes per week for 8 weeks (including examination days)

Offering 2 classes per week, for example <Mon. and Wed.> or <Tue. and Thu.>

### III ) 1 class per week for 16 weeks (including examination days)

Offering 1 class per week as in the current academic semester system.

This information applies to graduate students. Undergraduate students should verify this information at the relevant school office.  
 Updated January 7<sup>th</sup> 2016 : Changes in the schedule are written in red.

### 3. Class registration and withdrawal

The class registration period will take place each academic semester, and there will be a withdrawal period during each academic quarter. For some courses advance registration may be necessary.

Class registration period		Withdrawal period	
The 1 <sup>st</sup> Semester (The 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter/The 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter)	Apr.7-20	The 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter (including the 1 <sup>st</sup> semester classes)	Apr.21-27
		The 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter	June 24-30
The 2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester (The 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter/ The 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter)	Oct.3-17	The 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter (including the 2 <sup>nd</sup> semester classes)	Oct.18-24
		The 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter	Dec. <del>19</del> 20-26

### 4. Grades and credits

We will announce class grades in each quarter. However, the acquisition of credits will continue to operate by academic semester, so acquisition of credits will be shown on each student's academic record at the end of the semester. We may announce grades separately for students in their final year of study.

Announcement of grades		Acquisition of credits
The 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	June 27	End of the semester
The 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter (including the 1 <sup>st</sup> semester classes)	Sept.16	
The 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter	Dec. <del>20</del> 21	End of the semester
The 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter (including the 2 <sup>nd</sup> semester classes)	Mar.17	

### 5. Class times

We will establish a Period 6 in order to offer supplementary classes.

The length of each class will be 90 minutes. Class times may vary depending on the graduate school.

Period 1	8 : 50~10 : 20
Period 2	10 : 40~12 : 10
Period 3	13 : 20~14 : 50
Period 4	15 : 10~16 : 40
Period 5	17 : 00~18 : 30
Period 6	18 : 50~20 : 20

## Merits of the quarter system

1. Previously, students who left during the academic semester in order to study abroad could not receive credits for that semester. In the quarter system, students will be able to complete the course in the standard duration of study for a master's program, even if they participate in summer programs and short-term study abroad during the academic quarter and vacation period.
2. The quarter system provides access to a variety of activities such as volunteer work and international internships.
3. Shorter courses (1 class per week for 8 weeks or 2 classes per week for 8 weeks) will enable students to concentrate their studies over a short period of time.

## The following items will not be changed in AY2016 or at any later date.

### Acquisition of credits

Students can check their grades for each academic quarter, but the date for the acquisition of credits will remain at the end of each academic semester, as in the current system.

### Leave of Absence

(General Rules for Students Article 41) If a student is not able to study at Kobe University for three or more consecutive months due to sickness or other reasons, the student may obtain permission from the head of their faculty to take a leave of absence. (This shall apply mutatis mutandis for graduate students (Article 77).)

\*Students are exempt from the tuition fee absence from school. However, the period of exemption varies depending on the date of your application, so please contact the relevant graduate school office in advance.

### Completion of Course

The date of credit acquisition will not change, so the date of course completion will also remain unchanged. Please note that in order to pass the screening of either their master's dissertation or research results, students will not be allowed a leave of absence during their final semester.

### Payment of Tuition Fees

(General Rules for Students Article 50) Students must pay one-half of the annual tuition for each semester within the designated payment period. (This shall apply mutatis mutandis for graduate students (Article 72).)

<i>Semester</i>	<i>Payment period</i>
First semester (April to September)	April 1 through April 30
Second semester (October to March)	October 1 through October 31

## Inquiries

Concerning the quarter system

**Academic Promotion Division, Students Affairs Department  
(Kokusai-Bunka Gakubu Campus, Building K)**  
[stdnt-kaikaku@office.kobe-u.ac.jp](mailto:stdnt-kaikaku@office.kobe-u.ac.jp)

Concerning each specialized course

Academic Affairs Section of each graduate school office

### Information for students who enrolled before AY2015

The above changes are NOT applicable to students in the following schools who enrolled before AY2015:  
Department of Professional Legal Education, Graduate School of Law  
Department of Management Theory in Practice (MTP), Graduate School of Business Administration  
Graduate School of Medicine  
Graduate School of Health Sciences

Uribo-Portal (Not translated)

<http://www.office.kobe-u.ac.jp/stdnt-kymsys/student/student.html>