

○ Kobe University Degree Regulations

(Established on April 1, 2004)

Revised on	December 28, 2004	December 20, 2005
	March 20, 2007	March 18, 2008
	March 18, 2009	March 23, 2010
	November 24, 2011	April 23, 2013
	October 29, 2013	

(Purpose)

Article 1 In accordance with the Ministry of Education's Ordinance No. 9 of 1953 ("Regulations Concerning Academic Degrees") Article 13, Paragraph 1, the academic degrees conferred by Kobe University (hereinafter referred to as "the University") shall be governed both by the provisions of these regulations, and those stipulated in the "Kobe University Academic Regulations" established on April 1, 2004 (hereinafter referred to as "the Academic Regulations").

(Degrees)

Article 2 The degrees conferred by the University are Bachelors, Master's, Doctorates and professional degrees.

(Requirements for a Bachelor's Degree)

Article 3 A Bachelor's degree shall be conferred on a person who has graduated from an undergraduate program of the University.

(Requirements for a Master's Degree)

Article 4 A Master's degree shall be conferred on a person who meets either of the following requirements.

- (1) A person who has completed a Master's program in one of the Graduate schools of the University (hereinafter referred to as "Graduate school");
- (2) A person who has completed the Master's division of a Doctoral program;

(Requirements for a Doctorate)

Article 5 A Doctorate shall be conferred on a person who has completed a Doctoral program in a Graduate school.

2 A Doctorate shall also be conferred on a person who meets the following requirements.

- (1) A person who has been confirmed by a Graduate School as having academic capability at least of the same level as a person who falls under the preceding paragraph (This confirmation is referred to as "confirmation of academic capability").
- (2) A person who has successfully passed the Doctoral thesis defense and examinations at the Graduate School.

(Requirements for a Professional Degree)

Article 6 A professional degree shall be conferred on a person who meets the following requirements.

- (1) A person who has completed a professional degree program (excluding the program in next item (2)) in a Graduate school;
- (2) A person who has completed the Law School program at the Graduate School of Law;

(Submission of a Thesis by a student enrolled in a Graduate school)

Article 7 A person enrolled in a Graduate school shall submit his/her thesis, or research outcomes on a specific subject prescribed in Article 67 of the Academic Regulations, to the Dean of the Graduate School.

2 The Doctoral thesis shall be submitted along with an application for a thesis defense, a table of contents, and a curriculum vitae.

- 3 A candidate for a Master's degree shall submit one (1) copy of one (1) thesis, and for a Doctorate degree, three (3) copies of one (1) Doctoral thesis. However, other theses may be also be attached for reference.
- 4 When necessary for the defense of his/her thesis, a candidate may be requested to submit additional papers, translations, models, samples, documents or other elements.
- 5 Matters concerning the submission of research outcomes prescribed in Paragraph 1 of this article (hereinafter referred to as "Research outcomes") will be determined by each Graduate school.

(Review of Theses and Research Outcomes submitted by students enrolled in a Graduate school)

Article 8 When a Doctoral thesis has been submitted in accordance with the provisions of the preceding paragraph, the Dean shall elect two or more professors within the Graduate school, at the Faculty council, for its review.

2 When a Master's thesis or Research outcomes have been submitted in accordance with the provisions of the preceding paragraph, the Dean shall elect two or more professors and/or associate professors within the Graduate school, at the Faculty council, for their review. At least one of them must be a professor.

3 When the Faculty council agrees it necessary, it may be requested that a professor from another Graduate School, or from another University or Research Institute, be added to the referees elected in Paragraph 1 for the review of the Doctoral thesis, or, in the case of a Master's thesis or Research Outcomes, that a professor or an Associate professor from another Graduate School, another University or Research Institute, be added for their review.

4 When the Faculty council agrees it necessary, it may be requested that a person other than a professor of the Graduate School (or in the case of a Master's thesis, a person other than a professor or an Associate professor from the Graduate School) also conducts a review.

(Final Examinations for Students Enrolled in a Graduate school)

Article 9 The elected referees and other persons selected under paragraph 4 of the preceding article for conducting the review shall do a final examination either in a written or oral format, focusing on the thesis itself (or research outcomes), and related study fields.

2 The date of the final examination will be announced accordingly.

(Submission of theses by students who have not completed a Doctoral Program)

Article 10 Pursuant to the provisions in Article 5, Paragraph 2, a degree applicant shall submit his/her thesis to the President of the university of the university through the Dean of the relevant Graduate school, together with a review fee amounting to 57,000 yen, an application for degree, a table of contents, and a curriculum vitae.

2 For the submission of theses pursuant to this article, the provisions of Article 7, Paragraphs 3 and 4 shall apply where necessary.

(Review of theses and examinations for students who have not completed a Doctoral Program)

Article 11 When a thesis has been submitted in accordance with Paragraph 1 of the preceding article, the President of the university shall delegate its review to the Dean of the relevant Graduate school, who shall conduct it pursuant to Article 8, together with the final examinations, conducted pursuant to Article 9.

2 When a thesis has been submitted in accordance with the preceding paragraph, its review shall be completed within one (1) year after its reception. However, under special circumstances, this period may be extended by decision of the Faculty council.

(Confirmation of academic capability of Students who have not completed a Doctoral Program)

Article 12 When a thesis has been submitted pursuant to Article 10, Paragraph 1, the Faculty council shall conduct the confirmation of academic capability on the relevant applicant.

2 The confirmation of academic capability shall be conducted through written or oral examinations. However, when possible on the

basis of the applicant's academic qualifications, achievements and other elements, this confirmation can be done without the examinations.

3 Whenever necessary to confirm his/her academic capability, the applicant for degree may be asked to submit his/her writings, theses, and other documents.

4 For the decision on the confirmation of academic capability by the Faculty council, the provisions of Article 15, Paragraph 2 shall apply.

(Submission of Theses, Review of Theses, Examinations, Confirmation of academic capability for Students who have withdrawn from the university)

Article 13 When a person who has been enrolled in a Doctoral program for at least the minimum required period and has completed the required curriculum, including instruction from the professor who is his/her thesis advisor, and has then withdrawn from the university, applies for a Doctorate degree without reentering the relevant Graduate school, the provisions of Article 3 shall apply.

2 When a person who falls under the preceding paragraph has submitted his/her thesis within five (5) years from his/her withdrawal from the university, he or she will be regarded as having an academic capability at least of the same level as a person under Article 5, Paragraph 1.

(No restitution of theses submitted for review, or of review fees will be admitted)

Article 14 A Master's or Doctoral thesis that has been submitted for review will not be returned, nor the review fee paid reimbursed, for whatever reason.

2 Matters concerning the return of research outcomes submitted for review shall be determined by each Graduate school.

(Decision of conferment of a Master's or Doctorate)

Article 15 It is the Faculty council's decision whether or not to confer a degree to students enrolled in that Graduate school, based on the results of the thesis review and the final examinations. For a student whose academic capability has been confirmed pursuant to the provisions of Article 12 or a person who falls under Article 13, Paragraph 2, such decision shall be based on the results of the thesis review and examinations.

2 The decision by the Faculty council in the preceding paragraph requires the attendance of two-thirds of its members and be approved by a majority of at least two-thirds of votes by secret ballot.

(Reporting of the thesis review)

Article 16 When the Faculty council has decided to confer a Master's degree, a Doctorate or a professional degree, the Dean shall submit a document to the President of the university with the following matters.

(1) The degree to be conferred (with the title of the field of study)

(2) The date on which the degree is conferred

(3) In the case of a Doctorate, the indication of whether the person falls under Paragraph 1 or 2 of Article 5.

(4) In the case of a Doctorate, a summary of the thesis review and the results of the final examinations or the examinations

(5) In the case of a Doctorate, indications on the thesis committee responsible for the thesis review and the examinations

(6) In the case of a Doctorate prescribed in Paragraph 2 of Article 5, matters concerning the results of the confirmation of academic capability and the committee responsible for conducting it.

2 When the Faculty council decides not to confer the degree prescribed in the preceding paragraph, this decision is reported to the President of the university.

(Conferment of Degrees)

Article 17 The President of the university shall confer a Bachelor' degree on a person who falls under Article 3, issuing a diploma.

2 The President of the university shall issue a diploma to a person to whom a Master's degree, a Doctorate or a professional degree is conferred, based on the report pursuant to the preceding Article, and notify to the person on whom the degree can not be conferred.

3 Whenever a Doctorate has been conferred pursuant to the preceding paragraph, it will be recorded in the Diploma register and reported to the Minister of Education.

(Disclosure of a summary of the Thesis Review)

Article 18 When the university has conferred a Doctorate, a summary of the doctoral thesis relating to the Doctorate degree, together with a summary of its review shall be publicized within three (3) months from the date of conferment, using the internet.

(Publication of Doctoral Theses)

Article 19 A person to whom a Doctorate has been conferred must publicize the text of his/her entire thesis related to the said Doctorate within one (1) year from the date of the conferment. This shall not apply when this publication has already taken place prior to the conferment of the Doctorate.

2 Notwithstanding the preceding paragraph, where there are compelling circumstances, and if the Faculty council so agrees, a summary of the Doctoral thesis may be published in place of its full text. In this case, the university shall provide access to the full text of the thesis for public reading upon request.

3 The publication by a person who has been conferred a Doctorate of his/her thesis in accordance with the two preceding paragraphs shall be made, as a general rule, through Kobe University Repository.

(Names of Departments, Etc.)

Article 20 When conferring a Bachelor's degree, the title of the field of study will be indicated according to Table 1 of the Appendix.

2 When conferring a Master's degree or a Doctorate, the title of the field of study will be indicated according to Table 2 of the Appendix.

3 The titles of the professional degrees shall be those indicated in Table 3 of the Appendix.

4 When a person has completed a certificate program indicated in Table 4 of the Appendix together with a Master's program, the name of the certificate program will be indicated on the diploma together with the field of study for the Master's degree as prescribed in paragraph 2.

(Names of Degrees)

Article 21 When a person who has been conferred a degree by the university wishes to make use of it, he/she shall add the name "Kobe University" to the title of the degree.

(Revocation of a Master's degree, a Doctorate or a Professional Degrees)

Article 22 If a student who has received a Master's degree or a Doctorate from the university is found to have employed dishonest means to earn the degree, the President of the university shall, following deliberation in the relevant Faculty council and Academic Council, revoke the conferred degree, order the return of the diploma and publicly announce this decision.

2 If a person who has received a Master's degree, a Doctorate or a professional degree from the university finds himself/herself guilty of disgraceful deeds, the President of the university may decide to revoke the degree conferred, in the manner described in the preceding paragraph.

3 When the Faculty council makes decisions pursuant to the preceding two paragraphs, the conditions of Article 15, Paragraph 2, shall apply.

(Forms)

Article 23 The diplomas, registers of degrees, and other documents shall follow the format set forth beneath.

(Additional Provision)

Article 24 Matters necessary for the enforcement of this regulation shall be prescribed in each faculty or Graduate school.

Supplementary Provisions

1 These provisions come into effect on April 1, 2004.

2 The field of study indicated in the diplomas of students who have graduated from an undergraduate program of the Faculty of Maritime Science set forth in Kobe University Academic Regulations (April 1, 2004) Supplementary Provisions, paragraph 4, and of those who have completed a graduate program at the Graduate school of Science and Technology set forth in that same paragraph shall be "Mercantile Marine Studies" or "Engineering", regardless of the provisions set forth in the Appended Tables.

Supplementary Provisions (December 28, 2004)

These provisions come into effect on January 1, 2005.

Supplementary Provisions (December 20, 2005)

These provisions come into effect on March 1, 2006.

Supplementary Provisions (March 20, 2007)

1 These provisions come into effect on April 1, 2007.

2 With regard to the students already enrolled in a Graduate school of the university upon enforcement of these provisions, or students who transfer into a Graduate school of the university from another university, or another Graduate school within the university, or students who re-enroll at a Graduate school of the university after April 1, 2007, the provisions in force before this amendment shall remain applicable.

Supplementary Provisions (March 18, 2008)

1 These provisions come into effect on April 1, 2008.

2 With regard to the students already enrolled in a Graduate school of the university upon enforcement of these provisions, or students who transfer into a Graduate school of the university from another university, or another Graduate school within the university, or students who re-enroll at a Graduate school of the university after April 1, 2008, the provisions in force before this amendment shall remain applicable.

Supplementary Provisions (March 18, 2009)

1 These provisions come into effect on April 1, 2009.

2 As long as the Graduate school of Humanities and the Graduate school of Intercultural Studies exist, "Faculty council" in the revised Article 8, Paragraph 1, shall read with "Faculty council or Graduate school Committee (hereinafter referred to as "Faculty council and others")), while "Faculty council" in Article 8, Paragraphs 3 and 4 and Articles 11 through 22, shall read with "Faculty council and others".

Supplementary Provisions (March 23, 2010)

These provisions come into effect on April 1, 2010.

Supplementary Provisions (November 24, 2011)

These provisions come into effect on November 24, 2011.

Supplementary Provisions (April 23, 2013)

1 These provisions come into effect on April 23, 2013.

2 The new Article 18 of the Kobe University Degree Regulations, as amended by these provisions (hereinafter referred to as the "New Degree Regulations") shall apply to Doctorates conferred from 1 April 2013 onwards, while the original provisions remain applicable to Doctorates conferred before this date.

3 Article 19 of the New Degree Regulations shall apply to persons who have received a Doctorate from 1 April 2013 onwards. The original provisions shall remain applicable to persons who have received a Doctorate before that date.

Supplementary Provisions (October 29, 2013)

These provisions come into effect on November 1, 2013.

Appendix Table 1 (relating to Article 20, Paragraph 1)

Titles of the fields of study indicated in a Bachelor's diploma

Faculty Names	Title of the Field of Study
Faculty of Letters	Arts
Faculty of Intercultural Studies	Intercultural Studies
Faculty of Human Development	Human Development
Faculty of Law	Law
Faculty of Economics	Economics
School of Business Administration	Business Administration, or Commercial Science
Faculty of Science	Science
Department of Medicine in School of Medicine	Medicine
Department of Health Science in School of Medicine	Science in Nursing, Medical Technology, Physical Therapy, or Occupational Therapy
Faculty of Engineering	Engineering
Faculty of Agriculture	Agriculture
Faculty of Maritime Science	Maritime Science

Appendix Table 2 (related to Article 20, Paragraph 2)

Titles of the fields of study indicated in Master's degree diplomas and Doctorate diplomas

Name of Graduate school	Master	Name of Major Field	Doctor
Graduate school of Humanities	Arts	Philosophy, or Arts	
Graduate school of Intercultural Studies	Arts	Philosophy	
Graduate school of Human Development and Environment	Arts, or Education, or Science	Philosophy, or Philosophy in Education, or Philosophy in Science	
Graduate school of Law	Laws, or Political Science	Philosophy in Law, or Philosophy in Political Science	
Graduate school of Economics	Economics	Philosophy in Economics	
Graduate school of Business Administration	Arts in Business Administration, or Arts in Commerce	Philosophy in Business Administration, or Philosophy in Commerce	
Graduate school of Science	Science	Science, or Philosophy	
Graduate school of Medicine	Biomedical Science	Philosophy	
Graduate school of Health Science	Health Science	Philosophy	
Graduate school of Engineering	Engineering	Philosophy in Engineering, or Philosophy	
Graduate school of System Informatics	System Informatics, or Engineering	Philosophy in System Informatics, Philosophy in Engineering, Philosophy, or Philosophy in Computational Science	
Graduate school of Agricultural Science	Agriculture	Philosophy in Agricultural Science, or Philosophy	

Graduate school of Maritime Sciences	Maritime Science and Technology	Philosophy in Maritime Science and Technology, Philosophy in Engineering, or Philosophy
Graduate school of International Cooperation Studies	International Studies, Economics, Laws, or Political Science	Philosophy, Laws, Political Science, or Economics

Appendix Table 3 (related to Article 20, Paragraph 3)

Titles of professional degrees	
Name of Graduate school	Name of Degree
Graduate school of Law	Juris Doctor (Professional)
Graduate school of Business Administration	Master of Business Administration (Professional)

Appendix Table 4 (related to Article 20, Paragraph 4)

Kobe University Programme for European Studies (KUPES)