Criteria for Credit Recognition and Degree Conferral, and Academic Performance Evaluation (Standard policies of Kobe University)

## Kobe University General Rules for Students(Excerpts)

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## (Criteria for Academic Evaluation)

Article 30 Each faculty shall clearly state the learning objectives for each course as well as the methodology and plans for achieving these objectives, establish and disclose the criteria for evaluating students' performances based on multiple factors including students' levels of preparation and participation in the classes.

## (Awarding of Credits)

Article 31 Students who have completed one subject shall be awarded the prescribed number of credits, after successfully passing the examination; however, regarding subjects set forth in Article 32, Paragraph 4, each faculty may assess students' achievement using other means, as specified by each Faculty Regulations, to grant credits.

#### (Criteria for Awarding Credits)

Article 32 When determining the number of credits granted for each subject, a typical one credit course shall be requiring a total of 45 hours of study and the credit calculation be based on the following standards, in light of the academic effectiveness of the course and required study outside the class hours in accordance with a course approach:

- (1) For lectures or seminars, one credit shall be granted to classes of 15 to 30 hours designated by each Faculty Regulations;
- (2) For laboratory experiments, practical training, and skills training, one credit shall represent a number of classes between 30 hours and 45 hours designated by each Faculty Regulations. However, for artistic skills private tutoring, the number of hours assigned to one credit may be decided according to relevant Faculty Regulations;
- (3) When a course incorporates two or more teaching approaches such as lecture, seminar, laboratory experiment, practical training, and skills training, the number of hours assigned to one credit shall be designated by each Faculty Regulations in consideration of the training methods and the standards prescribed in the preceding (1) and (2).
- 2 Notwithstanding the preceding paragraphs, the number of credits assigned to General Education classes (common to all faculties as prescribed under the Regulations on taking courses) shall be calculated based on the following:
- (1) For lectures, one credit shall consist of 15 hours of classes;
- (2) For seminars, laboratory experiments, practical training, and skills training, one credit shall represent 30 hours of classes;
- (3) When a course incorporates two or more teaching approaches such as lecture, seminar, laboratory experiment, practical training, and skills training, the number of hours assigned to one credit shall be designated by the rules of each faculty in consideration of the used approaches and the standards separately prescribed.
- 3 Notwithstanding Paragraph 1, for Japanese Language Courses and Others, one credit shall consist of classes of 30 hours;
- 4 Notwithstanding Paragraph 1, subjects related to graduation theses, graduation research, and research supervision, the number of credits may be determined individually by each Faculty Regulations, provided that the course workload is appropriate for the diploma requirements after evaluating the achievement.

#### (Graduation Requirements)

Article 48 The graduation requirements for a student are, to have been enrolled in a faculty of the university for the period set forth in Article 22, and to have acquired at least 124 credits (188 credits for the Department of Medicine in the School of Medicine, the same shall apply hereafter) as stipulated in each Faculty Regulations.

2 Out of the 124 credits acquired as graduation requirements pursuant to the preceding paragraph, the number of credits acquired in subjects set forth in Article 27, Paragraph 2 shall not exceed 60; However, when the graduation requirements exceed 124 credits, this shall not be the case, if the student has acquired at least 64 credits (128 credits or more for students of the Department of Medicine in the School of Medicine) in the subjects set forth in Article 27, Paragraph 1.

## (Bachelor's Degree)

Article 49 The University shall confer degrees on students who have completed the undergraduate course according to the preceding article.

# (Requirements for Completing the Master's Program)

Article 67 In order to complete a Master's Degree Program, a student must have been enrolled in the program for at least two years (or one year for students in the Department of Human Development (one-year course), the Graduate School of Human Development and Environment), obtained the credits required by his/her graduate school, received sufficient research supervision, and have successfully passed the screening of either the master's dissertation or research results depending on the program purpose, and the final examination; however, a student who has demonstrated excellent academic achievement may be permitted to graduate after one year of study at the program.

# (Requirements for Completing the Doctorate program)

Article 68 In order to complete a Doctorate program (except for the Graduate School of Medicine), a student must have been enrolled in its second division for at least three years, obtained the prescribed credits, received sufficient research supervision, and passed the review of the doctoral dissertation and also the final examination; However, a student who has demonstrated an excellent academic achievement may be permitted to graduate after one year of study at the program (or a total of three years for a student who has completed the master's program within two years).

2 Notwithstanding the preceding paragraph, if a student is admitted to a doctorate program pursuant to Article 156 of the Enforcement Regulations by the relevant graduate school as possessing abilities at least equivalent to a master's degree or a professional degree or if a student has received a professional degree, and if he/she enrolled the second division (three years) of the doctorate program, he/she will be admitted to complete the program after he/she has enrolled at a graduate school (excluding Professional Degree Programs; the same shall apply hereafter in this paragraph) for at least three years (or two years for a student who has completed courses at the Law School as defined in Article 18, Paragraph 1 of the Standards for the Establishment of Professional Graduate Schools), received the required research supervision, and passed the screening of a doctoral dissertation and final examination conducted by his/her graduate school; However, a student who has demonstrated an excellent academic achievement may be permitted to complete the program after one year at the graduate school (or after a period of time determined by subtracting the standard program duration from three years, in the case of students who have completed a professional degree program whose standard duration of study is more than one year but less than two years).

3 In order to complete a doctorate program in the Graduate School of Medicine, a student must have been enrolled at the program for at least four years, obtained the prescribed credits, received sufficient research supervision, and have passed the review of a doctoral dissertation and final examination; However, a student who has demonstrated an excellent academic achievement may be permitted to complete the program after three years at the graduate school.

# (Requirements for Completing a Professional Degree Programs)

Article 69 In order to complete a professional degree program (excluding the Law School; the same shall apply hereafter in this paragraph), a student must have been enrolled on the program for at least two years (or the applicable duration for students who belong to a graduate school, department or course with the standard duration of study other than two years) and have obtained the prescribed

credits.

- 2 With regard to the enrollment period in a professional degree program, if a student had obtained credits before entering the relevant professional degree program pursuant to of Article 75 (limited to the credits attained by the student after having obtained the qualifications for admission under Article 102, Paragraph 1 of the Act), the graduate school may acknowledge credits obtained and periods of study to consider that the student has been enrolled in its program for a period not exceeding half of its standard duration. However, in any case the student must enroll in the professional degree program for at least one year.
- 3 In order to complete the Law School, a student must have been enrolled in the program for at least three years and have obtained the credits required by the program.
- 4 With regard to the enrollment period in the Law School, if a student had obtained the credits before entering the relevant professional degree program pursuant to Article 75 (limited to the credits attained by the student after having obtained the qualifications for admission under Article 102, Paragraph 1 of the Act), the graduate school may acknowledge credits obtained and periods of study to consider that the student has been enrolled in its program for a period not exceeding one year.
- 5 For a person who is acknowledged as having the basics in legal knowledge, the Law School may consider an enrollment period under the preceding paragraph not exceeding one year. With regard to the required credit provided in Paragraph 3, a person with basic legal knowledge may be deemed to have already attained credits prescribed by the graduate school not exceeding 30 credits, as stipulated in Articles 74 and 75. However, if the said department requires more than 93 credits for the completion of a program, persons with basic legal knowledge may be deemed to have already acquired a number of credits, in addition to the 30 credits, corresponding to the number of credits in excess of 93.

## (Theses and Final Examination)

Article 70 Matters related to theses and final examination shall be those prescribed in the Kobe University Regulations on Academic Degrees.

(Conferment of Master's, Doctoral and Professional Degrees)

Article 71 A student who has completed the programs prescribed by the respective graduate schools shall be conferred a Doctorate, a Master's or a Professional degree in accordance with the program completed.

2 Matters related to degrees specified in the preceding paragraph shall be those prescribed in the Kobe University Regulations on Academic Degrees.

# Kobe University Academic Detailed Regulations (Excerpts)

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Article 4 Students. academic achievement for each course shall be graded on a 100-point scale, with the grades S, A, B and C representing a pass, and F representing a fail. However, depending on the course, the academic achievement may be graded on a Pass/Fail basis only. Details can be found at(Japanese): http://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/documents/campuslife/edu/education\_info/2016/621\_standard-credit\_2016.pdf S (90 points or more)

A (80 points or more, less than 90 points)

B (70 points or more, less than 80 points)

C (60 points or more, less than 70 points)

F (Less than 60 points)