

Curriculum Policy of the Graduate School of Business Administration

Graduate School of Business Administration, Kobe University, aims to cultivate researchers and professionals rich in humanity, creativity and internationality with highly outstanding expertise. The curriculum follows the policies stated below.

Master's Program

This curriculum consists of “lectures” and “seminars”. In lectures, students should learn and acquire knowledge and methods research in systematically. In seminars, they should exercise their knowledge and methods in practice.

Lectures are categorized into 3 groups: ①Group 1 offers specialized basic knowledge in business, ② Group 2 offers basic knowledge of research methods and ③Group 3 that offers advanced matters in every field. Under the supervision of his/her advisor, he/she should select and take lectures tailored to his/her research interest.

Seminars are taken under supervision of an advisor and students conduct research to accomplish their master's thesis. Master's theses are evaluated by his/ her supervisor and 2 or more judges. In the process of writing a master's thesis, students will improve the ability to research and acquire new knowledge of business administration.

Doctoral Program

This curriculum consists of seminars that are taken under the supervision of his/her advisor and workshops that are instructed by faculty members in principal fields of business administration.

Seminars are taken under the supervision of his/her advisor to accomplish their Ph.D. thesis. Every student should write a Ph.D. thesis keeping in close discussion with his/her Ph.D. dissertation committee members. Ph.D. thesis should be creative based on highly specialized knowledge and advanced expertise in management, accounting, commerce and related academic fields.

In seminars and workshops, from various points of view, faculty members specialized in every field of business administration give guidance about how to write a thesis. Students will receive valuable and advanced advice about specialized knowledge and methodology to improve their papers.

Curriculum Policy MBA course

Our MBA program aims to “develop human resources who are capable of working at the core of Japanese Business society”, that is, cultivate students who have:

1. highly specialized knowledge covering all the business administration fields;
2. deep level of specialized knowledge about a specific field of business administration;
3. both the long-term and global points of view to see specific administrative problems;
4. the ability to create and offer a solution by judging the situation properly.

To achieve this aim, we place our focus on “Research-based Education” and “By-the-Job Learning” in the main part of our curriculum policy and create systematic education using “Project-program” and lectures.

Project-program consists of “Case Project Research” and “Theme Project Research.” Each student works in collaboration with those who have similar problems in business and take in depth analysis of the problem to seek the best solution. In seminars, students complete their MBA thesis with the research results gained from their Project-program. Lecture is composed of 8 group courses that have 3 effective steps for registration: 1) basic subjects concentrating on theoretical education, 2) applied subjects based on specialized knowledge in the fields of business administration and 3) practical subjects of the community cooperation lectures. In addition, we have Reciprocal Study Tour to improve their ability to capture administrative issues from the global point of view.

As business management continues to change by the moment with every environmental change, we strive to always gather information systematically from the Advisory Board, MBA fellows and MBA students, and review the information gained constantly.

Curriculum map-MBA course-

Abilities you can gain from this program	Aims of our education	1st year		2nd year	
		Spring semester	Fall semester	Spring semester	Fall semester
Highly specialized knowledge covering all the business administration fields	To acquire both long-term and global points of view to see specific administrative problems	Subjects in Group of 8	Subjects in Group of 8	Subjects in Group of 8 (can be accomplished during the Spring semester)	
deep level of specialized knowledge about a specific field of business administration					
Theoretical thinking and adaptability in practice	To acquire an ability to create and offer a solution by judging the situation properly	Case Project Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theme Project Research • Seminar 	Seminars (can be accomplished during Spring semester)	
globally-oriented thinking, judgment and communication ability					