

Kobe University Graduate School of Intercultural Studies Rules

(Established on March 20, 2007)

Revised on	March 31, 2008	February 9, 2010
	March 29, 2011	August 2, 2011
	March 21, 2012	March 27, 2013
	March 26, 2014	June 26, 2014

(Purpose)

Article 1 These rules stipulate necessary matters pertaining to the Kobe University Graduate School of Intercultural Studies (hereinafter referred to as "the Graduate School") in accordance with the National University Corporation Kobe University General Provisions (established on April 1, 2004) and the Kobe University General Rules for Students (established on April 1, 2004; hereinafter referred to as "General Rules").

(Educational and Research Purposes of the Graduate School)

Article 2 The educational and research purposes of the Graduate School are to interdisciplinarily elucidate problems pertaining to cross-cultural interaction, and cultural transformations and communication stemming from globalization in the modern world. The Graduate School cultivates human resources equipped with a wealth of knowledge and creative research skills who are able to address these problems based on sound intercultural understanding and good communication skills.

(Program)

Article 3 The program offered by the Graduate School shall be a doctoral program.

2 The doctoral program shall be divided into a two-year first stage program (hereinafter referred to as "first division" or "Master's Program") and a subsequent three-year program (hereinafter referred to as "Doctoral Program"), and the first division shall be treated as a Master's Program.

(Departments, Courses and Educational Fields)

Article 4 The departments, courses and educational fields established in the Graduate School are as listed in Appended Table 1.

(Education and Research Goals of the Departments)

Article 5 The human resources development goals and other education and research goals of each department are respectively as follows:

(2) Department of Cultural Interaction

Based on the educational and research goal of elucidating problems pertaining to intercultural interaction through the lens of cultural relativity, the aim of the Master's Program is to cultivate graduates with wide-ranging specialized knowledge and fundamental research skills with respect to individual regional cultures and intercultural interaction. The aim of the Doctoral Program is to cultivate graduates with advanced specialized knowledge and independent research skills regarding individual regional cultures and intercultural interaction.

(2) Department of Culture and Globalization

Based on the educational and research goal of interdisciplinarily elucidating problems pertaining to cultural transformations stemming from globalization and communication problems in the global era, the aim of the Master's Program is to cultivate graduates with wide-ranging specialized knowledge and fundamental research skills with respect to the systems underpinning various modern cultures as well as advanced communication, including foreign language proficiency. The aim of the Doctoral Program is to cultivate graduates with advanced specialized knowledge and independent research skills regarding the systems underpinning various modern cultures as well as advanced communication, including foreign language proficiency.

(Dean of the Graduate School)

Article 6 The Graduate School shall have a dean.

2 The dean shall oversee matters pertaining to the Graduate School.

(Associate Deans)

Article 7 The Graduate School shall have three associate deans.

2 The associate deans shall assist the dean with his duties.

3 The necessary matters concerning the selection of associate deans shall be stipulated separately.

(Heads of Departments)

Article 8 Each department shall have a head of department.

2 Heads of departments shall oversee matters pertaining to their respective departments.

3 The necessary matters concerning the selection of heads of departments shall be stipulated separately.

(Master's Program Admission Eligibility)

Article 9 Persons who fall under any of the following items can enroll in the Master's Program:

(1) Persons who have graduated from a Japanese university;

(2) Persons who have received a bachelor's degree pursuant to the provisions of Article 104, Paragraph 4 of the School Education Act (Act. No. 26 of 1947; hereinafter referred to as "the Act");

(3) Persons who have completed 16 years of school education abroad;

(4) Persons who have completed 16 years of school education of a school in a foreign country by taking correspondence courses provided by such foreign school in Japan;

(5) Persons who have completed a program at an educational institution in Japan that is part of the school education system of a foreign country and has university programs of that foreign country, and that is separately designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (limited to persons who have completed 16 years of school education of the foreign country);

(6) Persons who have completed a specialized program at a special training college in Japan separately designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology after the date determined by the Minister (limited to programs

of at least four years that satisfy other standards determined by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology);

(7) Persons designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (in accordance with Ministry of Education Notification No. 5 (1953));

(8) Persons who were admitted to the Kobe University Graduate School pursuant to the provisions of Article 102, Paragraph 2 of the Act and have been recognized as having sufficient scholastic ability to undertake postgraduate studies at the Graduate School;

(9) Persons who are 22 years or older and are deemed to have scholastic ability that is at least equivalent to a university graduate, based on the results of an individual entrance qualification examination administered by the Graduate School.

(Master's Program Early Admission)

Article 10 Notwithstanding the preceding paragraph, the Graduate School may decide to allow admission to a person who falls under any of the following categories and who, after deliberation by the Kobe University Graduate School of Intercultural Studies Faculty Council (hereinafter referred to as "Faculty Council"), is recognized as having earned the credits stipulated by the Graduate School and achieved excellent grades:

(1) Persons who have been enrolled in a university for at least three years;

(2) Persons who have completed 15 years of school education abroad;

(3) Persons who have completed 15 years of school education of a school in a foreign country by taking correspondence courses provided by such foreign school in Japan;

(4) Persons who have completed a program at an educational institution in Japan that is part of the school education system of a foreign country and has university programs of that foreign country, and that is separately designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (limited to persons who have completed 15 years of school education of that foreign country);

(Doctoral Program Admission Eligibility)

Article 11 Persons who fall under any of the following items can enroll in the Doctoral Program of the Graduate School:

(1) Persons who have obtained a Master's or professional degree;

(2) Persons on whom a degree equivalent to a Master's or a professional degree has been conferred in a foreign country;

(3) Persons who have completed correspondence courses provided in Japan by a foreign school and on whom a degree equivalent to a Master's or a professional degree was conferred;

(4) Persons who have completed a program at an educational institution in Japan that is part of the school education system of a foreign country and has graduate school courses of that foreign country, and that is separately designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, and on whom a degree equivalent to a Master's or a professional degree was conferred;

(5) Persons who have completed a graduate program at United Nations University, which is the university founded based on a United Nations General Assembly resolution dated December 11, 1972 as stipulated in Article 1, Paragraph 2 of the Act on Special Measures Incidental to Enforcement of the Agreement between the United Nations and Japan regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations University (Act No. 72 of 1976), resulting in the conferral of a degree equivalent to a master's degree;

(6) Persons who, having completed an educational program at a foreign school, a designated academic institution as described in Item 4 above or United Nations University, have passed an examination or screening equivalent to those set forth in Article 16-2 of the Standards for the Establishment of Graduate Schools (Ministry of Education Ordinance No. 28 of 1974) and have been recognized as having scholastic ability that is at least equivalent to that of someone with a master's degree;

(7) Persons designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (in accordance with Ministry of Education Notification No. 118 (1989));

(8) Persons who are 24 years old and are deemed to have scholastic ability that is at least equivalent to someone with a master's degree or professional degree based on the results of an individual entrance qualification examination administered by the Graduate School.

(Advancement)

Article 12 Persons who wish to advance to the Doctoral Program after having completed a Master's Program, the first division of the Graduate Program or a professional degree program at the graduate schools of Kobe University (hereinafter referred to as "the University") may be permitted to do so if they are found to be eligible following screening.

(Readmission)

Article 13 When a student who has withdrawn or been removed from the Graduate School submits a request for readmission, he or she may be permitted by the dean to reenter the Graduate School after deliberation by the Faculty Council.

2 Necessary matters concerning readmission shall be stipulated separately.

(Screening Methods)

Article 14 Applicants will be screened by means of academic achievement tests, oral examinations and the like.

(Standard Period of Enrollment)

Article 15 The standard period of enrollment shall be two years for the Master's Program and three years for the Doctoral Program.

(Maximum Period of Enrollment)

Article 16 Students may not be enrolled in the Master's Program for more than four years or in the Doctoral Program for more than six years.

(Methods of Instruction)

Article 17 Education in the Graduate School shall consist of lectures by subject and supervised research for a dissertation (hereinafter referred to as "research supervision").

(Subjects, etc.)

Article 18 The subjects offered by the Graduate School and the number of credits awarded for each subject are as listed in Appended Table 2.

2 In addition to the subjects stipulated in the preceding paragraph, subjects may be established on a temporary basis; however, such temporary subjects and the number of credits awarded to them will be stipulated at the time of their establishment.

(Credit Standards)

Article 19 Credits for each subject shall be calculated such that one credit shall be granted for 15 hours of class.

(Supervisors)

Article 20 Faculty members in charge of research supervision (hereinafter referred to as "supervisors") shall be full-time professors and associate professors as well as visiting professors and visiting associate professors of the Graduate School. However, when deemed necessary, full-time Associate Professors (講師) or Assistant Professors of the Graduate School may serve as supervisors with the approval of the Faculty Council.

(Selection of Educational Programs)

Article 21 After admission, students in the Master's Program must select either "researcher track or "career enhancement track", while students in the Doctoral Program must select either "coursework-based educational program" or "Project-based educational program".

2 In the Master's Program, students who wish to switch tracks may be permitted to do so at the time of second-year registration, after deliberation by the Faculty Council.

(Enrollment in Subjects)

Article 22 To enroll in subjects, students must receive the approval of their supervisor and submit the prescribed registration form to the dean at the beginning of the semester.

2 When students wish to take subjects offered by another graduate school or a faculty within the University, they must receive permission from the dean of said graduate school or faculty after receiving approval from their supervisors and the dean of the Graduate School.

3 Regarding credits earned for subjects taken at another graduate school pursuant to the provisions of the preceding paragraph, up to 10 credits in the Master's Program may be approved as credits as stipulated in Article 31 after deliberation by the Faculty Council; however, the limit for the Doctoral Program shall be four credits.

(Enrollment in Subjects at Another Graduate School Outside the University)

Article 23 Students may take subjects at a graduate school of another university (including foreign universities. Hereinafter the same shall apply.) with whom the Graduate School has signed a cooperative agreement after receiving the approval of the Faculty Council.

2 Notwithstanding the provisions of the preceding paragraph, when unavoidable circumstances arise, students may take subjects at a graduate school of a foreign university with whom the Graduate School has not signed any type of cooperative agreement after receiving the approval of the Faculty Council.

3 Regarding credits earned for subjects pursuant to the provisions of the preceding two paragraphs, up to 10 credits in the Master's Program may be approved as credits as stipulated in Article 31 after deliberation by the Faculty Council; however, the limit for the Doctoral Program shall be four credits.

(Handling of Credits Earned for Subjects Taken at Foreign Graduate Schools while on Leave of Absence)

Article 23-2 Credits earned by a student for subjects taken at a graduate school of a foreign university with which the Graduate School has signed a cooperative agreement while on leave of absence with the approval of the Faculty Council may be treated as credits earned at the Graduate School.

2 Notwithstanding the provisions of the preceding paragraph, if unavoidable circumstances arise, credits earned by a student for subjects taken at a graduate school of a foreign university with which the Graduate School has not signed any type of cooperative agreement while on leave of absence may be treated as credits earned at the Graduate School upon approval by the Faculty Council.

3 Of the credits that can be treated as earned at the Graduate School pursuant to the provisions of the preceding two paragraphs, up to 10 credits, inclusive of those credits approved as having been earned at the Graduate School pursuant to Paragraph 3 of the preceding article may be approved as credits as stipulated in Article 31; however, the limit for the Doctoral Program shall be four credits.

(Approval of Credits Acquired Prior to Admission)

Article 24 In accordance with the stipulations in Article 75 of the General Rules for Students, the approval of credits earned prior to admission shall be determined after deliberation by the Faculty Council.

2 Persons who wish to have previously earned credits approved must submit the necessary documents to the dean by the designated date.

3 Regarding the approval of credits pursuant to the provisions of Paragraph 1, out of those credits earned outside of the University, excluding cases of transfer and readmission, no more than 10 credits may be approved as credits as stipulated in Article 31 after deliberation by the Faculty Council; however, the limit for the Doctoral Program shall be four credits.

(Restrictions on the Approval of Subjects Taken Outside the Graduate School)

Article 25 Notwithstanding the provisions of Articles 22 through 24, out of those credits that can be approved pursuant to the stipulations of Paragraph 3 of Article 22, Paragraph 3 of Article 23, Paragraph 3 of Article 24, and Paragraph 3 of the preceding article, only up to 16 credits in total for the Master's Program and only up to eight credits in total for the Doctoral Program are allowed to be approved.

(Research Supervision at Other Graduate Schools Outside of the University)

Article 26 With approval of the Faculty Council, a student may be permitted to receive research supervision at a graduate school or research institution at another university (including a foreign research institution) with whom the Graduate School has signed a cooperative agreement. In such cases, the period for which they can receive said research supervision shall not exceed one year for Master's Program students or two years for Doctoral Program students.

(Study Abroad)

Article 27 In accordance with the stipulations in Article 23 and the preceding article, students must obtain permission from the dean when they wish to study abroad at a foreign graduate school or research institution.

2 The period of study abroad set forth in the preceding paragraph will be included in the standard period of enrollment.

(Leave of Absence)

Article 28 The period of a leave of absence shall be set at no more than one year; however, the dean may allow an extension of the period of leave of absence of up to one year if special circumstances are deemed to exist. The same shall apply to students who would like another extension upon the conclusion of said period of extension.

2 The cumulative leave of absence period may not exceed two years for Master's Program students or three years for Doctoral Program students.

(Awarding of Credits)

Article 29 A prescribed number of credits shall be conferred on students who have completed a subject and passed the examinations.

2 Examinations may be written examinations, oral examination or research reports.

(Dissertation Screenings and Final Examinations)

Article 30 Dissertation screenings and final examinations shall be governed by the Kobe University Degree Regulations (established on April 1, 2004) and the Graduate School of Intercultural Studies Bylaws to the Kobe University Degree Regulations (established on March 30, 2007).

(Criteria for Academic Evaluation)

Article 30-2 The criteria for evaluating academic performance set forth in Article 73-2 of the General Rules for Students shall be stipulated separately.

(Requirements for Completion of the Program)

Article 31 Students who have remained enrolled in the Master's Program for at least two years, who have earned at least 30 credits, and who have passed the master's thesis screening or assessment of the results of research on a specified project and final examination having received the necessary research supervision shall be deemed to have completed the program. However, a student who has demonstrated excellence in their academic work may be permitted to graduate after one year of study in the Master's Program.

2 Notwithstanding the stipulations of the preceding paragraph, requirements for completion of the Master's Program for exchange students (both inbound and outbound) pursuant to a Double Degree Program offered by the Graduate School with a foreign graduate school under a cooperative agreement shall be stipulated separately.

3 Students who have remained enrolled in the Doctoral Program for at least three years, who have earned at least 14 credits, and who have passed the doctoral dissertation screening and final examination having received the necessary research supervision shall be deemed to have completed the Graduate Program. However, a student who has achieved exemplary research results may be permitted to graduate after one year of study in the Doctoral Program (or a total of three years for a

student who has completed a Master's Program, the first division [of the Graduate Program], or professional degree program within two years).

4 Certification of program completion as described in the preceding three paragraphs shall be conducted by the Faculty Council.

(Long-Term Enrollment)

Article 32 Master's Program students who wish to complete their studies in a planned manner over a specific period of time that exceeds the standard period of enrollment due to work or other circumstances may undertake said planned enrollment (hereinafter referred to as "long-term enrollment") after obtaining permission from the dean.

2 Necessary matters concerning long-term enrollment shall be stipulated separately.

(Conferral of Degrees)

Article 33 Master's degrees or doctoral degrees will be conferred on persons who have completed respective programs.

2 When conferring the degrees listed in the preceding paragraph, the title of the field of study will be indicated as listed below:

Master of Arts / Doctor of Philosophy

(Special Auditors)

Article 34 Students from a graduate school at another university with whom the Graduate School has signed a cooperative agreement who wish to apply to the Graduate School as special auditors shall submit their requests to the dean via their graduate schools as provided for separately.

2 The intake period for a special auditor shall be the beginning of the semester in which the subject he or she wishes to take is being offered, and the period of auditorship shall be the period for which said subject is offered.

(Special Research Students)

Article 35 Students from a graduate school at another university with whom the Graduate School has signed a cooperative agreement who wish to apply to the Graduate School as special research students shall submit their requests to the dean via their graduate schools as provided for separately.

2 As a rule, the research period for a special research student shall not exceed one year.

(Non-Degree Students)

Article 36 Persons who wish to enroll in specific subjects in the Graduate School may be permitted to enroll as non-degree students after deliberation by the Faculty Council.

2 Necessary matters concerning non-degree students shall be stipulated separately.

(Auditors)

Article 37 Persons who wish to audit specific subjects in the Graduate School may be permitted to enroll as auditors after deliberation by the Faculty Council.

2 Necessary matters concerning auditors shall be stipulated separately.

(Research Students)

Article 38 Persons who wish to research a specific topic in the Graduate School may be permitted to enroll as research students after deliberation by the Faculty Council.

2 Research students shall conduct research under the supervision of a faculty member of the Graduate School.

3 Necessary matters concerning research students shall be stipulated separately.

(Acquisition of Qualifications for Obtaining a Teacher's License)

Article 39 Persons who wish to acquire the qualifications for obtaining a teacher's license must earn the prescribed credits stipulated in the School Teacher's License Act (Act No. 147 of 1949) and the Ordinance for Enforcement of the School Teacher's License Act (Ministry of Education Ordinance No. 26 of 1954).

2 The types and subject areas of teacher's licenses for which qualifications can be obtained in the Graduate School are as listed in Appended Table 3.

(Miscellaneous Provisions)

Article 40 In addition to the stipulations in these rules, the Faculty Council shall stipulate any necessary matters concerning the implementation of these rules.

Supplementary Provisions

These rules come into effect on April 1, 2007.

Supplementary Provisions (March 31, 2008)

These rules come into effect on March 31, 2008, but the stipulations in the revised Article 9, Items 2 and 8 shall apply from December 26, 2007.

Supplementary Provisions (February 9, 2010)

1 These rules come into effect on April 1, 2010.

2 With regard to persons enrolled upon enforcement of these rules, the previous rules shall remain applicable, regardless of the revised provisions of the Kobe University Graduate School of Intercultural Studies Rules.

Supplementary Provisions (March 29, 2011)

These rules come into effect on April 1, 2011.

Supplementary Provisions (August 2, 2011)

These rules come into effect on October 1, 2011.

Supplementary Provisions (March 21, 2012)

1 These rules come into effect on April 1, 2012.

2 With regard to persons enrolled upon enforcement of these rules (hereinafter referred to as "enrolled students") and persons who transfer from another graduate school or are readmitted in the same year at the Graduate School as enrolled students on or after April 1, 2012, the previous rules shall remain applicable, regardless of the revised provisions of Appended Table 2.

Supplementary Provisions (March 27, 2013)

These rules come into effect on April 1, 2013.

Supplementary Provisions (March 26, 2014)

These rules come into effect on April 1, 2014.

Supplementary Provisions (June 26, 2014)

These rules come into effect on June 26, 2014, but the stipulations in the revised provisions of Kobe University Graduate School of Intercultural Studies Rules shall apply from April 1, 2014.