

Kobe University Graduate School of System Informatics Rules

(Established on January 26, 2010)

Revised on	March 31, 2011	March 21, 2012
	March 27, 2013	March 26, 2014

(Purpose)

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

(Educational and Research Purposes of the Graduate School)

Article 2 Comprising the Department of Systems Science (an area which forms the basis of systems analysis and integration), the Department of Information Science (an area which contributes to the generation, processing and utilization of information), and the Department of Computational Science (an area which seeks to apply high performance computational technologies to engineering and the sciences), and centered on the concept of system information, which refers to the meaningful information inherent to a broad range of systems from those in nature to those in science and engineering and society, the Graduate School strives to create and develop new academic disciplines that aim to generate new knowledge and values and provides educational and research opportunities designed to cultivate highly creative, internationally-oriented graduates who can contribute to this endeavor.

(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 and Courses)

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:

(1) Department of Systems Science

The Department provides interdisciplinary education and conducts research on the theories and technologies required for the analysis, design, construction and operation of systems. The aim of the Master's Program is to provide students with methodologies and problem-solving skills rooted in a systems approach, which entails effective analysis and synthesis, and to

cultivate creative graduates with an interdisciplinary perspective. The aim of the Doctoral Program is to cultivate engineers and researchers who not only possess expertise in their respective specialties, but who also have the extraordinary ability to create new theories and technologies to bring about interdisciplinary fusion.

## (2) Department of Information Science

The Department provides education and conducts research across a broad spectrum from the basic mathematical theories of information to the exploration of new information processing methodologies and the development of advanced information technology applications. The aim of the Master's Program is to cultivate graduates who possess a broad perspective and can assume leadership roles in a wide range of academic fields from the basic theories of information science, which contribute to the creation, processing and utilization of valuable information, to social applications. The aim of the Doctoral Program is to cultivate creative engineers and researchers who possess an advanced ability to define, pursue and solve problems in the academic fields the Department covers.

## (3) Department of Computational Science

This Department provides education and conducts research on the technical fundamentals of advanced computation as well as the use of computational approaches to understand and elucidate natural phenomena and on how to apply this knowledge. The aim of the Master's Program is to cultivate highly creative graduates with a broad range of knowledge on advanced computing technologies, such as massively parallel computing and algorithms, and their applications. The aim of the Doctoral Program is to cultivate engineers and researchers who possess the extraordinary ability to create new theories and technologies in advanced computation and utilize these for the development and practical application of innovative science and technology.

## (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 two associate deans.

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

3 The necessary matters concerning the selection of associate deans shall be stipulated by the Kobe University Graduate School of System Informatics Faculty Council (hereinafter referred to as "Faculty Council").

## (Heads of Departments)

Article 8 Each department in the Graduate School shall have a head of department.

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

3 Heads of departments are to be elected from among the professors working in the respective departments of the Graduate School.

4 The necessary matters concerning the selection of heads of departments shall be stipulated by the Faculty Council.

(Master's Program Admission Eligibility)

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

- (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 in a foreign country;
- (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 Division Early Admission)

Article 9-2 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 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);

(Advancement)

Article 10 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 found to be eligible following screening.

(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.

(Screening Methods)

Article 12 Applicants will be screened by means of academic achievement tests, oral examinations and the like.

(Departmental Transfers)

Article 13 Only students who have received permission from both the head of their department and the head of the department to which they wish to transfer may request a departmental transfer.

2 When a student submits a request for a departmental transfer as described in the preceding paragraph, it may be approved by the dean after deliberation by the Faculty Council.

3 The timing of departmental transfers and other related matters shall be stipulated separately.

(Transfer from Other Graduate Schools)

Article 14 When a student from another graduate school outside of the University submits a transfer request to the dean, it may be approved by the dean after deliberation by the Faculty Council.

2 Necessary matters concerning transfers shall be stipulated separately.

(Readmission)

Article 15 When a student who withdrew or was 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.

(Methods of Instruction)

Article 16 Education in the Graduate School shall consist of lectures by subject and supervised research for a dissertation (hereinafter referred to as "research supervision").

2 The lectures and research supervision in the preceding paragraph may be offered at night or during other specified times or time periods.

(Subjects etc.)

Article 17 The subjects offered by the Graduate School and the number of credits awarded for each subject are as listed in Appended Tables 2 and 3.

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 18 Credits for each subject shall be calculated according to the following standards:

- (1) For lectures, one credit shall be granted for 15 hours of class;
- (2) For seminars, one credit shall be granted for 15 or 30 hours of class; and
- (3) For laboratory experiments and practical training, one credit shall be granted for 30 or 45 hours of class;

(Supervisors)

Article 19 Faculty members in charge of research supervision (hereinafter referred to as "supervisors") shall be full-time professors (excluding professors with special responsibilities) employed by the Graduate School and professors of cooperative courses. However, when deemed necessary, these duties may be assigned to full-time associate professors, assistant professors employed by the Graduate School (excluding faculty members with special responsibilities) or associate professors in charge of cooperative courses who have been approved by the Faculty Council.

(Enrollment in Subjects)

Article 20 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 within the University, they must receive permission from the dean of said graduate school after receiving approval from their supervisors and the dean of the Graduate School.

3 When students enrolled in the Master's Program wish to take subjects offered by an undergraduate faculty within the University, they must receive permission from the dean of said faculty after receiving approval from their supervisors and the dean of the Graduate School.

4 Credits earned for subjects taken at another graduate school pursuant to the provisions of Paragraph 2 may be approved as credits as stipulated in Article 32 after deliberation by the Faculty Council.

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

Article 21 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 Regarding credits earned for subjects pursuant to the provisions of the preceding paragraph, up to 10 credits in the Master's Program and up to four credits in the Doctoral Program may be approved as credits as stipulated in Article 32 after deliberation by the Faculty Council.

(Approval of Credits Acquired Prior to Admission)

Article 22 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 in the Master's Program and no more than four credits in the Doctoral Program may be approved as credits as stipulated in Article 32 after deliberation by the Faculty Council.

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

Article 23 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; however, 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.

2 Notwithstanding the stipulations of the proviso in the preceding paragraph, Doctoral Program students may be permitted to receive research supervision for more than two years where special circumstances are deemed to exist.

(Natural Science Program Education Course)

Article 24 A natural science program course (hereinafter referred to as "Program Course") shall be established in the Master's Program to cultivate graduates who possess a broad knowledge of the natural sciences and an interdisciplinary perspective.

2 Necessary matters concerning the Program Course shall be stipulated separately.

(Training Course for IT Professionals)

Article 24-2 A training course for IT professionals will be established in the Master's Program to cultivate information and communication technology specialists, and in particular, advanced software engineers.

2 Necessary matters concerning the training course for IT professionals shall be stipulated separately.

(Computational Science Intensive Course)

Article 25 A doctoral level computational science intensive course (hereinafter referred to as "Intensive Course") will be established in the Department of Computational Science that will provide integrated first and the Doctoral Program education in order to offer focused career development support for researchers specializing in computational science.

2 Necessary matters concerning the Intensive Course shall be stipulated separately.

(Study Abroad)

Article 26 In accordance with the stipulations in Articles 21 and 23, 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 27 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 28 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 examinations or research reports.

(Research Progress Presentations in the Master's Division)

Article 29 Each department shall hold research progress presentations with Master's Program students who have completed the separately stipulated number of credits as presenters.

2 Master's Program students cannot submit their master's theses until the prescribed period of time has elapsed after receiving approval for giving a research progress presentation.

(Research Progress Presentations and Research Results Presentations in the Doctoral Program)

Article 30 Each department shall hold research progress presentations with Doctoral Program students as presenters.

2 Each department shall hold research results presentations with Doctoral Program students who have completed the separately stipulated number of credits as presenters.

3 Doctoral Program students cannot submit their doctoral dissertations until the prescribed period of time has elapsed after receiving approval for giving a research results presentation.

(Dissertation Screenings and Final Examinations)

Article 31 Dissertation screenings and final examinations shall be governed by the Kobe University Degree Regulations (established on April 1, 2004).

(Grading Standards)

Article 31-2 The criteria for evaluating academic performance set forth in Article 73-2 of the General Rules for Students shall be stipulated separately.

(Completion of the Program)

Article 32 Students who have remained enrolled in the Master's Program for at least two years, who have earned at least 30 credits from the subjects as set forth in Appended Table 2, and who have passed screening of the master's thesis or 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 Students who have remained enrolled in the Doctoral Program for at least three years, who have earned at least 10 credits from the subjects as set forth in Appended Table 3, and who have passed the doctoral dissertation screening and final examination having received the necessary research supervision shall be deemed to have completed the 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, first division [of the Graduate Program] or professional degree program within two years).

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

(Conferral of Degrees)

Article 33 Master's degrees will be conferred on persons who have completed the Master's Program.

2 Doctoral degrees will be conferred on persons who have completed the Graduate Program.

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

Master's Program	Master of System Informatics or Master of Engineering
Doctoral Program [(Graduate Program)]	
Department of Systems Science	Doctor of System Informatics, Doctor of Engineering or Doctor of Philosophy
Department of Information Science	Doctor of System Informatics, Doctor of Engineering or 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 The research period of special research students shall be no longer than one year; however, the period may be extended when deemed necessary by the Faculty Council.

(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 working in the Graduate School.

3 Necessary matters concerning research students shall be stipulated separately.

(Miscellaneous Provisions)

Article 39 In addition to the stipulations in these rules, the Faculty Council shall stipulate any other necessary matters.

Supplementary Provisions

These rules come into effect on April 1, 2010.

Supplementary Provisions (March 31, 2011)

These rules come into effect on April 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 an enrolled student on or after April 1, 2012, the previous rules shall remain applicable, regardless of the revised provisions of Article 27, Paragraph 1.

Supplementary Provisions (March 27, 2013)

1 These rules come into effect on April 1, 2013.

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 an enrolled student on or after April 1, 2013, the previous rules shall remain applicable.

Supplementary Provisions (March 26, 2014)

1 These rules come into effect on April 1, 2014.

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 an enrolled student on or after April 1, 2014, the previous rules shall remain applicable, regardless of the revised provisions of Appended Tables 2.