

Regulations Concerning the Doctoral Qualifying Examination in the Doctoral Program

The Doctoral Qualifying Examination in the Doctoral Program under Article 29 of Rules of the Graduate School of International Cooperation Studies shall be conducted according to the procedure outlined below.

I. Doctor of Philosophy in Economics

1. Examination

1) Subjects

The Examination consists of two subjects, "Microeconomics" and "Macroeconomics". Applicants are required to pass in both the subjects unless paragraph 2) applies.

2) Exemptions

- i) Students who received grade 'S' for "Microeconomics" offered in the English Course in the Master's Program of the Graduate School of International Cooperation Studies (hereinafter referred to as 'GSICS') or after enrollment in the Doctoral Program of GSICS shall be exempted from the Examination on "Microeconomics".

Students who received grade 'S' for "Macroeconomics" offered in the English Course in the Master's Program of GSICS or after enrollment in the Doctoral Program of GSICS shall be exempted from the Examination on "Macroeconomics".

Students who received grade 'A', 'B' or 'C' for "Microeconomics" and "Macroeconomics" in the Master's Program of GSICS shall be entitled to take the same subjects again after enrollment in the Doctoral Program of GSICS for the purpose of the present paragraph.

- ii) Paragraph i) is not applicable to students who entered the Master's Program of GSICS in or before 2006. They shall be entitled to take the subjects "Microeconomics" and "Macroeconomics" after enrollment in the Doctoral Program of GSICS for the purpose of exemption.
- iii) The Faculty Meeting will determine whether students who received equivalent grades for subjects that correspond to "Microeconomics" and "Macroeconomics" at other graduate schools in Kobe University and other universities are exempted from the Examination.
- iv) With respect to students who entered the Master's Program of GSICS during the period from 2007 to 2010, a grade 'A' that was equivalent to 'S' for "Microeconomics" and "Macroeconomics" shall be regarded as 'S' for the purpose of paragraph i). Students who entered the Master's Program during this period should make inquiries to the Academic Affairs Office with prescribed forms as to whether the grade 'A' that they received was equivalent to 'S'.

Table of Comparison

Examination Subjects	Classes (from 2011 onwards)	Classes (2007-2010)
Microeconomics	Microeconomics 'S'	Microeconomics 'A' (equivalent to 'S')
Macroeconomics	Macroeconomics 'S'	Macroeconomics 'A' (equivalent to 'S')

2. Date of Examination

The Examination is held twice a year.

- 1) Third Wednesday of May (Application period: 1 April–10 April);
- 2) Third Wednesday of November (Application period: 1 October–10 October)

Students shall be entitled to take the Examination at any of these times during their registered period.

If the application deadline falls on a weekend or holiday, it will be postponed to the next business day.

3. Limitation on the number of times

Students shall be entitled to take the Examination as many times as they want.

II. Doctor of Philosophy (for students whose doctoral dissertations involve an economic analysis)

1. Examination

1) Subjects

The Examination consists of three subjects, “Microeconomics”, “Macroeconomics” and “Economic Development Studies”. Applicants are required to pass in two of those subjects unless paragraph 2) applies.

2) Exemptions

- i) Students who received grade ‘S’ or ‘A’ for “Microeconomics” offered in the English Course in the Master’s Program of GSICS or after enrollment in the Doctoral Program of GSICS shall be exempted from the Examination on “Microeconomics”.

Students who received grade ‘S’ or ‘A’ for “Macroeconomics” offered in the English Course in the Master’s Program of GSICS or after enrollment in the Doctoral Program of GSICS shall be exempted from the Examination on “Macroeconomics”.

Students who received grade ‘S’ or ‘A’ for “Economic Development Studies” offered in the English Course in the Master’s Program of GSICS or after enrollment in the Doctoral Program of GSICS shall be exempted from the Examination on “Economic Development Studies”.

Students who received grade ‘B’ or ‘C’ for “Microeconomics”, “Macroeconomics” and “Economic Development Studies” in the Master’s Program of GSICS shall be entitled to take the same subjects again after enrollment in the Doctoral Program of GSICS for the purpose of the present paragraph.

- ii) Paragraph i) is not applicable to students who entered the Master’s Program of GSICS in or before 2006. They shall be entitled to take the subjects “Microeconomics”, “Macroeconomics” and “Economic Development Studies” after enrollment in the Doctoral Program of GSICS for the purpose of exemption.
- iii) The Faculty Meeting will determine whether students who received equivalent grades for subjects that correspond to “Microeconomics”, “Macroeconomics” and “Economic Development Studies” at other graduate schools in Kobe University and other universities are exempted from the Examination.

Table of Comparison

Examination Subjects	Classes (2007~)
Microeconomics	Microeconomics ‘S’ or ‘A’
Macroeconomics	Macroeconomics ‘S’ or ‘A’
Economic Development Studies	Economic Development Studies ‘S’ or ‘A’

2. Date of Examination

The Examination is held twice a year.

- 1) Third Wednesday of May (Application period: 1 April–10 April);
- 2) Third Wednesday of November (Application period: 1 October–10 October)

Students shall be entitled to take the Examination at any of these times during their registered period.

If the deadline falls on a weekend or holiday, it will be postponed to the next business day.

3. Limitation on the number of times

Students shall be entitled to take the Examination as many times as they want.

III. Doctor of Laws, Doctor of Philosophy in Political Science or Doctor of Philosophy (for students whose doctoral dissertations do not involve an economic analysis)

1. Purpose and Procedure of Qualifying Examination

- 1) The Examination shall be in principle conducted according to paragraph 2 with a view to evaluating students' knowledge of their own theme, academic and practical values of their research and feasibility of their research plans.
- 2) In order to qualify for doctoral candidate status, the student is required to submit a paper for this purpose and pass an oral examination. The student is required to take written examinations if an examination committee formed pursuant to paragraph 2, 2) considers this necessary.
The examination committee informs the student of a theme list to take written examinations.

2. Procedure

- 1) The student is required to receive approval from his/her academic adviser for a theme for the said paper. The student, with the approval of his/her academic adviser, must submit three copies of the said paper and its summary with a prescribed application form to the Academic Affairs Office. Those documents shall be in principle submitted after a lapse of 6 months since and within 18 months from enrollment in the Doctoral Program.
- 2) Upon receiving an application for the Qualifying Examination, the Faculty Meeting shall form an examination committee without delay. The said committee, consisting of three members including the student's academic adviser as a main member, shall review the student's paper and conduct the oral examination. At least two of the members shall be teaching staff allocated to GSICS.
- 3) The oral examination will take place within 2 months from the acceptance of the application. The examination committee will fix a date and time for the oral examination.
- 4) The result of the Qualifying Examination shall be decided by the Faculty Meeting after the deliberations of the examination committee.
- 5) Unsuccessful applicants shall be entitled to, in consultation with their academic advisers, revise and re-submit the paper for re-examination. If the theme is modified, an application form shall be submitted anew.

3. Paper and Summary

- 1) The academic adviser will give approval for the theme when he/she considers the paper as demonstrating the overall structure of the student's doctoral dissertation or constituting an essential part of the dissertation.
- 2) The paper must be written in English (approximately 7,000-10,000 words), and typed or printed on A4 paper (12 point font and 27 lines). The length of its summary should be determined in consultation with academic advisers.