

Academic Year 2025

Kobe University

Graduate School of Intercultural Studies
Doctoral Program

Application Handbook

Application procedures may be subject to change as a result of unforeseen circumstances such as infectious disease or natural disaster. Should changes be implemented, information will be published on the Graduate School's website. Those planning to apply are therefore advised to check the website regularly. In particular, it is recommended that applicants review the website immediately prior to submitting their application, and immediately prior to the examination date.

Kobe University

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Introduction

Admission Policy of the Graduate School of Intercultural Studies

Master's Program

The objective of the Kobe University Graduate School of Intercultural Studies is to cultivate individuals who have a deep understanding of intercultural phenomena and flexible communication skills, as well as strong scholarship and creative research skills.

Applicants are sought with the following qualities and abilities:

1. Have a keen interest in understanding culture as a complex entity and pursuing multifaceted studies that convey the richness of intercultural relations.
[Required competences: relevant knowledge, techniques, critical thinking skills, evaluative skills, communication skills, initiative, cooperation, interest, and motivation]
2. Have a keen interest in understanding the dynamics of language and information communication and addressing the various problems that confront contemporary global society.
[Required competences: relevant knowledge, techniques, critical thinking skills, evaluative skills, communication skills, initiative, cooperation, interest, and motivation]
3. Have a keen interest in carrying out interdisciplinary research with high standards of expertise.
[Required competences: relevant knowledge, techniques, critical thinking skills, evaluative skills, communication skills, initiative, cooperation, interest, and motivation]

Doctoral Program

The objective of the Kobe University Graduate School of Intercultural Studies is to cultivate individuals who have a deep understanding of intercultural phenomena and flexible communication skills, as well as strong scholarship and creative research skills.

Applicants are sought with the following qualities and abilities:

1. Have a keen interest in clarifying cultural phenomena, understanding the dynamics of culture as a complex entity, and exploring an advanced field of cultural research.
[Required competences: relevant knowledge, techniques, critical thinking skills, evaluative skills, communication skills, initiative, cooperation, interest, and motivation]
2. Have a keen interest in pursuing various language and information communication issues and conducting multifaceted studies focused on the increasingly globalized modern society.
[Required competences: relevant knowledge, techniques, critical thinking skills, evaluative skills, communication skills, initiative, cooperation, interest, and motivation]
3. Have a keen interest in carrying out cross-disciplinary research with superior expertise.
[Required competences: relevant knowledge, techniques, critical thinking skills, evaluative skills, communication skills, initiative, cooperation, interest, and motivation]

1. Admission quota

Department	Division	Course	Admission quota
Cultural Interaction	Area Studies	Japanology Asia-Pacific Culture Studies European and American Culture Studies	6 students
	Intercultural Communication	Cultural Anthropology Transcultural Studies International Relations and Comparative Politics	
Culture and Globalization	Contemporary Culture and Society	Modernity Studies Contemporary Social Issues Art, Culture and Society Studies	9 students
	Human Communication and Information Science	Linguistics and Communication Studies Human Communication Computers and Communication	
	Second Language Education	Systems of Second Language Education Contents in Second Language Education	
	Joint Research Group	Advanced Communication	

2. Eligibility requirements

A. General admission

For any applicant who meets one or more of the criteria numbered (1) to (7) in the box below.

B. Special selection for international students

For any applicant who has entered or intends to enter Japan after having obtained “Student” status of residence (for the avoidance of doubt, including those who expect to obtain “Student” status of residence prior to enrollment), and who has completed the entire curriculum that corresponds to a high school education in a foreign country, and who meets one or more of the criteria numbered (1) to (7) in the box below.

Those who have obtained other categories of status of residence—for example, as a Permanent Resident, Spouse or Child of Japanese National, or Long Term Resident—and who have completed the entire curriculum that corresponds to a high school education in a foreign country, and who meet one or more of the criteria numbered (1) to (7) in the box below may also apply.

- (1) The person has received a master’s degree or professional degree (the term “professional degree [専門職学位]” is used here, and throughout the rest of this document, with the meaning stipulated in Article 5-2 of the Degree Regulations (Order of the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture No. 9 of 1953), as provided for by Article 104, paragraph (3) of the School Education Act) in Japan, or is expected to receive such a degree by March 2025.
- (2) The person has received a degree equivalent to a master’s degree or professional degree in a foreign country, or is expected to receive such a degree by March 2025.
- (3) The person has received a degree equivalent to a master’s degree or professional degree as a result of completing, while themselves based in Japan, a correspondence course offered by a foreign educational institution, or is expected to receive such a degree by March 2025.

- (4) The person has received a degree equivalent to a master's degree or professional degree as a result of completing a course of study in Japan at an educational institution that is recognized as having a graduate program under the education system of a foreign country, and is designated separately by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, or is expected to receive such a degree by March 2025.
- (5) The person has received a degree equivalent to a master's degree as a result of completing a course of study at the United Nations University, established by a decision of the United Nations General Assembly on December 11, 1972, and as provided for by 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).
- (6) The person has been designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (the person, having graduated from a university or completed 16 years of schooling in a foreign country, has been engaged in research at a university or research institute for a period not less than two years and, on the basis of the results of said research, has been recognized by this Graduate School as having a level of academic ability equivalent or superior to that of a person holding a master's degree).
- (7) The person has been approved by this Graduate School as having a level of academic ability equivalent to or superior to that of a person holding a master's degree or professional degree, on the basis of an individual preliminary review of the person's eligibility to apply, and will be at least 24 years of age by March 31, 2025.

Note: Preliminary review of eligibility

Period in which a request may be made: Monday, December 16 to Thursday, December 19, 2024

- Any person who wishes to apply on the basis of meeting criteria (6) or (7), above, is required to undergo a preliminary review of their eligibility by the Graduate School. **Any applicant who meets one or more of criteria (1) to (5) is not required to undergo a preliminary review of their eligibility.**
- Those applicants intending to undergo a preliminary review of their eligibility are advised to send the following documents (by registered express mail) so that they arrive within the period in which such a request may be made.
 - i. Preliminary Review of Eligibility Request Form (provided by the Graduate School, to be filled in by the prospective applicant).
 - ii. Transcripts of academic records and graduation certificate (certificate of completion) prepared by the dean of the last educational institution attended.
 - iii. Certificate of Research History (only necessary with respect to criterion (6); provided by the Graduate School, and to be certified by the head of the research institute or equivalent to which the prospective applicant belongs).
 - iv. Report of research history and work experience: one copy
 - v. Academic papers, published books, etc., and their abstracts: three copies of each (with respect to up to three items; photocopies are acceptable).
The abstracts should be provided in Japanese (approximately 2,000 characters) or English (approximately 1,000 words).
 - vi. Research Proposal for your time at the Graduate School: four copies (form provided by the Graduate School; photocopies are acceptable).
 - vii. An envelope for the purpose of notifying the prospective candidate of the results of the review (a standard-size envelope, with **stamps for express mail** already affixed. Please refer to the website of the Graduate School for information on the value of stamps to be affixed).
Note: This requirement to include a self-addressed stamped envelope does not apply to applicants who reside outside of Japan
- The prospective applicant will be notified of the results of the review by Friday, December 27, 2024. Please do not send your application documents or pay the application fee prior to receipt of the results of the review.

- The Graduate School is not able to return documents submitted for the purposes of this review process.

Address for submission of your review request

Academic Affairs, Graduate School of Intercultural Studies, Kobe University
1-2-1, Tsurukabuto, Nada-ku, Kobe, JAPAN 657-8501

Please write the following, in red ink, on the front of the envelope: **Kobe University, Graduate School of Intercultural Studies Doctoral Program—Preliminary Review Documents Enclosed.**

3. Application period

Please ensure that your application is received **between January 6 (Mon) and January 10 (Fri), 2025 (no later than 5:00 p.m.)**. Please also note that **applications delivered in person will not be considered.**

Please ensure that the application is sent by **registered express mail**. Your Examination Admission Ticket will be sent in late January.

Address for submission of your application

Academic Affairs, Graduate School of Intercultural Studies, Kobe University
1-2-1, Tsurukabuto, Nada-ku, Kobe, JAPAN 657-8501

Please write the following, in red ink, on the front of the envelope: **Kobe University, Graduate School of Intercultural Studies Doctoral Program—Application for Admission (or Advancement) to the [SPECIFY DEPARTMENT HERE] Doctoral Program Enclosed.**

4. How to apply

Applicants are asked to prepare the following documents for submission, and send them by mail. **Submission documents will not be returned. All documents must be originals, except where it is indicated that “photocopies are acceptable.”**

Applicants who have requested a preliminary review of eligibility, and received approval, are not required to submit documents (2), (5), or (6) from the list below.

	Documents for submission	Summary
(1)	Admission (or Advancement) Application Form and Curriculum Vitae	(Form provided by the Graduate School)

(2)	Academic Transcript and Certificate of Completion (or Expected Completion)	<p>Document issued by a graduate school certifying the applicants' eligibility to apply.</p> <p>For those who have not completed a course of study at a graduate school, or who have graduated from a foreign university, these will be an academic transcript and a certificate of completion from the last educational institution attended by the applicant.</p> <p>Note 1: For those who graduated from a foreign graduate school, and whose transcript and certificate are in a language other than Japanese or English, a translation (A4) into Japanese must also be attached. The following must also be written clearly on the translation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. “翻訳の内容は、原本と相違ないことを証明する。” (This means: “I certify that the content of the translation does not differ from the original.”) ii. The name of the translator (where the translation has not been issued by the graduate school at which the applicant completed their studies, this should be the applicant's name). iii. The translator's signature or seal. <p>Note 2: If the applicant's name has changed after completion of their course and no longer matches that written on their transcript or certificate, due to marriage or any other reason, please include a certificate from a public institution as evidence of the change of name. Such documents will be returned after verification of the change of name.</p> <p>Note 3: Those who have obtained a master's degree from a graduate school in China are also required to submit the documents described below, as appropriate.</p> <p><u>Applicants who have completed their master's degree:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online Verification Report of Higher Education Qualification Certificate (English); • Online Verification Report of Higher Education Degree Certificate (English). <p><u>Applicants who are currently enrolled in a course of study, and expect to obtain a master's degree prior to enrollment at the Graduate School:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online Verification Report of Student Record (English) <p>All documents must be verified by China Higher Education Student Information (CHSI). Please register on the CHSI website (https://www.chsi.com.cn/xlcx/bgys.jsp), obtain the relevant documents in PDF format, and print them out on A4 paper. The validity of the online certification must extend for a period of not less than one month from the time of application. If the Graduate School is unable to perform online verification due to the expiration of the validity period, or any similar reason, the application will be treated as incomplete.</p>
(3)	Examination Admission Ticket	(Form provided by the Graduate School)
(4)	Sorting Card	(Form provided by the Graduate School)
(5)	Photographs	<p>Three photographs (upper body, hatless, front view, 4cm tall × 3cm wide). Please affix a photograph, taken within three months prior to the application, at the designated section in each of the following documents: the Admission (or Advancement) Application Form, the Examination Admission Ticket, and the Sorting Card.</p>

(6)	Thesis	<p><u>A. For applicants who have obtained a master's degree upon submission of a master's thesis (including those who are expecting to obtain a master's degree on this basis):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Master's thesis: three copies (photocopies are acceptable) • Master's thesis abstract: four copies (to be provided in Japanese (approximately 2,000 characters) or English (approximately 1,000 words). Photocopies are acceptable. They should be printed single-sided on A4 paper. Please ensure that a cover page, downloaded from the following URL is attached: http://web.cla.kobe-u.ac.jp/prospective-g); • If the applicant has had academic papers published, up to two of those papers may be submitted together with the application: three copies of each paper submitted (photocopies are acceptable). <p>For those applicants who have yet to obtain a master's degree but expect to do so prior to enrollment at the Graduate School, the thesis that they will submit as their master's thesis will be treated as their master's thesis for the purpose of their application.</p> <p><u>B. For applicants who have obtained a master's degree without examination of a master's thesis (including those who expect to obtain a master's degree on that basis), or those who do not hold a master's degree:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic papers equivalent to a master's thesis (up to three papers): three copies of each (photocopies are acceptable); • Abstracts with respect to the submitted academic papers: four copies (to be provided in Japanese (approximately 2,000 characters) or English (approximately 1,000 words). Photocopies are acceptable. They should be printed single-sided on A4 paper. Please ensure that a cover page, downloaded from the following URL is attached: http://web.cla.kobe-u.ac.jp/prospective-g). <p>Note: If any of the academic papers submitted are written in a language other than Japanese or English, translations into Japanese or English may be requested after your application.</p>
(7)	Research Proposal for your time at the Graduate School	<p>Four copies (form provided by the Graduate School; photocopies are acceptable).</p> <p>Please download the Research Proposal template from the Graduate School's website, complete the document, and print four copies on single-sided A4 paper.</p> <p>The Research Proposal template can be downloaded from the following URL: http://web.cla.kobe-u.ac.jp/prospective-g.</p>

(8)	Application fee (JPY30,000)	<p>The examinee must bear any handling charges incurred with respect to the payment of the application fee. Please use the postal payment slip (application fee), provided separately, to make the payment at a post office (not possible at an ATM). Please affix a certificate of payment receipt (which must be date-stamped by the post office) to front of the Admission Application Form, at the designated section.</p> <p>However, the application fee need not be paid by applicants who, at the time of application, are Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship students and who continue to be eligible to apply for an extension after April 1, 2025, following the expiration of their current scholarship period.</p> <p>Those applicants who wish to make their payment from outside Japan should refer to the document titled “Application fee payment method (available in English).” Having paid the application fee, please submit a printed copy of the e-mail confirming completion of the payment, without affixing that document to the Admission Application Form. (We are not able to accept a printed copy of the payment completion screen for these purposes, as such a document does not allow verification of details such as the date on which the payment was completed.)</p>
(9)	Address Slip	One copy (Form provided by the Graduate School)
(10)	Self-addressed stamped envelope	<p>Please write your address, name, and postal code on a standard-size envelope (#3 Long: 23cm long × 12cm wide), and affix a stamp for express mail.</p> <p>This envelope will be used to send your Examination Admission Ticket (by express mail).</p> <p>Note: This requirement to include a self-addressed stamped envelope does not apply to applicants who reside outside of Japan (who will be notified separately about the provision of their Examination Admission Ticket).</p> <p>Note: Please refer to the Graduate School of Intercultural Studies website (http://web.cla.kobe-u.ac.jp/prospective-g) for information on the value of express mail stamps required.</p>

Note: Those wishing to advance from the Graduate School’s Master’s Program should refer to the document titled “進学者選考要項 [Guidelines on the Selection of Advancing Students]” which is available separately.

The following should be submitted only by certain applicants, as set out below.

	Documents to be submitted	Summary
(11)	Copy of the Resident Record (住民票の写し)	<p>Foreign nationals residing in Japan only</p> <p>The document must have been prepared no more than 30 days prior to the date of submission. Applicants are to submit a Copy of the Residence Record (住民票の写し) without omission of any information relating to nationality or region, status of residence, or period of stay.</p> <p>Applicants residing overseas at the time of application should submit this document at the time of enrollment.</p>
(12)	Certificate of MEXT Scholarship Student	<p>Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship students only</p> <p>A certificate issued by the graduate school at which the applicant is enrolled, stating that the applicant is a Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship student.</p>

(13)	Certificate of Eligibility of MEXT Scholarship Student to Apply for Extension	Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship students only A certificate issued by the graduate school at which the applicant is enrolled, stating that the applicant is eligible to apply for an extension of their Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship following the expiration of their current scholarship period.
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5. Entrance examination procedure

(1) Oral examination

This will involve an examination of the academic paper(s), research proposal, and other documents submitted by the applicant, as relevant.

(2) Examination of the academic paper(s) submitted by the applicant

6. Entrance examination date and location

(1) Examination date

Examination Date	Examination Category	Examination Duration
February 8, 2025 (Sat)	Oral examination	Examinees will be notified of details as to the duration and venue of their examination when they receive their Examination Admission Ticket.

(2) Examination location

Kobe University Graduate School of Intercultural Studies

1-2-1, Tsurukabuto, Nada-ku, Kobe, JAPAN 657-8501

(accessible by Kobe City Bus No. 16 or No. 106, getting off at Shindai Kokusai Bunkagaku Kenkyuka-mae)

7. Advance consultation for those requiring special accommodations with respect to examination and study

Request deadline: Thursday, December 19, 2024

Applicants with disabilities or other special needs who may require special accommodations with respect to the entrance examination or during their time studying at the Graduate School should, in principle, contact and consult with Academic Affairs, Graduate School of Intercultural Studies, Kobe University, by the request deadline.

8. Admission notice

10:00 a.m., Wednesday, February 26, 2025 (provisional)

Kobe University Graduate School of Intercultural Studies website.

Successful applicants (only) will be informed by mail on the same day.

Please note that we are not able to respond to inquiries by phone or other means.

9. Enrollment process

(1) Enrollment process

Documents relating to the enrollment process will be sent to successful applicants following the admission notice. Details concerning enrollment process dates, documents to be submitted, and the enrollment process itself will be provided when the enrollment documents are sent to successful applicants.

Successful applicants should return their Examination Admission Ticket and enrollment documents, and pay the following fees.

(2) Fees

Fee Category	Amount	Summary
Admission Fee	JPY282,000	1. The amounts set out here are from the 2024 academic year. 2. The fees for students enrolling in the 2025 academic year will be provided separately, once they have been determined. 3. Once paid, the admission fee cannot be refunded for any reason.
Tuition Fee	First semester: JPY267,900 Annual tuition fee: JPY535,800	

Note: If the tuition fee is revised while a student is enrolled, the revised fee will apply from the time of revision.

Information for reference: Admission fee exemption or deferral, and tuition fee exemption

Details concerning the admission fee exemption or deferral, and tuition fee exemption, as well as the corresponding processes, will be published on the website of Kobe University once they have been determined (Campus life → Tuition and Fees; URL: <https://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/en/campus-life/tuition/>).

Should you have any questions concerning the information published on the website, please refer to the following contact information.

For inquiries concerning the admission fee exemption or deferral, and tuition fee exemption:

Kobe University Academic Affairs Department, Student Support, Scholarship Support Group (Exemptions)

Phone: 078-803-5431 E-mail: stdnt-shogakushien@office.kobe-u.ac.jp

10. How we handle your personal information

- (1) Personal information held by the University will be handled with the utmost care, in strict compliance with the Act on the Protection of Personal Information and other relevant laws and regulations, and in accordance with the Guidelines on Management of Personal Information Held by Kobe University.
- (2) Personal information such as examination scores and the like will be used for the purposes of the selection of applicants (the processing of applications and the entrance examination), announcing successful applicants, enrollment processes, and surveys and research to improve future examination processes and university education. The information will be processed such that individuals are not identifiable when such surveys and research, or their results, are published.
- (3) Personal information about an applicant provided at the time of an application will be used solely for purposes of post-enrollment student support (including health management, the tuition fee exemption, or scholarship applications), academic affairs (including student registration and academic counseling), or other such matters of an educational objective or concerning fees, or other related services.

(4) Some services may be outsourced by the University. In such instances, personal information will be provided only to the extent required to perform the services in question, and with strict confidentiality with respect to such personal information.

11. Important information

(1) Please ensure that you have consulted with the faculty member that you would like as your supervisor about whether they would be able to accommodate and provide research guidance for your proposed research topic prior to making your application.

(2) Once an application has been processed, we are unable to accept any changes to the information recorded in the application documents.

(3) We are not able to return application documents once received, nor are we able to refund the application fee.

(4) An enrolment may be cancelled if false information has been provided in the application, even after the enrolment has been processed.

(5) Any person staying in Japan with a status of residence when they enroll must have a status of residence that does not impede enrolment at a graduate school under the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act (Cabinet Order No. 319 of 1951).

*If your status of residence is not “Student,” you will not be treated as an international student under Japanese law. Please note that this may cause difficulties in applications for various scholarships, or various services such as subsidies for medical expenses, intended for international students.

(6) We are not able to respond to any inquiries regarding the arrival of application documents.

12. Allocation of marks for the 2025 academic year entrance examinations

Examination Category	General Admission and Special Selection for International Students
(1) Oral examination	200 marks
(2) Submitted thesis	300 marks
Total	500 marks

13. Reference

(1) Applicant numbers, etc.

The numbers of applicants, etc. for the Kobe University Graduate School of Intercultural Studies Doctoral Program for the 2024 academic year were as follows.

Department	Spaces available	Applicants	Successful applicants	Students enrolled
Cultural Interaction	6	5 (◎4 ※0)	4 (◎3 ※0)	4 (◎3 ※0)
Culture and Globalization	9	10 (◎3 ※0)	9 (◎3 ※0)	9 (◎3 ※0)
Total	15	15 (◎7 ※0)	13 (◎6 ※0)	13 (◎6 ※0)

Note: The figures in parentheses refer to the number of applicants undergoing special selection for international students (marked by the symbol ©) and the number of applicants undergoing special-recommendation-based applicants (marked by the symbol ※).

(2) Reference to, and copying of, past examination questions (in Japanese only)

- Applicants from outside Kobe University are able to view and photocopy past examination papers at the Graduate School's Academic Affairs department.
- Kobe University students are able to view and photocopy past examination papers in the General Library / Library for Intercultural Studies.

Furthermore, materials that have been edited to reflect copyright considerations are also available through our website: <http://web.cla.kobe-u.ac.jp/prospective-g>

Preventive measures against measles, rubella, epidemic parotiditis, and chickenpox

(1) Submission of a certificate demonstrating inoculation and an antibody test against measles and rubella:

Kobe University has implemented the *Measles and Rubella Registration Policy*, and all newly enrolled Kobe University students must submit one of the following three certificates (①, ②, or ③) to prevent a possible outbreak of measles and rubella on campus.

Please note that students admitted to the following schools are required to submit either ① or ③:
School of Medicine (Faculty of Medicine and Faculty of Health Sciences),
the Graduate School of Medicine, or the Graduate School of Health Sciences.

① A vaccination certificate to prove that you have received two doses each of the measles and rubella vaccine after turning one year old (recommended)

② A vaccination certificate to prove that you were inoculated with measles and rubella vaccines each within the last five years (since April 2020).

③ An antibody certificate to prove that you have sufficient antibody titer in your blood (refer to the chart next page) to prevent the development of measles and rubella, based on the results of an antibody test performed within the last five years (since April 2020)

* For ① and ②, a combined vaccine against measles and rubella (e.g., MR vaccine) is permissible.

* For ① and ②, the certificate must be issued by an accredited medical institution and state the type of vaccine and the date of inoculation.

* If you have a history of measles or rubella, please submit ③ or receive a vaccination and submit ① or ②.

* For ③, the certificate must specify the measuring method and the measured values of antibody titer in your blood (refer to the next page), and it must satisfy the judging standard listed in the chart. A blood test report sheet itself can be accepted for submission.

If the antibody titer in your blood is insufficient, you must receive the necessary vaccination, and submit either ① or ②.

* You may submit a combination of ①, ②, and ③ (e.g., ① for measles and ③ for rubella).

* If your antibody titer level is below the threshold, yet you are unable to receive the vaccinations due to certain circumstances (such as illness or specific body conditions), please provide an official document (like a medical certificate) that explains the reason.

Procedure, deadline, and location for submission

• All successful undergraduate and graduate applicants enrolling in April (except the Graduate School of Medicine, the Graduate School of Health Sciences and the Graduate School of Maritime Sciences):

Please submit at the time of the medical checkup for new students scheduled in April.

• All successful graduate applicants enrolling in April (the Graduate School of Medicine, the Graduate School of Health Sciences, and the Graduate School of Maritime Sciences):

Submit the certificate to the following institution by the designated date:

- Students of the Graduate School of Medicine should submit directly to the Medical Center for Student Health, Kusunoki Branch, by April 21.

- Students of the Graduate School of Health Sciences should submit directly to the Physical and Mental Health Consultation Office (Myodani Campus), by April 21.

- Students of the Graduate School of Maritime Sciences should submit the form at the medical examination site on the day of the medical check-up for maritime sciences students.

• Successful applicants enrolling in October:

Please submit the form at the time of the medical check-up for students entering in October.

(2) Submission of a certificate demonstrating inoculation and an antibody test against epidemic parotiditis and chickenpox (only for successful applicants enrolling in the School of Medicine including both the Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Health Sciences; the Graduate School of Medicine; and the Graduate School of Health Sciences):

In addition to the measles and rubella certificate, successful applicants enrolling in the School of Medicine (the Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Health Sciences), the Graduate School of Medicine, and the Graduate School of Health Sciences, are also required to submit a certificate regarding epidemic parotiditis and chickenpox. A designated form for the certificate is available at the Academic Affairs Section.

The certificate must state that either you were inoculated against epidemic parotiditis and chickenpox (twice each after one year of age), or verify that you have sufficient antibody titer in your blood to prevent the development of epidemic parotiditis and chickenpox based on an antibody test performed within the last five years (since April 2020).

If the antibody titer in your blood is insufficient, you must receive the necessary vaccination (twice each), by the due date for the certificate submission. (The two vaccinations must be given at least 4 weeks apart.)

* If your antibody titer level is below the threshold, yet you are unable to receive the vaccinations due to certain circumstances (such as illness or specific body conditions), please provide an official document (like a medical certificate) that explains the reason.

Procedure, deadline, and location for submission>

• Successful undergraduate and graduate applicants enrolling in April

(Only for the School of Medicine including the Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Health Sciences;

the Graduate School of Medicine, and the Graduate School of Health Sciences):

By the end of June of your first year, submit the certificate to the following:

- Students of the School of Medicine (both the Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Health Sciences) should submit directly to the Medical Center for Student Health (Rokkodai).

- Students of the Graduate School of Medicine should submit directly to the Medical Center for Student Health, Kusunoki Branch.

- Students of the Graduate School of Health Sciences should submit directly to the Physical and Mental Health Consultation Office (Myodani Campus).

☆ Attention: For those who are enrolled in the School of Medicine but miss the submission deadline, you may not be able to participate in the initial on-site clinical training program etc.

• Successful graduate applicants enrolling in October

(Only for the Graduate School of Medicine and the Graduate School of Health Sciences):

Submit the certificate by end of December of your first year to the following:

- Students of the Graduate School of Medicine should submit directly to the Medical Center for Student Health, Kusunoki Branch.

- Students of the Graduate School of Health Sciences should submit directly to the Physical and Mental Health Consultation Office (Myodani Campus).

Measuring methods and judging standards for blood antibody titers

	Measuring Method	Judging Standard	Remarks
Measles	IgG — EIA method	$8.0 \leq$ positive ($16.0 \leq$) *	Positive result by one of these three methods. * For the School of Medicine (both the Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Health Sciences), the Graduate School of Medicine, and the Graduate School of Health Sciences: Positive result by one of these three methods, and must achieve values shown in brackets.
	PA method	$256x \leq$ positive ($256x \leq$) *	
	NT method	$4.0x \leq$ positive ($8x \leq$) *	
Rubella	HI method IgG—EIA method	$32x \leq$ positive $8.0 \leq$ positive	Positive result by one of these two methods. (HI method is recommended)
Epidemic parotiditis (mumps)	IgG—EIA method	$4.0 \leq$ positive	Only for the following schools: School of Medicine (Faculty of Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences), Graduate School of Medicine, and Graduate School of Health Sciences
Chickenpox	IgG—EIA method IAHA method NT method	$4.0 \leq$ positive $4\text{-fold} \leq$ positive $4\text{-fold} \leq$ positive	Only for the following schools: School of Medicine (Faculty of Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences); Graduate School of Medicine, Graduate School of Health Sciences Positive result by one of these three methods (IgG—EIA method is recommended)

- * Antibody testing is not required if the vaccination history meets the requirements or if additional vaccinations are given.
- * Make sure the above methods are followed when the antibody titer is measured in your blood.
- * The protective antibody value differs according to the measuring method used. Please note that **the judging standards are higher than the usual standards used at medical institutions.**

Students who wish to enter the School of Medicine (the Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Health Sciences), the Graduate School of Medicine, and the Graduate School of Health Sciences should note that they are required to have a higher level of protective antibodies against measles, as indicated in brackets.

- * Before visiting a medical institution, please confirm in advance whether you can receive the necessary antibody tests and/or the vaccinations.

When you visit a doctor at a medical institution, make sure to present this document to obtain the necessary certificate(s). (In particular, when taking an antibody test, please ensure the measurement methods meet the above criteria.)

- * Points to consider when submitting a certificate:

- ① Please bring the original certificate along with one copy (A4 size).
- ② If the certificate is written in a language other than Japanese or English, please attach a document showing the Japanese or English translation.

For further information, please refer to:
Medical Center for Student Health, Kobe University Tel: 078-803-5245
Student Support Division, Student Affairs Department, Kobe University Tel: 078-803-5219

List of Faculty Members (expected for academic year commencing April 1, 2025)

Cultural Interaction

Division	Course	Position	Name
Area Studies	Japanology	Professor Professor Professor Professor	Fumiaki ITAKURA Shizue OSA Nobuyuki KONNO Naoko TERAUCHI
	Asia-Pacific Culture Studies	Professor Professor Associate Professor Professor Associate Professor	Tomomi ITO Yasushi SADAYOSHI Makoto TACHIBANA Shinichi TANIGAWA Hiroki FUKAGAWA
	European and American Culture Studies	Professor Lecturer Lecturer Professor	Takuya OZAWA Taro KINUGASA Asami NAKAMURA Takuya NISHITANI
Intercultural Communication	Cultural Anthropology	Professor Associate Professor Professor Professor Associate Professor	Kiyoshi UMEYA Yuka OISHI Hiroki OKADA Tsuyoshi SAITO Hisashi SHIMOJO
	Transcultural Studies	Professor Associate Professor Professor	Hiroataka INOUE Masato KARASHIMA Togo TSUKAHARA
	International Relations and Comparative Politics	Lecturer Lecturer Professor Associate Professor Professor	David ADEBAHR Jun ZHOU Satoru NAKAMURA Sho NIKAWA Masaharu YASUOKA

Please refer to the "Academic Staff" section of our website for the most up-to-date information.

Culture and
Globalization

Division	Course	Position	Name
Contemporary Culture and Society	Modernity Studies	Professor Professor Associate Professor	Naritoshi UENO Yuriko TANAKA Tetz HAKODA
	Contemporary Social issues	Professor Professor Associate Professor Professor Professor	Kaoru AOYAMA Hiroki OGASAWARA Haruko KUDO Tetsu SAKURAI Akihiko NISHIZAWA
	Art, Culture and Society Studies	Professor Lecturer Lecturer	Keiko ISHIDA Yoshiko OKAMOTO Eisuke TAKADA
Human Communication and Information Science	Linguistics and Communication Studies	Lecturer Lecturer Associate Professor Associate Professor Professor Associate Professor	Yuki ISHIDA Naoe KAWAKAMI Tetsuta KOMATSUBARA Miho SAITO Junko TANAKA Yusuke MINAMI
	Human Communication	Professor Associate Professor Professor Professor	Ryo KITADA Tomoko TATSUMI Ryoko HAYASHI Eriko MATSUMOTO
	Computers and Communication	Associate Professor Professor Professor Associate Professor Professor	Makiko OYAMA Min KANG Hidenari KIYOMITSU Takeshi NISHIDA Hajime MURAO
Second Language Education	Systems of Second Language Education	Professor Associate Professor Associate Professor Professor Professor	Atsuhisa SHIMAZU Yasunori TAKAHASHI Daichi HIROTA Sachiko YASUDA Hirokazu YOKOKAWA
	Contents in Second Language Education	Professor Professor Associate Professor Professor Professor Lecturer	Shin'ichiro ISHIKAWA Harumi KASHIWAGI Emiko KIHARA Tim GREER Takeshi SATO Xiao CHEN
Joint Research Group	Advanced Communication	Invited Professor Invited Professor Invited Associate Professor	Carlos Toshinori ISHI Akira UTSUMI Hidenobu SUMIOKA

Please refer to the "Academic Staff" section of our website for the most up-to-date information.

Curriculum Vitae

Examinee number	This space is reserved for use by the University.
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Name (katakana)	
Name (kanji)	
(Foreign nationals are to write their name in the Roman	
their name in the Roman	
Academic History	Date(s) (MM/YYYY–MM/YYYY)
	Experience (please accurately record your academic history, up to the faculty and department of your most recent degree)
	High school name
Professional History	
Qualification	

- Notes
1. Please note the following when completing the "Academic History" section.
 - (1) Please provide accurate and complete information from your enrollment at high school to the completion (or expected completion) of the course of study at a graduate school that renders you eligible to apply.
 - (2) If you have completed at a graduate school or university other than the one that renders you eligible to apply (including as a researcher), please also record that here.
 2. Language examination scores are to be included in the "Qualifications" section.
 3. Should the space provided prove insufficient, please prepare a separate sheet of paper to record the required information, and append that additional sheet.

Examination Admission Ticket

2025 Academic Year

Kobe University Graduate School of Intercultural Studies Doctoral Program

Examinee Number	This space is reserved for use by the University.	Dept		Division	
				Course	
Name	Kanji				<div style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 10px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> <p>Affix your photograph here</p> <p>Affix a photograph taken not more than three months before the application. Upper body, hatless, frontal view. Height 4cm, width 3cm</p> </div>
	Roman alphabet				
	Katakana				
Date of Birth (DD/MM/YYYY)					

----- Please cut here and take your ticket -----

- Notes: 1. Please ensure that you bring this ticket with you on the day of your examination.
 2. Successful applicants will be required to submit this document during the enrollment process, so please store it carefully.

Sorting Card

2025 Academic Year

Kobe University Graduate School of Intercultural Studies Doctoral Program

Examinee Number	This space is reserved for use by the University.	Dept		Division	
				Course	
Name	Kanji				<div style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 10px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> <p>Affix your photograph here</p> <p>Affix a photograph taken not more than three months before the application. Upper body, hatless, frontal view. Height 4cm, width 3cm</p> </div>
	Roman alphabet				
	Katakana				
Date of Birth (DD/MM/YYYY)					

[For use by applicants whose eligibility is based on criterion (6)]

Date (DD/MM/YYYY):

Certificate of Research History

I hereby certify that the information set out below is an accurate statement of the applicant's research history.

Certifying party (affiliation, title, name)

Applicant's Name	
Date of Birth (DD/MM/YYYY)	(Age:)
Current Position (affiliation, title, etc.)	
Current Address	
Date (DD/MM/YYYY):	Particulars of the applicant's research history
	The applicant has graduated from: (University)_____ (Department)_____ (Major)_____
Remarks	

Notes:

- (1) Applicants should fill in the "Statement of Research Products" on the following page, and submit that alongside this certificate.
- (2) This certificate should be certified by someone familiar with the applicant, either the head of their department or another individual in a supervisory position.
- (3) The age provided above should be the applicant's age as it will be on April 1, 2025.

Examinee No.	
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For use by applicants whose eligibility is based on criterion (6) or (7)

Kobe University Graduate School of Intercultural Studies Doctoral Program Preliminary Review of Eligibility Request Form

To the President of Kobe University,

Date (DD/MM/YYYY): _____

Name: _____

Date of Birth (DD/MM/YYYY): _____

I would like to request a preliminary review of my eligibility to apply to the Doctoral Program at the Graduate School of Intercultural Studies at Kobe University, and accordingly attach the necessary documents hereto.

Desired Course	Division:	Course:
Academic History	Elementary school name and period of attendance (MM/YYYY–MM/YYYY):	

Professional History	Employer name and period of employment (MM/YYYY–MM/YYYY):	

Emergency Contact	Address:	Phone:

Note: Please populate the table above with information on your educational history, starting from your elementary school.

Research Proposal

Notes:

Write a four-page Research Proposal covering the following points and print it on four pages of A4 paper, single side.

(1) Your research topic, (2) Outline and significance of your research, (3) Your background academic achievements and activities relevant to the research topic, (4) Annual research plans from the first to the third year of your PhD program, (5) List of your academic achievements if any (up to 5 published papers, research presentations, etc., excluding master's thesis).

Department of choice:		Course of choice:	
Name			
Master's thesis title			