

Graduate School of Economics

Educational Objectives

In line with the Educational Objectives of Osaka University, Graduate School of Economics has continued to make meaningful contributions to the progress of economic studies in Japan since its founding. Graduate School consists of the Department of Economics and the Department of Business and Management.

The master's degree program in the Department of Economics offers three courses, Economics, Applied Economics, and Institutional Analysis and Business Case Studies, while the master's degree program in the Department of Business and Management offers two courses, Management Research and Business, which meet the diverse needs of students with the curriculum covering a broad range of subjects. With these courses, Graduate School of Economics aims to develop researchers and professionals with advanced knowledge. Some subjects are taught in English to meet the needs of the globalization.

Both the Department of Economics and the Department of Business and Management have doctoral degree programs that make students deepen and enhance the knowledge and the intellect that has already gained in the master's degree program. Doctoral students are guided to write a doctoral dissertation by a supervisor. While the main purpose of the education at Graduate School of Economics is to train world-class researchers, it also aims to produce professionals with advanced knowledge.

Cutting-edge, advanced specialized knowledge and outstanding academic expertise

Systematically acquire world-class and cutting-edge knowledge in economics and business management.

Advanced broad-based knowledge and deep critical thinking

Acquire broad-based knowledge and critical thinking in human society and the natural world, necessary to apply expertise to practical purposes.

Sophisticated international mindset

Develop the ability to play a leading role in the age of globalization through the subjects taught in English.

Advanced design prowess

Develop design prowess to discover a clue to solve a problem and devise an approach to the solution based on one's own idea.

Individual educational objectives

Nurture researchers and professionals with advanced expertise through the curriculum covering a broad range of subjects that meet the diverse needs of students.

Degree Awarding Policy (Diploma Policy)

Under the Diploma Policy of Osaka University, Graduate School of Economics confers a Master's Degree in Economics, Applied Economics, or Business Administration according to one's specialty, on individuals who have achieved the following objectives in the master's degree program.

A Doctoral Degree in Philosophy in Economics, Philosophy in Applied Economics, or Philosophy in Business Administration is awarded to the persons who are recognized to have enhanced their ability to meet the prescribed standards through studies in the doctoral degree program, or who are recognized to have scholastic abilities equal to those of the abovementioned individuals.

In conferring master's or doctoral degrees, Graduate School of Economics expects the holders of these degrees to make meaningful contributions as leading researchers or professionals with advanced knowledge in the future.

Cutting-edge, advanced specialized knowledge and outstanding academic expertise

Systematically acquire world-class and cutting-edge knowledge in economics and business administration.

Develop the ability to think theoretically.

Advanced broad-based knowledge and deep critical thinking

Acquire advanced broad-based knowledge and deep critical thinking in human society and the natural world.

Sophisticated international mindset

Develop an interest in both domestic and global economic issues.

Develop the ability to communicate open-mindedly with both Japanese and foreign people.

Advanced design prowess

Develop design prowess to devise an approach to solving problems based on one's own idea.

Individual educational objectives

Acquire the method of understanding realistic economic and business management issues based on specialized knowledge.

Develop the ability to express, whether orally or in writing, one's thoughts and views in a logical and convincing manner.

Teaching and Learning Policy (Curriculum Policy)

In accordance with the Curriculum Policy of Osaka University, Graduate School of Economics offers a curriculum covering a broad range of topics systematically to meet its educational objectives.

The master's degree program in the Department of Economics offers courses in Economics, Applied Economics, and Institutional Analysis and Business Case Studies. The Course in Economics is basically designed to train researchers, while the Course in Applied Economics and the Course in Institutional Analysis and Business Case Studies mainly aim to develop professionals with advanced knowledge and ability to apply a diverse range of practical skills in society. Each of these courses has a systematic curriculum that guides students through the process from acquiring basic knowledge and then cutting-edge, advanced specialized knowledge to writing a master's thesis or completing research on a specified theme. Being based on the expertise and way of thinking that have been acquired in the courses, the thesis and research paper will be written under the guidance of a supervisor.

The master's degree program in the Department of Business and Management offers courses in Management Research and Business. The Course in Management Research mainly aims to train researchers under the curriculum through the following process; from acquiring basic knowledge that is necessary for specialized studies to acquiring advanced knowledge and way of thinking that is necessary for writing a master's thesis under the guidance of a supervisor. The curriculum places special importance on research guidance given by a supervisor. The Course in Business has a systematic curriculum as follows. In order to develop a diverse ability, students first learn basic knowledge, then acquire specialist knowledge, and finally complete a research project on a specified theme under the guidance of a supervisor.

The doctoral degree program places importance on writing a doctoral dissertation under the guidance of a supervisor in each of the Department of Economics and Department of Business and Management. Students are guided to write a doctoral dissertation with originality through the process of reading cutting-edge research papers and specialized books, presenting research results at academic meetings, and/or submitting papers to Japanese and/or foreign peer-reviewed journals.

< Principles of Curriculum Design >

Acquire advanced broad-based knowledge and deep critical thinking necessary to apply expertise in economics and business administration for practical purposes.

Develop communication skills to play a leadership role in the global economy.

Study the basics of economics, economic history and business administration, and acquire advanced specialized knowledge and way of thinking to understand economic and social events in logical, demonstrative and historical terms by studying specialized subjects. Explore problems that affect the modern economy and businesses and study cutting-edge research results.

Develop research ability or design prowess for problem-solving by using knowledge in economics and business administration and the way of thinking.

< Contents and Methods of Education >

The master's degree program in the Department of Economics offers courses in Economics, Applied Economics, and Institutional Analysis and Business Case Studies. The curriculum of the Course in Economics is designed to train researchers and highly skilled professionals based on cutting-edge research results in the areas of microeconomics, macroeconomics, history of economic doctrine, economic development, economic history,

business history, public economics, finance, international economics, labor economics and econometrics. The curriculum of the Course in Applied Economics is mainly designed to develop highly skilled professionals, including economists working for organizations responsible for public policies or think tanks, with the ability to analyze economic and social issues by using the cutting-edge research results in the areas of financial administration, finance, public economics, labor economics, environmental economics, and econometrics. The curriculum of the Course in Institutional Analysis and Business Case Studies is designed to develop highly skilled professionals. This course aims to develop, especially, the able persons who can investigate economic issues by using the approach of economic- and business history study and an understanding of the methodologies of case studies and international comparison. Acquiring theoretical and statistical skills to examine institutional issues closely, they will be able to contribute to investigate the institutional development of the global economy.

The master's degree program in the Department of Business and Management offers courses in Management Research and Business. Its curriculum is designed to train researchers and highly skilled professionals capable of working in the planning or research divisions of companies, based on cutting-edge research results in the areas of management organization, management strategies, management of technology (MOT), marketing, operations research, management science, statistics/positive analysis, data mining, financial engineering, finance, accounting and Asian management.

The doctoral degree program guides students to conduct research on individually specified themes to write a doctoral dissertation, both in the Department of Economics and in the Department of Business and Management.

< Academic Performance Evaluation Method >

The academic performance of master's students in lecture-based subjects is evaluated by assessing the level of achievement of learning goals stated in the syllabus on the basis of examinations, assignments, and reports.

In research guidance given to students to write a master's thesis or conduct research on a specified topic, academic performance is evaluated by reports and discussions.

The academic performance of doctoral students in lecture-based subjects and research guidance is evaluated in the same manner as that of master's students.