

# **By-laws of the Graduate School of Innovation and Practice for Smart Society**

(Approved by the Dean of the Graduate School on April 1, 2023)

(Revised) February 9, 2024. March 15, 2024. March 21, 2025.

## **By-laws of the Graduate School of Innovation and Practice for Smart Society**

### **(Purpose)**

Article 1: The purpose of the present by-laws is to stipulate the necessary matters not specified in the Hiroshima University Graduate School Regulations (Regulations No. 2, January 15, 2008; hereafter, the “Hiroshima University Regulations”) regarding research and education for students of the Graduate School of Innovation and Practice for Smart Society at Hiroshima University (hereafter, the “Graduate School”).

### **(Purposes of Education and Research)**

Article 2: The purpose of the Graduate School is two-fold: (1) to foster practical leaders who can solve diverse social issues facing international society by fully utilizing the practical and integrated knowledge acquired in the educational programs; and (2) to nurture innovative researchers who can create, disseminate, and lead smart society and practical science by systematically and strategically integrating existing disciplines that are in line with the Society 5.0 concept.

### **(Research Field)**

Article 3: The Graduate School shall establish the following research fields:

- 1) Cyber Physical System
- 2) Smart Mobility
- 3) Smart Energy
- 4) Smart Agriculture
- 5) Global Health and Medical Science
- 6) Social Innovation Science

### **(Curricula)**

Article 4: The curricula of the Graduate School shall be as indicated in the appended table.

### **(Class Subjects and Related Matters)**

Article 5: Class subjects provided at the Graduate School and their number of credits shall be as indicated in the appended table.

- (2) The class timetable shall be published at the beginning of each academic year.

### **(Standards for the Calculation of Credits)**

Article 6: The number of credits for each class subject shall be calculated based on the following standards:

- 1) For lectures, 15 hours of classwork constitute 1 credit.
- 2) For seminars, 15 or 30 hours of classwork constitute 1 credit.
- 3) For experiments and practical exercises, 30 or 45 hours of classwork constitute 1 credit.
- (2) For class subjects provided in two or more parallel modes, the number of hours of classwork conducted in each mode shall be determined in light of the aforementioned standards so that 45 hours of combined classwork constitute 1 credit.

### **(Supervisor/Sub-advisers)**

Article 7: Upon students' enrollment in the Graduate School, the Faculty Council of the Graduate School of Innovation and Practice for Smart Society at Hiroshima University (hereafter, the “Faculty Council”) shall promptly assign to each student a supervisor and two or more sub-advisers, who will offer advice and guidance on class subjects and research. The sub-advisers must include at least one faculty member whose research field is different from that of the supervisor.

- (2) Students wishing to change their supervisor or sub-advisers shall obtain approval from the relevant supervisor/sub-adviser before applying to and obtaining approval from the Dean of the Graduate School. However, they can directly apply to the Dean of the Graduate School in special circumstances.

- (3) The Dean of the Graduate School may change students' supervisor or sub-advisers, if such change is deemed desirable, upon obtaining approval from the students concerned.

(Registration Procedure)

Article 8: Students must select class subjects in consultation with their supervisor, obtain approval from faculty members in charge of the class subjects, and complete the prescribed procedure to register for the class subjects within the period designated for each semester.

- (2) Students who fail to complete the procedure in the preceding paragraph shall not be allowed to take class subjects unless there are legitimate circumstances, in which cases the students may take class subjects upon obtaining approval from the faculty members in charge of the class subjects concerned.
- (3) Students may take class subjects offered by other Hiroshima University graduate schools that are deemed necessary by their supervisor, in accordance with the rules of the Graduate School.
- (4) Students of other graduate schools wishing to register for class subjects offered by the Graduate School must complete the prescribed procedure within the designated period for each semester, upon obtaining approval from the faculty members in charge of the class subjects concerned.

(Upper Limit of Course Registration)

Article 9: In regard to the number of credits that students must acquire as a requirement for completion, the upper limit of the number of credits for which master's course students may register for courses in one semester shall be 26 credits, provided that credits for intensive courses shall be excluded.

- (2) Notwithstanding the provision of the preceding paragraph, students who have acquired the prescribed credits with outstanding grades (as separately specified) may be allowed to register for courses in excess of the upper limit of the number of credits in the following semester.

(Research Title)

Article 10: Students must promptly decide their research title in consultation with their supervisor after their enrollment in the Graduate School and submit it to the Dean of the Graduate School.

(Special Arrangements of the Education Method)

Article 11: Special arrangements may be made to facilitate the pursuance of education at the Graduate School, if the Dean of the Graduate School considers it necessary from an educational standpoint (following deliberations by the Faculty Council), by scheduling classes/research guidance sessions in the evening, during specific hours, or during a specific period (or devising other appropriate measures).

(Long-term Completion of Curricula)

Article 12: The treatment of long-term completion of curricula shall be in accordance with the Hiroshima University By-Laws on the Treatment of Long-term Completion of Curricula (approved by the Vice-President [Education/Student] on April 1, 2004).

- (2) The maximum period for long-term completion of the curricula shall be four years in the master's course, and six years in the doctoral course.

(Student Exchange and Studying Abroad, etc.)

Article 13: When deemed educationally beneficial, the Graduate School may regard the number of credits acquired for class subjects completed in an educational program at another graduate school (including a foreign graduate school and United Nations University) as having been acquired by the completion of class subjects at the Graduate School, provided it does not exceed 15 credits (following deliberations of the Faculty Council).

- (2) The stipulations set forth in the preceding paragraph shall apply mutatis mutandis in cases where class subjects conducted by a foreign school through correspondence education are completed in Japan.
- (3) The number of credits that may be regarded as having been acquired in accordance with the stipulations set forth in the preceding two paragraphs shall not exceed 15 credits in total.

(Recognition of Credits Acquired Prior to Admission)

Article 14: The Graduate School may (if it considers it beneficial from an educational standpoint) recognize credits that students have acquired by completing class subjects at other graduate schools in Japan or overseas (including credits acquired as credited auditors) prior to their admission to the Graduate School as credits earned by completing class subjects at the Graduate School.

- (2) The number of credits other than those acquired at the Graduate School (including credits acquired as credited auditors) that may be recognized as credits earned by completing the subjects at the Graduate School (pursuant to the provision of the preceding paragraph) shall not exceed 15 credits, except in cases of transfer.
- (3) The number of credits that may be regarded as having been acquired at the Graduate School in accordance with the stipulations set forth in the preceding article and paragraph, shall not exceed 20 credits in total.
- (4) The recognition of credits acquired prior to admission to the Graduate School (as prescribed in the preceding three paragraphs) shall be determined in accordance with the Hiroshima University By-laws Regarding Approval of the Previously Acquired Credits (approved by the Vice-President [Education/Student] on April 1, 2004).

(Requirements for Completing the Master's Course)

Article 15: To complete the master's course, students must be enrolled in the course for at least two years, obtain 30 credits or more from subjects offered by Hiroshima University (by completing the subjects indicated in the appended table), receive the necessary research guidance, submit a master's thesis during the enrollment period, and pass the screening of the thesis and final examination, with the exception of students whom the Dean of the Graduate School recognizes as having achieved outstanding academic performance following deliberations by the Faculty Council) who may be exempted the enrollment requirement and may complete the course in one year at least.

(Requirements for Completing Doctoral Course)

Article 16: To complete the doctoral course, students must be enrolled in the course for at least three years, obtain 17 credits or more by completed the class subjects indicated in the appended table, receive the necessary research guidance, submit a doctoral thesis during the enrollment period, and pass the screening of the thesis and final examination, with the exception of students whom the Dean of the Graduate School recognizes as having achieved outstanding research results (following deliberations by the Faculty Council) in which an enrollment duration of at least one year shall suffice (for students who completed a master's course whose standard period of study is one year or more but less than two years and students who completed a professional degree program whose standard period of study is one year or more but less than two years, the period obtained by subtracting the period of one year or more but less than two years from three years, and for students who completed a master's course with the enrollment period as prescribed in the proviso of Article 16, paragraph 1 of the Standards for the Establishment of Graduate Schools, the period obtained by subtracting the enrollment duration of the course (up to two years) from three years).

(Shortening of the Enrollment Duration in the Graduate School)

Article 17: In regard to credits acquired prior to being admitted to the Graduate School, in accordance with the stipulations set forth in Article 14, Item 1 (limited to credits earned after having the qualification for enrollment, in accordance with the stipulations set in Article 102, Item 1 in School Education Law (Act No. 26, 1947)), they are regarded as having been acquired by the completion of class subjects at the Graduate School. When part of the curricula of the master's course at the Graduate School is permitted to be completed by earning the said credits, taking the said credits, and considering the duration to acquire the said credits, the Graduate School may count the term prescribed by the Graduate School as part of the enrollment duration, provided that it does not exceed one year. However, even in this case, the enrollment duration of the said master's course shall be at least one year or more years.

(2) The preceding paragraph does not apply to the enrollment duration of the doctoral course (stipulated in Article 16) for students who completed the master's course.

(Submission of Thesis)

Article 18: The students in the master's course must submit upon approval of their supervisor and sub-advisers their master's thesis to the Dean of the Graduate School by the date specified separately.

Article 19: The students in the doctoral course must submit upon approval of their supervisor and sub-advisers their doctoral thesis to the Dean of the Graduate School by the date specified separately.

(Thesis Screening)

Article 20: Theses submitted as part of the requirements for academic degrees shall be screened pursuant to the provisions of the Hiroshima University Degree Regulations (Regulations No. 8 of April 1, 2004) and the Internal Regulations of the Graduate School of Innovation and Practice for Smart Society based on the Hiroshima University Degree Regulations (approved by the Dean of the Graduate School on April 1, 2020).

(Final Examination)

Article 21: The final examinations for the master's and doctoral courses shall be taken by the students who have obtained the required credits, received the necessary research guidance, and submitted their prescribed theses.

(2) The date and method of the final examination shall be announced in advance.

(Leave of Absence)

Article 22: Students wishing to take a leave of absence must complete the prescribed procedure and obtain approval from the Dean of the Graduate School.

(Withdrawal)

Article 23: Students wishing to withdraw from the university must complete the prescribed procedure and obtain approval from the President of the University.

(Transfer)

Article 24: Students wishing to transfer to another graduate school must complete the prescribed procedure and obtain approval from the President of the University.

(Re-admission)

Article 25: Students who discontinued their studies in the master's or doctoral courses (excluding for reason of disciplinary dismissal) or were removed from the register (excluding removal from the register pursuant to the provisions of Article 43, item (2) of the Hiroshima University General Provisions (April 1, 2004 Regulation No. 2) as applied mutatis mutandis pursuant to Article 42 of the Hiroshima University Regulations) and who wish to apply for re-admission to either course may only apply to the President of the University at the beginning of a semester (following deliberations by the Faculty Council).

(2) The year of study and the number of years in which students re-admitted to the Graduate School may remain in their respective courses shall be separately indicated.

(Miscellaneous Regulations)

Article 26: Any necessary matters relevant to education in the Graduate School not stipulated in the present by-laws shall be separately determined following deliberations by the Faculty Council.

#### Supplementary Provisions

The present By-laws shall come into force on April 1, 2023.

Supplementary Provisions (Partially revised on February 9, 2024)

1 The present By-laws shall come into force on April 1, 2024.

2 The provisions then in force regarding the curricula for students admitted FY2023 shall remain applicable, regardless of the stipulations set forth in the New By-laws.

Supplementary Provisions (Partially revised on March 15, 2024)

1 The present By-laws shall come into force on April 1, 2024.

2 The provisions then in force regarding the re-admission for students admitted FY2023 shall remain applicable, regardless of the stipulations set forth in the New By-laws. However, enrollment period shall be the beginning of a semester.

Supplementary Provisions (Partially revised on March 21, 2025)

1 The present By-laws shall come into force on April 1, 2025.

2 The provisions then in force regarding the curricula for students admitted before FY2024 shall remain applicable, regardless of the stipulations set forth in the New By-laws.