

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, 2023)

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Internal Regulations of the Graduate School of Innovation and Practice for Smart Society Based on the Hiroshima University Degree Regulations

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Chapter 1: General Provisions

(Purpose)

Article 1: The Internal Regulations prescribe the necessary articles regarding the conferment of academic degrees at the Graduate School of Innovation and Practice for Smart Society of Hiroshima University (hereafter, the “Graduate School”) based on Article 17 of the Hiroshima University Degree Regulations (hereafter, the “Regulations”) (Regulations No. 8 of April 1, 2004.).

(Names of the Majors Affixed when Conferring Degrees)

Article 2: The names of the majors affixed when the Graduate School confers degrees, based on Article 3 (2) of the Regulations, shall be as provided in the following list:

Names of the Majors	
Master	Doctor
Philosophy	Philosophy Philosophy in Engineering Philosophy in Informatics and Data Science Philosophy in Agriculture Philosophy in Health Science Philosophy in Medical Science Philosophy in Economics

Chapter 2: Degree Screening to Recognize the Completion of the Doctoral Course of the Graduate School of Innovation and Practice for Smart Society

(Qualification for Submitting the Doctoral Dissertation and Timing)

Article 3: Those who can submit a degree dissertation (hereafter, the “Dissertation”), based on Article 2 (2) of the Regulations, are those who have earned the credits prescribed in Article 16 of the By-laws of the Graduate School of Innovation and Practice for Smart Society at Hiroshima University (approved by the Dean of the Graduate School on April 1, 2023) (hereafter, the “designated Credits”), or those who will surely have earned the designated Credits by the end of the term when they submit the Dissertation and who have received guidance for the Dissertation preparation (hereafter, the “Research Guidance”).

2) Students shall submit the Dissertation by the due date designated by the graduate school. In principle, the due date for students who are expected to complete their course at the end of March is set for January while that for students who are expected to complete their course at the end of September is set for July. However, those who have been enrolled in their course for three years or more can complete the degree application procedure, as necessary.

3) Notwithstanding the prescriptions of the preceding paragraph, if the Dissertation due date falls on either of the following items, the due date shall be replaced with the weekday immediately before that date:

- 1) Sunday or Saturday
- 2) National holiday prescribed by the Act on National Holidays (Act No. 178, 1948)

(Procedure for Submitting Degree Dissertation)

Article 4: If those applicable to Article 3 (1) submit their Dissertation, then they shall submit the following documents to the Dean of the Graduate School, under approval from their supervisor:

- 1) Application for Review of Dissertation, Appended Format No. 1 - one (1) copy
- 2) Dissertation - one (1) copy
- 3) List of Publications, Appended Format No. 2 - one (1) copy
- 4) Summary of Dissertation from Appended Format No.3 - one (1) copy
- 5) Resume from Appended Format No. 4 - one (1) copy
- 6) Reference Papers, if any - one (1) copy
- 7) Other required documents

(Acceptance of the Dissertation)

Article 5: When the Dissertation is submitted according to the preceding article, the Dean of the Graduate School shall consult the Faculty Meeting of the Graduate School of Innovation and Practice for Smart Society at Hiroshima University (hereafter, the "Faculty Meeting") regarding its acceptance.

(Screening Committee)

Article 6: If it has been decided to accept the Dissertation based on the prescription of the preceding article, then the Dean of the Graduate School shall refer the Dissertation to the Faculty Meeting.

- 2) The Faculty Meeting shall immediately establish a Screening Committee based on the reference described in the Article 5 (1) of the Regulations.
- 3) The Screening Committee shall consist of a chief referee and two (2) or more sub-referees.
- 4) The chief referee shall be selected from among the faculty members of the Graduate School.
- 5) At least one (1) of the sub-referees shall be selected from researchers whose research field differs from that of the supervisor of the doctoral dissertation applicant.
- 6) The selection of sub-referee(s) can include researchers from other graduate schools, universities, research institutes, companies, etc.

(Dissertation Screening Session and Reporting of Results)

Article 7: The Screening Committee shall organize an open dissertation screening session.

- 2) When the Screening Committee has completed the dissertation evaluation and comprehensive examination, it shall report to the Faculty Meeting using the Summary of Dissertation Evaluation (Appended Format No. 5) and Summary of Comprehensive Examination Results (Appended Format No. 6) .(Date of the Conferment of Academic Degree)

Article 8: Doctoral degrees shall be conferred on the following date to those who have passed the dissertation screening and the final examination:

- 1) In the case of those who have passed within the standard completion period: the date of the degree awarding ceremony. However, this can be replaced with the date of passing if there are any special circumstances deemed as legitimate by the Dean of the Graduate School after discussion with the Faculty Meeting.
- 2) In the case of those other than the above: Date of passing.

Chapter 3: Degree Screening Through the Submitted Dissertation

(Qualification for Applying for Degree Conferment)

Article 9: Those who apply to any of the following can apply for the conferment of a doctoral degree by submitting the Dissertation, based on Article 2 (3) of the Regulations.

- 1) Those who were enrolled in their doctoral course of the Graduate School for three (3) years or longer, had earned the designated Credits and had received the Research Guidance before withdrawing from the university.
- 2) Those who have completed their master's course and are equipped with research experience of three (3) years or longer.
- 3) Those who have graduated from the university and are equipped with research experience of five (5) years or longer.
- 4) Those who do not apply to the preceding three items and who are equipped with research experience of nine (9) years or longer.

(Procedure for Submitting the Dissertation)

Article 10: If those who applied to any of the items in the preceding article submit the Dissertation, then they shall submit the following documents to the President of Hiroshima University, through the Dean of the Graduate School:

- 1) Degree Application - one (1) copy
 - 2) Dissertation - one (1) copy
 - 3) List of Publications - one (1) copy
 - 4) Summary of the Dissertation - one (1) copy
 - 5) Resume - one (1) copy
 - 6) Reference Papers, if any - two (2) copies
 - 7) Certificate of graduation from the last school (Certificate of completion of a graduate school course or a copy of the diploma) - one (1) copy
 - 8) Certificate issued by the supervisor or an equivalent person who can verify the research period - one (1) copy
 - 9) Other required documents
- 2) Notwithstanding the prescriptions of the preceding paragraph, those who have graduated from Hiroshima University and those who have completed the Graduate School do not have to submit the documents prescribed in 7) and 8), especially if their research experience is only limited to Hiroshima University.

(Acceptance of the Dissertation)

Article 11: The prescriptions regarding the acceptance of the Dissertation shall be in line with the prescriptions of Article 5.

(Screening Committee and Interview Committee)

Article 12: The prescriptions regarding the Screening Committee shall be in line with the prescriptions of Article 6.

- 2) The Interview Committee with the prescriptions of Article 5 (2) shall consist of three or more members.
- 3) The Interview Committee shall consist of a chief referee and two (2) or more sub-referees of the Graduate School.
- 4) The chief referee shall be selected from among the faculty members of the Graduate School.
- 5) At least one (1) of the sub-referees shall be selected from among the faculty members of other research fields of the Graduate School.
- 6) The selection of sub-referee(s) can include researchers from other graduate schools, universities, research institutes, companies, etc.
- 7) The members of the Screening Committee are allowed to serve as members of the Interview Committee.

(Contents of the Examination or Interview and Eligible Period)

Article 13: The number of foreign languages used for the interview based on Article 6 (3) of the Regulations is one (1) at the Graduate School.

- 2) The number of eligible years based on Article 6 (4) of the Regulations is three (3) at the Graduate School.

Article 14: For those who have passed the dissertation screening and the interview(or, in the case specified in Article 6 (4) of the Regulations, the examination), doctoral degrees shall be conferred on the date of their passing.

(Dissertation Screening Committee and Reporting of Results)

Article 15: The Screening Committee shall organize an open dissertation screening session.

- 2) When the Screening Committee has completed the dissertation evaluation, it shall report to the Faculty Meeting using the Summary of Dissertation Evaluation (Appended Format No. 5).
- 3) When the Interview Committee has completed the interview, it shall report to the Faculty Meeting using the Summary of Interview Results (Appended Format No. 7).

Chapter 4: Degree Screening to Recognize the Completion of the Master's Course of the Graduate School of Innovation and Practice for Smart Society

(Qualification for Submitting the Master's Thesis and Timing)

Article 16: Those who can submit a Master's Thesis based on Article 2 (2) of the Regulations are those who have earned the credits prescribed in Article 15 of the By-laws of the Graduate School of Innovation and Practice for Smart Society at Hiroshima University (approved by the Dean of the Graduate School on April 1, 2023) (hereafter, the "Designated Credits"), or those who will surely have earned the Designated Credits by the end of the term when they submit the Master's Thesis and who have received guidance for the Master's Thesis preparation (hereafter, the "Research Guidance").

- (2) Students shall submit the Master's Thesis by the due date designated by the graduate school. In principle, the due date for students who are expected to complete their course at the end of March is set for January, while that for students who are expected to complete their course at the end of September is set for July.
- (3) Notwithstanding the prescriptions of the preceding paragraph, if the Master's Thesis due date falls on either of the following items, then the due date shall be replaced with the weekday immediately before that date:
 - 1) Sunday or Saturday
 - 2) National holidays prescribed by the Act on National Holidays

(Procedure for Submitting Master Thesis)

Article 17: If those applicable to Article 16 (1) submit their Master's Thesis, then they shall submit the following documents to the Dean of the Graduate School, under approval from their supervisor:

- 1) Master's Thesis - one (1) copy
- 2) Other required documents

(Screening Committee)

Article 18: The Faculty Meeting shall establish a Master's Thesis Screening Committee.

- 2) The Master's Thesis Screening Committee shall consist of a chief referee and two (2) or more sub-referees.
- 3) The chief referee shall be selected from among the faculty members of the Graduate School.
- 4) At least one (1) of the sub-referees shall be selected from among the faculty members of other research fields of the Graduate School.
- 5) The selection of sub-referee(s) can include researchers from other graduate schools, universities, research institutes, companies, etc.

(Master's Thesis Screening Session)

Article 19: The Screening Committee shall organize an open Master's Thesis screening session.

(Date of the Conferment of Academic Degree)

Article 20: Master's degrees to those who have passed the Master's Thesis screening and the final examination shall be conferred on the date of the diploma awarding ceremony.

Chapter 5: Miscellaneous Provisions

(Other)

Article 21: Any necessary matters relevant to the conferment of academic degrees not stipulated in the present internal regulations shall be determined following deliberations by the Faculty Meeting.

Supplementary Provisions

The present internal regulations shall come into force on April 1, 2023.

Supplementary Provisions (Partially revised on March 21, 2025)

The present internal regulations shall come into force on April 1, 2025.

Supplementary Provisions (Partially revised on October 17, 2025)

1 The present internal regulations shall come into force on April 1, 2025.

2 The provisions then in force regarding the degree examination for students admitted before FY2024 shall remain applicable, regardless of the stipulations set forth in the revised Internal Regulations of the Graduate School of Innovation and Practice for Smart Society Based on the Hiroshima University Degree Regulations.