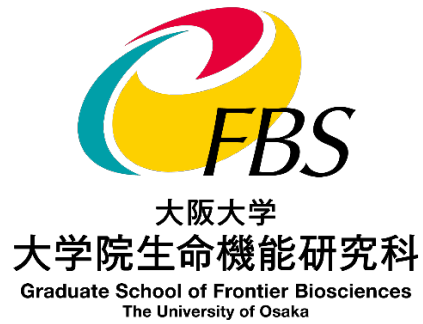


2026 FBS Student Handbook



This is an English summary highlighting key points from the original Student Handbook (Japanese). It shall not be regarded as official documentation. The English text is provided for reference purposes only, and please note that all official rules and regulations are based solely on the original Japanese text.

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2026 FBS Annual Academic Calendar

Semester	Month	Day	Event	Note
Spring/Summer Semester (April 1 ~ September 30)	4	2026 2 (Thu)	The University of Osaka Entrance Ceremony (Undergraduate and Graduate Schools)	No classes
		3 (Fri)	FBS Guidance for New Students	
		10 (Fri)	Spring term starts	
		30 (Thu)	The University of Osaka Icho Festival (Preparation)	
	5	1 (Fri) ~ 3 (Sun)	The University of Osaka Icho Festival (Festival/Clean up)	No classes
		27 (Wed)	Dissertation Defense 【June term】	
6	12 (Fri)	Spring term ends		
	15 (Mon)	Summer term starts		
7	29 (Wed)	First-Year Entrance Examination 【summer entrance exam】		
8	3 (Mon)	Third-Year Transfer Entrance Examination 【Enrollment in October】		
	10 (Mon)	Summer term ends		
	11 (Tue)	Summer break starts		
	20 (Thu)	Dissertation Defense 【September term】		
9	24 (Mon)	Interim Examination 【September term】		
	28 (Mon)	FBS Commencement Ceremony 【September term】		
Fall/Winter Semester (October 1 ~ March 31)	10	30 (Wed)	Summer break ends	
		1 (Thu)	Fall term starts	
		2 (Fri)	FBS Guidance for New Students	
	11	31 (Sat)	The University of Osaka Machikane Festival (Preparation)	No classes
		1 (Sun) - 4 (Wed)	The University of Osaka Machikane Festival (Festival/Clean up)	
	12	19 (Thu)	Dissertation Defense 【December term】	
1 (Tue)		First-Year Entrance Examination 【winter entrance exam】		
2 (Wed)		Fall term ends		
3 (Thu)		Winter term starts		
1	26 (Sat)	Winter break starts		
	2027 3 (Sun)	Winter break ends		
2	15 (Fri)	Preparation for the Common Test for University Admissions	No classes	
	27 (Wed)	Third-Year Transfer Entrance Examination 【Enrollment in April】		
	1 (Mon) ~ 5 (Fri)	Interim Examination 【March term】		
3	8 (Mon)	Winter term ends		
	19 (Fri), 22 (Mon)	Dissertation Defense 【March term】		
3	25 (Thu)	The University of Osaka Commencement Ceremony FBS Commencement Ceremony 【March term】		

*Above are the major annual events; other events will be announced on the KOAN bulletin board, e-mail, etc.

Program Overview and Curriculum

1. Course duration and degrees awarded

The Graduate School of Frontier Biosciences (hereinafter called "FBS") offers a 5-year doctoral course. In FBS, the following degrees are conferred upon students who meet the specified requirements.

- Master's Degree (Frontier Biosciences) , Master's Degree (Science) , Master's Degree (Engineering)
- Master's Degree (Philosophy)
- Doctoral Degree (Frontier Biosciences) , Doctoral Degree (Science) , Doctoral Degree (Engineering)
- Doctoral Degree (Philosophy)

2. Requirements for completion and how to fulfill the required credits

■ Students admitted to the first year:

Students must acquire 40 credits or more, as shown below.

- ① Group A: 2 credits
Earn 1 credit (2 subjects) from Advanced Liberal Arts Educational Subjects and 1 credit (2 subjects) from Advanced Global Literacy Educational Subjects.
Students who receive education and research guidance in English may substitute Advanced Global Literacy Educational Subjects for Advanced Liberal Arts Educational Subjects.
- ② Group B: 12 credits
- ③ Total from Group A and B: 16 credits
- ④ Group C: 14 credits
- ⑤ Group D: 2 credits
- ⑥ Group E: 8 credits

Subject Group		Year	Requirements				
Group A	Core Subjects	ALA*	1	1 credit	16 credits	30 credits *Requirements to take an Interim Exam.	40 credits
		AGL*	1	1 credit			
Group B	Elective Subjects	1-2		12 credits			
Group A&B	Elective Subjects			2 credits			
Group C	Research Subjects			14 credits			
Group D	Project Research Subjects	3-5		2 credits	10 credits		
Group E	Research Subjects			8 credits			

* ALA=Advanced Liberal Arts Educational Subjects

* AGL=Advanced Global Literacy Educational Subjects

* Students who have earned 30 or more credits in total from Group A to Group C subjects in accordance with the requirements are eligible to take the Interim Exam.

Those who pass the exam will be awarded a master's degree and may proceed to the third year. Students who fail the Interim Exam will be required to repeat the year.

* Students taking the "Transdisciplinary Program for Biomedical Entrepreneurship and Innovation" must complete an additional 20 credits from the program's course subjects.

* Students taking the "Humanware Innovation Program" must complete an additional 12 credits from the program's course subjects.

■ **3rd-year transfer students:**

In addition to receiving necessary research guidance, students must acquire a total of 10 credits:

Subject Group		Year	Requirements	
Group D	Project Research Subjects	3-5	2 credits	Total 10 credits
Group E	Research Subjects		8 credits	

3. About Each Subject Group

○ Group A

There are three types of courses: lecture-based, practical (hands-on), and introductory. Most of the courses are offered as intensive lectures.

To develop a broad academic background, students are encouraged to consult closely with their supervisor and take courses outside the field of their undergraduate studies.

Introductory courses are designed to provide an overview of ongoing research at FBS. They are offered in Japanese in the spring term and in English in the fall term.

The term in which each course is offered alternates every year, so carefully plan your course registration.

○ Group B

There are three types: (a), (b), and (c).

a) Students should participate in journal clubs, research progress meetings, and seminars held within the home laboratory. Students are also expected to attend various seminars both inside and outside the university and submit five reports* in both the first and second year (total 10 reports).

b) Biomechanics*

This course is designed for students to present the progress of their research to their sub-supervisors (faculty members outside their home laboratory), engage in discussion, and receive constructive feedback. Another objective is to help students refine their presentation skills in preparation for the interim presentation held at the end of the second year.

For further details, please refer to the relevant section.

c) Special Lectures

This course is offered as an intensive lecture held over approximately two days.

You are required to register for these courses in April or October. Please make sure to complete your course registration within the designated period.

*About five reports

- To broaden your knowledge beyond your own research field, please actively participate in various seminars, both on and off campus.
- Seminars held by your own laboratory are not eligible.
- Please consult your supervisor to decide which seminars to attend.
- Seminars held at FBS are announced via email, the website, posters, and other means. Many seminars are offered, including the "FBS Colloquium." A number of these seminars are conducted

in English by international researchers and others.

Submission:

- Attend the seminar, write a report, and submit it to your supervisor within 2 weeks.
- The submission deadline for the fifth report is: the end of January for the April entrants, and the end of July for the October entrants.
- After submitting the report each time, access the URL below and inform the Educational Affairs Section about your submission.

<https://forms.office.com/r/UeXuAJh9Nb>

*About Biomechanics

- Conduct two meetings per year with the sub-supervisor. If the sub-supervisor decides, additional meetings may be held.
- After conducting the interview, write a report and submit it to both the sub-supervisor and the supervisor.

Schedule:

	April entrants	October entrants
Biomechanics I 1st submission	By September 30	By March 31
Biomechanics I 2nd submission	By January 31	By Early-August
Biomechanics II 1st submission	By September 30	By March 31
Biomechanics II 2nd submission	By the Interim Examination	By the Interim Examination

Procedures:

- ① Email your sub-supervisor to request a meeting.
- Decide on the meeting date/time and agenda in consultation with your sub-supervisor.
 - If you are not sure of your sub-supervisor's contact information, please refer to the "Laboratory List" below:
https://www.fbs.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/research_group/
- ② Hold the meeting.
 - ③ Prepare a report and submit it to your sub-supervisor.
- As a rule, submit it within one week after the meeting.
 - Prepare two copies of the report and submit one copy to your sub-supervisor.
 - Ask your sub-supervisor to sign or stamp the other copy and return it to you.
 - The report form is available on the following webpage:
<https://www.fbs.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/student/curriculum/#6>
(List of Forms > Biomechanics Interview Report)
- ④ Submit the report to your supervisor.
- Submit to your supervisor the copy signed (or stamped) by your sub-supervisor in step ③.

Group C*

Conduct daily research activities (equivalent to Master's level) in the home lab.

Group D

Conduct research outside the home lab in order to gain experience in a different field and broaden your academic background.

Consult with your supervisor to determine the research activities and coordinate with the host lab. The

research activities should follow A, but B is also acceptable.

A. Conduct research in another laboratory within FBS.

- 1) Participate in research (approximately 2 weeks in total)
- 2) Engage in research activities such as seminars, colloquia, and journal clubs. (approximately once a week for a total of 8 weeks). It is preferable to have an opportunity to present during this period.

B. Other

If the supervisor determines that the student is "participating in research in another laboratory," the activity can be recognized for credit. Examples include:

- 3) Participation in practical courses or short-term intensive courses in Japan or abroad.
- 4) Attendance at lectures or journal clubs conducted by international faculty members.
- 5) Participation in research at other laboratories in Japan or abroad.
- 6) Participation in internships at companies.

You need to register for the course yourself, so please refer to the webpage below and make sure to complete your course registration.

(Campus Life > Curricula Details > Subjects / Schedule / Syllabus)

<https://www.fbs.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/student/curriculum/>

○ Group E *

Conduct daily research activities (equivalent to Doctoral level) in the home lab.

*About group C and E

The "Research Ethics" e-learning course is a mandatory requirement. This course is typically conducted in the spring term. While it does not confer academic credits, completion is essential for:

- First-year students to fulfill Group C requirements.
- Third-year students to fulfill Group E requirements.

Therefore, students must complete this course in both their first and third years. Further details will be sent to your OUMail address.

4. Research Instruction Plan and Research Progress Report

You are required to discuss the Research Instruction Plan and the Research Progress Report with your supervisor. These documents must be submitted to the Educational Affairs Section by the end of each academic year (end of February for students enrolled in April, and end of August for students enrolled in October).

Laboratory Placement

■ Permanent Assignment to Home Lab

Upon enrollment, you will be assigned to the laboratory for which you have received preliminary approval. Even after the initial assignment, you may contact other laboratories as needed and request a change of laboratory. If you wish to change your supervisor, you will be required to submit a "Request for Change of Supervisor."

Sub-supervisor

In addition to the primary supervisor, a sub-supervisor system is in place to provide students with guidance on their research areas and other various matters. When selecting a sub-supervisor, please consult thoroughly with your primary supervisor before making a decision. The method and schedule for determining sub-supervisors will be notified via OUMail.

Agreements regarding sub-supervisor

This agreement stipulates the details regarding the sub-supervising faculty member(s) as provided for in Article 5 of the Regulations of the Graduate School of Frontier Biosciences.

1. Responsibilities of Sub-supervisors

Sub-supervisors are responsible for Biomechanics (Group B subject). They shall provide guidance, advice, and evaluation for the students they are in charge of (hereinafter referred to as "assigned students").

Additionally, sub-supervisors may act on behalf of the supervisor in cases where the supervisor is unable to fulfill their duties, subject to the approval of the Chair of the FBS Educational Affairs Committee.

2. Qualifications

The qualifications for sub-supervisors are defined as follows:

- If the supervisor of the assigned student belongs to a department outside the Core Research Laboratory of the Graduate School of Frontier Biosciences, the sub-supervisor must be a full-time professor of the Core Research Laboratory of the Graduate School of Frontier Biosciences.
- Sub-supervisors must be professors or associate professors of the Graduate School of Frontier Biosciences who have been approved by the Faculty Meeting to act as supervisors, or associate professors who have been approved by the Chair of the FBS Educational Affairs Committee to act as sub-supervisors.
- It is preferable for sub-supervisors to be faculty members from a different research field.

3. Selection Process

Sub-supervisors may select and determine their assigned students based on requests from students. As a general rule, the number of assigned students per sub-supervisor shall be limited to four per academic year. However, sub-supervisors may increase the number of assigned students at their own discretion.

Procedures:

- ① After consulting with your primary supervisor, contact one faculty member you wish to have as your first choice.
- ② If you obtain the faculty member's informal consent, submit the "Sub-supervisor Notification Form." If you do not obtain informal consent, contact your second-choice (and subsequent) faculty member(s) and, once informal consent is obtained, submit the "Sub-supervisor Notification Form."

[Timing of Determination]

April entrants: by the end of May

October entrants: by the end of November

Further details will be sent to your OUMail address.

Master's Degree and Doctoral Degree

1. Master's Degree

At FBS, a master's degree is conferred upon fulfilling requirements equivalent to the completion of a master's program. After completing the required credits, an interim exam is held in the second year, during which students are required to submit a paper equivalent to a master's thesis. Upon passing the evaluation, students will be awarded a master's degree.

FBS Policies Regarding the Interim Examination

(With approval from the Faculty Meeting of the Graduate School of Frontier Biosciences and the Faculty Meeting, Feb 24, 2003)

(Revised Oct 23, 2019)

- (1) As one of the requirements for completing the doctoral program at FBS, students are required to take the Interim Exam.
- (2) The Interim Exam is scheduled for the end of the second year's winter semester. Those who do not take the exam at this time, or those who take it but fail, will be required to take the Interim Exam at the end of the subsequent winter semester based on the supervisor's decision. However, for individuals who are unable to take the exam due to reasons such as studying abroad, illness or other exceptional circumstances deemed worthy of consideration, regardless of the above-mentioned period, the Educational Affairs Committee will determine the exam date individually.
- (3) Those intending to take the Interim Exam are required to submit a paper equivalent to a master's thesis.
- (4) The Interim Exam will be conducted following the same procedures as the master's degree examination.
- (5) Those who pass the Interim Exam will be awarded a master's degree and will be qualified to take courses under Group D and Group E, as well as submit a doctoral dissertation.
- (6) The conditions for applying for the Interim Exam are as follows:
 - ① Those eligible to apply for the Interim Exam must have been enrolled in the FBS doctoral program for two years or more by the end of the academic year and are expected to have acquired the required credits. If the required credits are insufficient, students will be required to repeat the year, even if they pass the Interim Exam. The degree will be awarded once the required credits are completed while still enrolled in the program in the following years.
 - ② The application period for the Interim Exam will be determined separately by the Educational Affairs Committee.
- (7) If an individual with a master's or doctoral degree enrolls in the first year of the program, they will be required to take the Interim Exam as outlined above.
- (8) Those who transfer into the third year will be exempt from the Interim Exam.
- (9) Those who fail the Interim Exam will not progress to the third year and will repeat the second year.
- (10) According to the above, students cannot remain in the same year for more than three years.
- (11) In case of any doubts or questions regarding the handling of the Interim Exam, it will be discussed by the Educational Affairs Committee and decided upon by the Faculty Meeting of the Graduate School of Frontier Biosciences and the Faculty Meeting.

■ **Schedule**

April entrants	October entrants	
Late-October	Mid-June	Deadline: Master's Degree Application Form, Diploma Confirmation Sheet
Mid-January	Early-August	Deadline: Thesis Title Sheet and Abstract, Thesis, Pledge
Early-February	Late-August	Interim Exam and review
Late-February	Early-September	Deadline: Thesis (Final version) *Only if revision instructions are given at the review
Early-March	Early-September	Judgment of master's degree

* The above is a general guideline. Detailed information will be sent to second-year students who may become eligible, so please make sure to check it.

■ **Thesis Examiners**

The committee shall consist of two or more professors from FBS, including a Chair (supervisor) and a Vice-chair. If necessary, Associate Professors or faculty members from other graduate schools may also be included as a second Vice Chair.

[Required documents for Interim Exam application]

Documents	Submit to	Note
Master's Degree Application Form	Educational Affairs section	In selecting the Vice-chair(s), consult with the supervisor and obtain their prior consent.
Diploma Confirmation Sheet	Educational Affairs section	
Thesis Title	Register via KOAN	
Abstract	Educational Affairs section	Summarize the purpose, contents, and result of the thesis in one A4-size paper.
Thesis	Chair, Vice-chair (s) and Educational Affairs section	There is no specific format and no page limit. Please consult your supervisor.
Pledge	Educational Affairs section	

2. Doctoral Degree

The eligibility requirements and review procedures for applying for a doctoral degree in this Graduate School are set forth as follows.

Agreement Document

This agreement stipulates the details regarding the submission, review, and final examination of doctoral dissertations as defined in Articles 14 and 15 of the University of Osaka Graduate School of Frontier Biosciences Regulations.

1. Submission, Review, and Final Examination of Doctoral Dissertations

<Submission of Doctoral Dissertations>

Doctoral dissertations must be submitted along with the prescribed degree application documents, with the approval of the supervisor.

<Review of Doctoral Dissertations>

- The review of doctoral dissertations consists of two stages: preliminary defense and dissertation defense.
- The preliminary defense includes a preliminary defense meeting and a preliminary defense committee.
- Applicants who have completed a consultation prior to the preliminary defense may proceed to the preliminary defense. However, those who have completed coursework and withdrawn from the program are exempt from the consultation prior to the preliminary defense. The details of the consultation prior to the preliminary defense are defined separately.
- The dissertation defense includes a dissertation defense and dissertation committee.
- Applicants who have passed the preliminary defense through the prescribed procedures may proceed to the dissertation defense.

<Final Examination>

The dissertation defense serves as the final examination for individuals who have completed or are expected to complete the required credits. The schedule for the will be separately notified based on the degree conferral date.

2. Preliminary Defense

<Application for Preliminary Defense>

Applicants must submit the prescribed degree application documents (for preliminary defense) along with the doctoral dissertation (electronic data) to the Doctor's Degree Qualifications Committee through the Graduate School Office.

<Composition of the Preliminary Defense Committee Members >

The composition of the preliminary defense committee members must meet the following conditions:

- The committee members must consist of at least three members, including one chair and at least two vice-chairs, who are faculty members specializing in the applicant's field of expertise.
- The committee members must not include the supervisor or faculty members from the applicant's affiliated laboratory.
- The chair must be a full professor from the core research laboratory of this Graduate School.
- At least two vice-chairs must be professors or associate professors affiliated with this

Graduate School.

- At least one of the vice-chairs must be a professor affiliated with this Graduate School.
- Professors or associate professors from other graduate schools, universities, or research institutions may be included as vice-chairs.

<Determination of Preliminary Defense Committee Members >

The Doctor's Degree Qualifications Committee will determine the preliminary defense committee members based on the submitted degree application documents and doctoral dissertation.

<Preliminary Defense>

Once the preliminary defense committee members are determined, the preliminary defense may be conducted. The preliminary defense shall be held in closed session by the applicant and the preliminary defense committee members. Applicants must meet the following conditions to hold a preliminary defense:

- The applicant must have submitted an international original research paper as the first author (including co-first authorship) and received at least one comment from the reviewers.
- The applicant must submit the "reviewer's comments" to the preliminary defense committee members before the preliminary defense.
- The applicant must consult with each committee member and hold the preliminary defense by the prescribed deadline. The schedule should consider the possibility of holding the meeting multiple times.
- The venue for the preliminary defense must be determined in consultation with the committee members.
- During the preliminary defense, the applicant must present their doctoral dissertation and participate in a Q&A session.

<Preliminary Defense Committee>

After the preliminary defense, the preliminary defense committee will convene to evaluate the doctoral dissertation and the applicant's research capabilities. The committee will also consider the applicant's academic papers as the first author.

The committee may request explanations or opinions from the supervisor or other relevant individuals and may hold additional preliminary defense or committee sessions as necessary.

3. Dissertation Defense

<Application for Dissertation Defense>

Applicants who have passed the preliminary defense must submit the prescribed degree application documents (for dissertation defense) to the Dean of the Graduate School through the Educational Affairs Section.

<Composition of the Dissertation Committee>

The composition of the dissertation committee must meet the following conditions:

- The committee must consist of at least three members, including one chair and at least two vice-chairs.
- The supervisor will serve as the chair. However, if the supervisor is an associate professor, the chair will be the chair of the preliminary defense committee members.
- Vice-chairs will be selected from the preliminary defense committee members.
- At least two vice-chairs must be professors affiliated with the Graduate School.
- If the supervisor is an associate professor, they may be included as a vice-chair.

<Determination of Dissertation Committee>

The Doctor's Degree Qualifications Committee will review the preliminary defense report and summary of the preliminary defense results and propose the Dissertation Committee to the Faculty Meeting.

The Faculty Meeting will determine the Dissertation Committee in accordance with Article 15 of the Regulations of the Graduate School of Frontier Biosciences.

<Dissertation Defense>

Once the Dissertation Committee is determined, the Dissertation Defense may be conducted.

The Dissertation Defense will be held publicly as follows:

- The Defense will be conducted at the designated date and time.
- During the Defense, the applicant must present their doctoral dissertation and participate in a Q&A session. The presentation and Q&A session will each be 10 minutes.

<Dissertation Committee>

After the Dissertation Defense, the Dissertation Committee will convene to evaluate the doctoral dissertation and the applicant's research capabilities.

4. Degree Conferral Decision

The decision to confer a doctoral degree will be made by the Faculty Meeting based on the report from the Dissertation committee.

5. Doctoral Dissertation

The Graduate School of Frontier Biosciences at The University of Osaka establishes the following guidelines for the content and format of doctoral dissertations:

1. The doctoral dissertation must be an independent paper written solely by the applicant and must be a single-author paper. It should be written in the first person ("I" rather than "We").
2. The dissertation must have significant academic value and originality.
3. It must include sections (or chapters) that explain the research background, objectives, significance, and novelty in a manner understandable to researchers outside the applicant's field.
4. The dissertation may include content from previously published papers by the applicant, but it must be written as a unified paper.
5. The dissertation must be written in English or Japanese (English is preferred).
6. Applicants writing their dissertation in Japanese must include an English abstract of approximately 200–300 words on the page following the cover page and before the Japanese summary.
7. The dissertation must consist of the following sections:
 - Cover page (title, name, completion date)
 - Abstract
 - Table of contents
 - Main text
 - Achievements (published papers, conference presentations, etc. Contributions in co-authored works must be clearly indicated.)The dissertation must be prepared in A4 format.

6. Other
1. The required number of copies of degree application documents and doctoral dissertations, as well as submission deadlines, will be notified separately.
 2. Individuals who have been enrolled in the Graduate School of Frontier Biosciences for at least five years (or three years for those admitted in the third year) and have completed the required credits may withdraw from the program with completed coursework ("coursework completion withdrawal"). Such individuals may apply for a doctoral degree within three years after withdrawal.

Reference: English-Japanese Terminology Table

English	Japanese
Third-Party Committee	第三者委員会
Consultation Prior to the Preliminary Defense (Pre-Pre Defense Consultation)	予備審査前面談
Doctor's Degree Qualifications Committee (DQC)	博士号資格審査委員会
Preliminary Defense	予備審査 (会)
Preliminary Defense Committee Members (PDC Members)	予備審査委員
Preliminary Defense Committee (PDC)	予備審査委員会
Dissertation Defense	本審査 (会)
Dissertation Committee	本審査委員会
Chair	主査
Vice-chair	副査
Withdrawal with Required Credits	単位修得退学
Core Research Laboratory	基幹講座
Educational Affairs Section	大学院係

■ Completion Date and Eligibility

Completion Date	Eligible Applicants		
	Early Completion	Normal Completion	Extended Completion
June	×	×	○
September	○	○	○
December	×	×	○
March	○	○	○

Notes	Prior to the Preliminary Defense (Pre-Pre Defense Consultation) is required. Consult with the Educational Affairs Section at least one year before the intended date of degree completion. Additionally, after the Pre-Pre Defense Consultation, a qualification review will also be necessary.		Applicants who have exceeded the normal 5-year (3 years for 3rd-year transferred students) completion term, or those aiming to obtain a degree within three years after "withdrawal with required credits."
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The details on the schedule are posted on the Graduate School's website under "NEWS & TOPICS" around March each year. Details of the procedures will be published on the website by around May each year.

<https://www.fbs.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/student/valuation/>

■ Committee members for review procedures

"Professors from FBS" in each committee refer to professors from the Core Research Laboratories, Affiliated Laboratories, Cooperating Institutes, and Adjunct Faculties.

Laboratories:

https://www.fbs.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/research_group/

■ Overall Process to the Doctor's Degree Conferral

▼ Consultation Prior to the Preliminary Defense (Pre-Pre-Defense Consultation)
(Conducted only for students in their 5th year.)



▼ Plagiarism Check of the Dissertation (conducted by the applicants' supervisor)



▼ Submission of documents related to the Preliminary Defense



▼ Preliminary Defense Committee members (PDC members) are fixed



▼ Preliminary Defense (30-min. dissertation presentation & 30-min. Q&A) *Closed to the public



▼ Submission of the documents for the Dissertation Defense



▼ Dissertation Committee members are fixed



▼ Dissertation Defense (10-minute presentation and 10-minute Q&A) *open to the public



▼ Pass/fail decision on the degree conferral



▼ Degree conferral

■ Consultation Prior to the Preliminary Defense (Pre-Pre Defense Consultation)

For students advancing to their fifth year, Pre-Pre Defense Consultation will be conducted in July (December for October entrants).

Prior to that, please consult with your supervisor to select candidates (one chair and at least two vice-chairs), and submit the designated form to the FBS Educational Affairs Section.

Of the members, at least two must be professors from FBS, and the chair must be selected from the faculty of the Core Research Laboratories at FBS. Additionally, the supervisor and faculty members from the same laboratory cannot be included as members. Depending on the discretion of the members, additional vice-chairs from other departments, research institutions, or other universities (equivalent to professors or associate professors) can be added as the third vice-chair or beyond.

After reviewing the application within the DQC, the members are determined. The faculty members will later serve as the Chair and Vice-chairs for the Preliminary Defense. Further details will be provided separately.

After the consultation, a copy of the consultation report will be provided by the Chair as feedback.

■ Required documents

*The documents below are subject to change. Please check the separate notification for additional information.

<At the time of application for Pre-Pre Defense Consultation>

- (1) Recommendation form for Preliminary Defense Committee members

<At the time of application for Preliminary Defense>

- (1) Application for Degree (Form 1)
- (2) List of Thesis (Form 2)
- (3) Abstract of Thesis (Form 3)
- (4) Applicant History (Form 4)
- (5) Recommendation for the preliminary defense from the supervisor (Form 6)
- (6) Record of the applicant's research achievements (Form 7-1)
- (7) Approval Letter from co-first author(s) (Form 8-1) *Only when there are two or more co-first authors for the main thesis.
- (8) Pledge (Form 9)
- (9) Doctoral Thesis's Internet Publication Confirmation (Form 10)
- (10) A printed report of plagiarism check
- (11) Preliminary version of the doctoral thesis (PDF)
- (12) Preliminary Defense application form
- (13) Doctoral thesis title

<After the Preliminary Defense>

- (1) Result Report of the Preliminary Defense (博士学位論文予備審査結果報告書)
- (2) Result Summary and Responsible Parties (論文審査の結果の要旨及び担当者 (予備審査))
- (3) Recommendation of Candidates for the Dissertation Defense (本審査委員候補者の推薦)

<After the Dissertation Defense (details will be notified to applicants)>

- (1) Result Report of the Dissertation Defense (博士学位論文審査結果報告書)
- (2) Dissertation Table of Contents (論文審査の結果の要旨及び担当者)
- (3) Dissertation (*PDF only)

[Important Note]

*Please see the webpage below 「Points to Remember for Doctorate Degree Recipients of the University of Osaka」 for details:

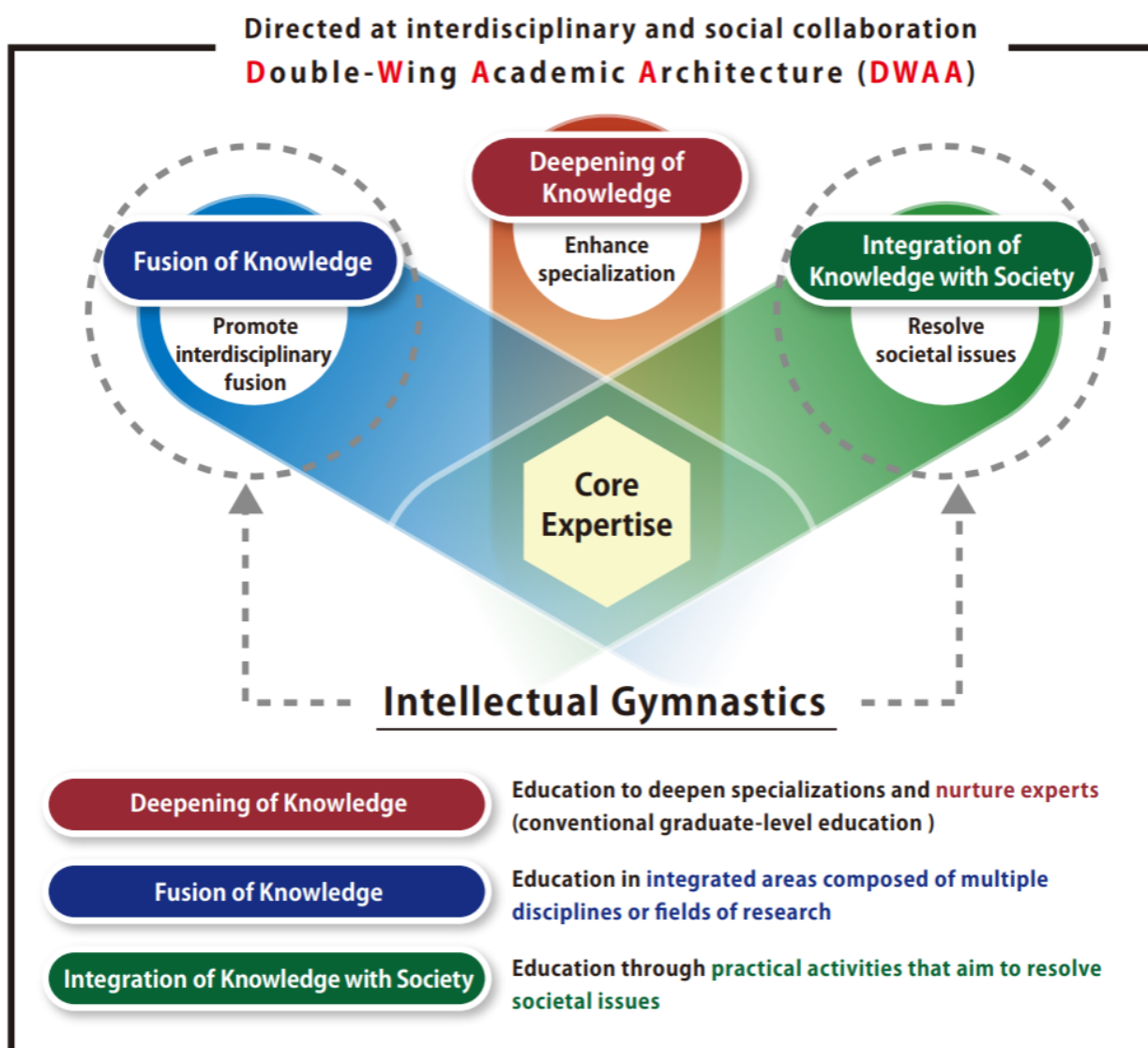
<https://www.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/education/gakui/ryui>

In cases when the online publication of the dissertation (full text) has been put on hold, the degree recipient must confirm the publisher’s copyright policy after being published or released in academic journals or after the patent application content becomes public. After that, please promptly submit a report to the FBS Educational Affairs section using the Doctoral Thesis’s Internet Publication Suspension Form (University’s Institutional Repository), Form 11.

Double-Wing Academic Architecture

The university of Osaka is pushing forward its education system for graduate schools, Double-Wing Academic Architecture (DWAA), university-wide in order to produce PhD holders that can play an active role both in creating innovation in academics and other fields.

https://www.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/education/academic_reform/souyoku



Various Programs

The University of Osaka has long offered a range of educational programs oriented toward the "Fusion of Knowledge" and the "Integration of Knowledge with Society." To provide students with more flexible choices, these programs have now been reorganized as "Intellectual Gymnastics Programs".

<https://itgp.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/programs/list/>

Information for Students

■ Student Life

For the following items, please refer to the "Student Life Guide" at the link below.

<https://www.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/campus/manual>

1. Basic Information about Study
2. Consultations about Study, Student Life, and Employment
3. Extracurricular Activities
4. Study Abroad
5. Things to know for your safety
6. Procedures and Certificates
7. On-campus facilities
8. Others
9. FAQs regarding student life

■ Course registration, etc.

• How to register for courses

Course registration will be conducted through the Knowledge of Osaka University Academic Nucleus (KOAN: refer to "About KOAN" below). The registration period and other details will be notified later.

• Note on course registration

Please be aware that you cannot register for courses that are scheduled to be held at the same time. Please check the timetable carefully.

• About KOAN

You can access KOAN from both on-campus and off-campus computers. To log in, you will need the "Osaka University Personal ID" provided at the time of enrollment. The KOAN manual is available on My Handai, so please refer to it as needed.

My Handai: <https://my.osaka-u.ac.jp>

• Regarding taking courses at a foreign graduate school

During enrollment at FBS, individuals planning to study at a foreign graduate school and take

courses there must complete the necessary procedures and obtain permission from the Dean of the Graduate School before studying abroad.

Credits earned at the host institution can be counted towards the required credits for completion, up to a maximum of 10 credits, upon approval from the Faculty Meeting. For information on the procedure, please contact the FBS Educational Affairs Section.

* For individuals who have completed the formal procedures for studying abroad, the courses taken at the host graduate school will be evaluated based on the course certificate issued by that graduate school, including the recognition of the courses and credits earned.

* The course certificate must specify the course titles, number of credits, evaluation (including evaluation criteria), duration of the course (start and end), and total class hours. The certificate must be authorized by the dean of the graduate school or an equivalent authority.

- **Class schedule**

The class schedule is posted on the FBS website under "Curricula Details." Additionally, syllabus can be accessed from the same page through a link to the KOAN syllabus viewing site.

Period	Time	Period	Time
1	8:50~10:20	4	15:10~16:40
2	10:30~12:00	5	16:50~18:20
3	13:30~15:00	6	18:30~20:00

- **Method of communication with students**

Notifications and announcements for students will be made via the KOAN bulletin board, the FBS website, or OUMail. These platforms are accessible from off-campus computers as well, so please make it a habit to check them regularly.

Individual communication to students may be conducted via phone or email depending on the circumstances. Please ensure that your contact information in KOAN is always up-to-date. Additionally, communication from The University of Osaka Headquarters and the FBS Educational Affairs Section will be sent to the OUMail address provided by The University of Osaka (u_@ecs.osaka-u.ac.jp). If you do not usually use your OUMail, please set up forwarding to ensure that you can always check it to receive important messages.

- **Academic-related procedures**

The forms and submission procedures for various applications are available on the following FBS website. Some forms are not posted; if you need them, please contact the Educational Affairs Section.

<https://www.fbs.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/student/curriculum/>

If you intend to take a leave of absence or withdraw from the university, please complete the necessary procedures at least two weeks before the start date of the leave of absence or the desired withdrawal date.

- **Leave of absence [Submission of the designated form is required.]**

If you find it difficult to continue your studies for three months or more due to illness or other reasons, you may request permission from the Dean of the Graduate School to take a leave of absence.

- ① Handling of tuition fees

The handling of tuition fees associated with a leave of absence varies depending on the timing of the request, as there are payment deadlines for each semester (first semester: May, second semester: November). Therefore, the amount to be paid differs based on the timing of the request,

as indicated in the following points (a) to (c). Please be sure to complete the procedures by the specified deadline.

- a) If you request and are granted a leave of absence starting on April 1st (or October 1st) by the end of March (or September), tuition fees for the leave of absence period are not required. You will need to pay tuition fees starting from the month of your re-enrollment.
 - b) If you request and are granted a leave of absence starting on May 1st (or November 1st) by the end of April (or October), you are required to pay only one month's tuition fee by the start of the leave of absence.
 - c) If you cannot complete the procedures by the specified deadlines above, you will need to pay the full tuition fee for the first semester (or second semester).
- ② Handling of Enrollment Period:
- a) Leave of absence periods are not counted towards the total enrollment period.
 - b) Leave of absence periods cannot exceed five years (or three years in the case of third-year transfer students).
 - c) The period of enrollment cannot exceed seven years (or five years in the case of third-year transfer students).
- **Withdraw from the graduate school [Submission of the designated form is required.]**

If you wish to withdraw from the graduate school due to employment or other reasons, you may do so with the permission of the Dean of the Graduate School.

① Handling of tuition fees

The handling of tuition fees associated with withdrawal varies depending on the timing of the request, as there are payment deadlines for each semester (first semester: May, second semester: November). Therefore, the amount to be paid differs based on the timing of the request, as indicated in the following points (a) to (b). Please be sure to complete the procedures by the specified deadline

- a) If a student applies for withdrawal during the semester on or after April 1 (or October 1) and completes the required procedures by the end of April (or the end of October), and the withdrawal is approved, the student must pay tuition calculated by multiplying an amount equivalent to one month's tuition by the number of months up to and including the month of withdrawal.
 - b) If the procedures cannot be completed by the deadline mentioned above, you will need to pay the tuition fees for the semester (either the first or second semester) to which the withdrawal date belongs.
- Study abroad [Register for the overseas travel registration system]
If you wish to participate in a study abroad (exchange study) program to a graduate school based on agreements such as inter-university or inter-departmental student exchange agreements concluded between Osaka University and foreign institutions, you must obtain permission from the Dean of the Graduate School at least one month before the start of the study abroad period.
 - Study abroad during leave of absence
[Required: Request form/ register for the overseas travel registration system]
If you plan to undertake private overseas travel, such as language study abroad, and it is difficult to

continue your studies for three months or more, you may request a leave of absence.

- Transfer to another graduate school at the University of Osaka [Required: Request form]
If you wish to transfer to another graduate school within Osaka University during your enrollment at FBS (e.g., if you wish to advance to the doctoral program of another graduate school after obtaining a master's degree), please inquire at the office of the relevant graduate school to confirm the qualifications and application deadlines, and then make your request. Please note that if you take an entrance exam instead of a departmental exam and enroll in another graduate school, examination and enrollment fees will be incurred.
- Return to studies during a leave of absence
[Required: Request form + medical certificate (if applicable)]
If the reason for your leave of absence has been resolved and you intend to return to your studies during the leave of absence period, please submit a request form and obtain permission by the month before the intended reinstatement date. Additionally, if your leave of absence was due to illness or other medical reasons, please submit a medical certificate from a physician. Please note that if you return to your studies during the leave of absence period, tuition fees will be incurred starting from the month of reinstatement.
If you return to your studies on the day following the expiration of the leave of absence period, no procedures are required.
- Change of name (including surname or given name) or change of guarantor
[Required: Request form]
If you wish to change your registered information (such as the name registered in KOAN) due to a change of name or other reasons, please submit a request at any time.
- Change of supervisor, etc.
[Required: Request form]
If you desire to change your home lab or any related personnel due to various reasons, you can do so with the consent of the relevant faculties.
- Change of address, etc.
If there are any changes to your contact information (address, phone number, etc.), please promptly update it via the "Student Info" screen on KOAN. The contact information registered in "Student Address Registration" is necessary for various communications, such as tuition payment requests.
- Recognition of Credits Earned through Study Abroad
[Required: Request form / transcript from the host university / syllabus]
If you wish to have the credits earned during your study abroad recognized as part of the requirements for completion from FBS, please submit the required documents promptly upon your return. The transcript should include details such as course titles, number of credits, evaluation (including grading criteria), duration of courses (start and end), and total hours of instruction, along with authentication from the head of the relevant department or institution. Please note that credits earned beyond the required recognition limit for courses will not be counted toward completion

requirements but will be recorded in your academic record.

■ **Certificate issuance**

- (1) Issuance via automatic certificate issuing machine

<https://www.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/campus/certificates/testifier.html>

- (2) Issuance by FBS Educational Affairs Section (<https://www.fbs.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/student/certificate/>)

For certificates that cannot be issued through the automatic certificate issuing machine, please fill out an Application for Certificate and submit it to the FBS Educational Affairs Section via email. When applying via email, please ensure that the email is sent from your OUMail address to confirm your identity. Please note that depending on the timing of the application and the type of certificate, processing times may vary. Therefore, please apply with sufficient time to spare.