

Number of Undergraduate Students: 2,543

[Target Faculties: Faculty of Intercultural Studies* (140 students); Faculty of Letters (115 students); Faculty of Human Development (280 students); Faculty of Law (180 students); Faculty of Economics (270 students); Faculty of Business Administration (260 students).]

1. Objectives, Specific Image of the Ideal Global Human Resource

In accordance with the spirit of "Integrity, Freedom, and Cooperation" as laid out in Kobe University's Mission Statement, the objective of the Project is to produce "global talent": people with an outstanding ability in foreign languages as well as a high degree of specialized knowledge; who can use these to get to tackle the global problems that are faced by the contemporary world; who can demonstrate the type of leadership that can identify, diagnose and assess problems; and who will thus contribute to the sustainable development of the international community.

2. Summary of the Plan

In the light of the educational goals expressed in Kobe University's Educational Charter, "education of the whole person," "education to promote originality," "education to promote international awareness," and "education to promote expertise", the six participating faculties and the two participating graduate schools, which are all in the humanities and social sciences, will collaborate in a joint educational program aimed at producing "global talent."

In the name of target faculties, marked *shows representing faculty.

1. Internationalization of the Curriculum

(I) Actions aimed at elevating the international viability of our educational program

The Office for the Promotion of Higher Education and the College of General Education already exist in the Institute for Promotion of University Education, the body responsible for university-wide management. In addition, we will set up a new Office of Global Education, whose purpose will be to promote "global education." We will strive to strengthen our accreditation system and promote active completion of coursework by our students through implementing the following initiatives for the improvement of international viability in the education offered in the courses of our Bachelor's Degree.

1) Enrich course offerings and extend the completion period for students; 2) systematize the curriculum, 3) introduce grade point average (GPA) system and strengthen assessments; 4) improve the educational environment to encourage autonomous learning by students; and 5) promote active learning.

(II) Strategically disseminate information on education in Japan and overseas

Actively publicize the idea of our "global talent" at the center of this educational program, giving a clear indication of the abilities that will be acquired, with updates on grants and scholarships available to support study abroad. Provide information on the actions being taken by Kobe University to universities overseas; and, in order to promote intake of competent foreign students, make every effort to disseminate such information in other languages besides Japanese, thereby further promoting Kobe University as a truly global intellectual education and research center.

(III) Globalize the administrative framework

To improve the capacity of our administrative teams to respond to the requirements of a globalized society, provide training in foreign languages that will help in their ability to carry out their administrative duties and training for our international staff in Japan and overseas, elevating the quality of support offered to Japanese students who choose to study abroad as well as that offered to overseas teaching staff in their activities and endeavors in Japan; and in general improve the capacity of the educational environment to meet the needs of a global society.

2. Efforts to Cultivate Global Human Resources

(I) An appreciation and understanding of cultural diversity

Set up a Global Liberal Studies Programs as part of the general university education

(II) Outstanding communication skills in foreign languages

Institute preparatory courses for study abroad, and strengthen instruction in areas such as academic writing.

(III) A global educational program that fosters expertise

Set up "Specialized Education for Global Human Resource Development," and expand the course offerings in foreign languages such as English.



"Active learning" in practice

3. Improvement of Foreign Language Competencies

(I) Proper assessment in university entrance examinations of foreign language abilities and study-abroad experience gained at middle and high school stage

Start considering selection methods that utilize TOEFL and Admissions Office entrance exams that stress English language ability, and assessment methods that take into account study-abroad experience and time spent living abroad.

(II) Effective language instruction and educational frameworks

Assess improvement levels in linguistic abilities using external English examinations such as TOEIC, and institute language classes that are streamed according to proficiency levels. For thesis writing in foreign languages, have individual instruction by foreign teaching staff in the School of Languages and Communication. Increase the number of lectures held in English in specialized subjects, and promote study abroad.

4. Faculty Development for Global Education

(I) Globalize the pedagogical framework

Actively employ and assign teaching staff who have extensive experience in teaching in universities overseas, or who have experience in teaching classes in foreign languages in universities in Japan, as well as non-Japanese teaching staff, and by so doing aim to promote and expand the number of lectures and classes in English and other languages.

(II) Actions to improve global education

The Office of Global Education in the Institute for Promotion of Higher Education will hold faculty development events after recruiting lecturers from overseas universities, and will utilize the Kobe University Brussels European Centre and the Kobe University China Office (in Beijing) to help enhance the overseas training of teaching staff and as sites for gaining teaching experience abroad.

5. Support System to Promote Study Abroad

(I) Action to support and promote interest in study abroad

Carry out a range of other actions, including the following: offer the information relating to study abroad on "Open Campus" days; expand offerings in double-degree programs; introduce study-abroad preparation courses taught by overseas teaching staff at the School of Languages and Communication (special English course, short-term special overseas training in English).

(II) Information and assistance for students while they study abroad and after their return to Japan

The Office of Global Education in the Institute for Promotion of Higher Education will monitor the study and living circumstances of students while they study abroad, and also, once they have returned to Japan, carry out appropriate and continuing mental health care and support and study management to make sure that the experience has no negative impact on their studies.

Specific Competencies for Graduates

1. A high degree of cultural knowledge and a high level of expertise
Fundamental competency enabling the student to demonstrate leadership, to identify important problems that affect the world on a global scale, and to make decisions that lead to their solution.
2. Vision: the ability to identify problems
The ability to discern the views and needs of others even when they are not voiced; to recognize where unforeseen problems and issues may be lie, and the ability to speak in public and be persuasive and convincing.
3. Ability: the capacity to solve problems
The ability to plan and to execute: not only to draw up creative proposals, but to see them through to completion, dealing flexibly with unforeseen changes and obstacles.
4. Leadership: the ability to lead and inspire
A capacity to lead in keeping with the philosophy expounded in the Kobe University Charter on Education, which emphasizes individuality and diversity while respecting the independence and autonomy of each student.

Indicative Outputs of the Project

Total		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Number of students who meet requirements for foreign language proficiency				120	141	177	193
Of the above, Number of students not to study abroad (A)				55	69	74	77
Number of students studying abroad (b)		73	68	101	123	150	152
Number of graduates (C)		1,311	1,315	1,315	1,315	1,315	1,315
Ratio ((A+B)/C)				11.9%	14.6%	17.0%	17.4%
Faculty of Letters	Requirement for Foreign Language Proficiency	TOEIC760 or TOEFL-iBT80		9 (6)	12 (9)	18 (10)	23 (12)
	Number of Students Studying Abroad	1	2	6	9	10	12
	Number of graduates	115	115	115	115	115	115
Faculty of Intercultural Studies	Requirement for Foreign Language Proficiency	TOEIC760 or TOEFL-iBT80		35 (5)	40 (10)	45 (10)	50 (10)
	Number of Students Studying Abroad	53	44	63	75	75	75
	Number of graduates	147	140	140	140	140	140
Faculty of Human Development	Requirement for Foreign Language Proficiency	TOEIC760 or TOEFL-iBT80		15 (10)	18 (12)	25 (15)	30 (15)
	Number of Students Studying Abroad	0	2	5	6	15	15
	Number of graduates	290	290	290	290	290	290
Faculty of Law	Requirement for Foreign Language Proficiency	TOEIC760		15 (12)	15 (12)	18 (14)	18 (14)
	Number of Students Studying Abroad	3	4	3	3	4	4
	Number of graduates	193	200	200	200	200	200
Faculty of Economics	Requirement for Foreign Language Proficiency	TOEIC760		16 (2)	24 (4)	37 (6)	37 (6)
	Number of Students Studying Abroad	11	11	14	20	31	31
	Number of graduates	298	290	290	290	290	290
Faculty of Business Administration	Requirement for Foreign Language Proficiency	TOEIC760 or TOEFL-iBT80		30 (20)	32 (22)	34 (19)	35 (20)
	Number of Students Studying Abroad	5	5	10	10	15	15
	Number of graduates	268	280	280	280	280	280

Note:

*1 The number in "()" indicates "Number of students not to study abroad with credit recognition or credit transfer" out of "Number of students who meet requirements for foreign language proficiency".

*2 "Number of students studying abroad" excludes the number of students studying abroad without credit recognition or credit transfer.