

To: All Graduate Students in the Doctoral Program of the Graduate School of Medicine

Notification on the Application for the New Degree Review System (Thesis Review Course)

Due to the revisions in the review procedures for the New Degree Review System (Track 2), the name "Track 2" will be changed to "Thesis Review Course" and "Track 1" will be changed to "International Peer-Reviewed Paper Course." Therefore, we hereby notify you of the application process for the Thesis Review Course as follows.

1. Objective

For students who aim to publish papers that have a wide impact in the field of medical and life sciences, supported by sufficient data, and to publish papers in highly difficult journals that aim to contribute to the innovative development of medical and life sciences, giving the opportunity to complete PhD with a thesis written by himself/herself.

2. Target

As a general rule, it is only for the current 4th year students at the time of the application. It is excluded a holdover and a withdrawer with completing all credits. **If the review is not completed during the fourth year of enrollment, it must be completed by the end of March of the following year (end of September for students entering in the fall). In the event of a review extending into the following year, students may be allowed to withdraw after earning the required credits.**

3. Evaluation Criteria

The research will be evaluated based on its originality and its contribution to innovative developments in medical and life sciences. It must be a research paper backed by sufficient data.

The paper should meet or exceed the standards of those published in journals that aim to contribute to innovative developments in the field of medical and life sciences and have a broad impact on the entire field, supported by sufficient data.

Reference: Papers that meet the "Evaluation Criteria" should be of a standard comparable to those published in high-impact journals (with a Journal Impact Factor of around 10 or higher for the relevant year).

4. Author of the submitted paper

Thesis Review Course application papers should be single-authored English paper, and in principle they should be prepared using the data obtained by the applicant himself/herself. Although it is possible to attach reference materials that are separate from the main body of the paper, if the manuscript relies heavily on the data obtained by joint researchers, it will be subject to degree evaluation in the International Peer-Reviewed Paper Course. Reference materials are not available to review for the Thesis Review Course. **In addition, the research data published in the thesis cannot be used for other degree applications.**

5. Review Deadline

To graduate in March of the 4th year, it is desirable to submit a provisional application for the "Thesis Review Course" by September 30. If submitted on or after October 1, the final review may extend beyond March of the 4th year.

6. Distribution of application forms

Those who wish to obtain the Thesis Review Course application forms should contact Educational Affairs Section by e-mail.

EMAIL: i-kyomu-kyomu@office.osaka-u.ac.jp

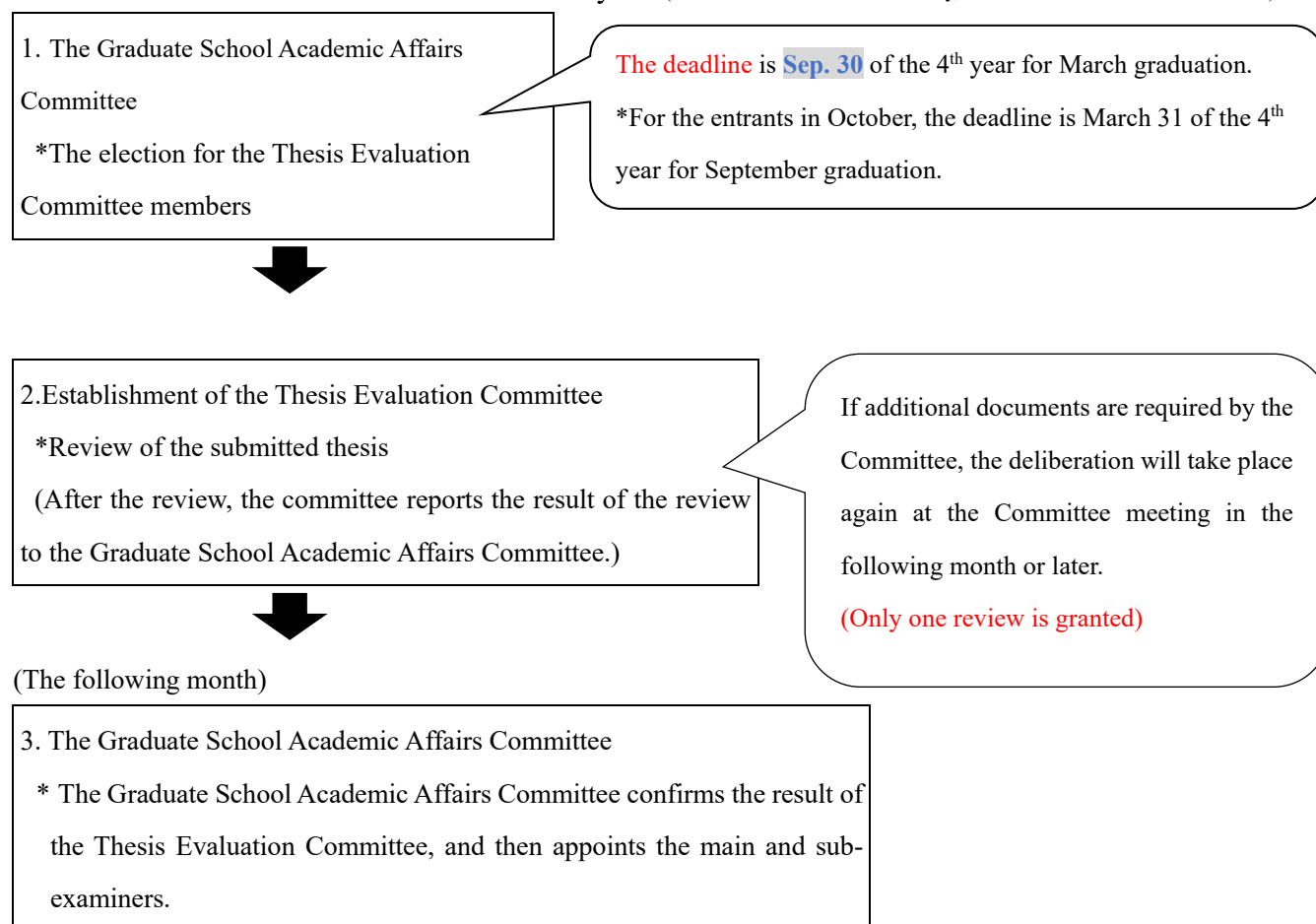
(Educational Affairs Section, Graduate School of Medicine)

Application Procedure for Doctoral Degree (For Doctoral Course students) by Thesis Review Course

■Provisional Application by the Thesis Review Course

The Graduate School Academic Affairs Committee will examine the applicants in the following month.

--- deadline is the end of each month of the 4th year. (If it falls on Weekends or Holiday, the deadline will be moved forward.)



The subsequent procedures, following the 'International Peer-Reviewed Paper Course,' include preliminary review, dissertation defense, and final review.

List of Required Documents and Notes for Provisional Application Procedures under the Thesis Review Course

■Provisional Application under the Thesis Review Course

*Please contact the Educational Affairs Section by Email to obtain required application documents.

The provisional application is submitted jointly by the degree applicant and the supervising professor. The supervising professor submits a document explaining that the submitted thesis meets the criteria for evaluation under the Thesis Review Course, as well as details regarding the intended journal for submission, planned submission timeline, and the research continuity plan until publication after degree conferral. In particular, for supervising professors nearing retirement, it is required to clearly outline the research continuity plan until journal publication.

[Monthly Deadline: End of each month of the 4th year] (or the preceding weekday if it falls on a weekend or holiday)

*For those intending to graduate in March, the deadline is September 30 of their fourth year. For students enrolled in October who intend to graduate in September, the deadline is March 31 of their fourth year.

Format No.	Required Documents	Number	Submission method
TR2_1-01	Provisional Application for PhD by Thesis Review Course	1	
TR2_1-02	Recommendation letter for Provisional Application for PhD by Thesis Review Course	1	
K03	Summary of Thesis	1	Submit in a Word file using the "Submission Form". The file should be named "your name_Provisional Application."
	Thesis	5	Submit in a Word file using the "Submission Form". The file should be named "your name Thesis."

■Preliminary Review under the "Thesis Review Course"

The schedule for the Preliminary Review under the Thesis Review Course should be arranged between the applicant and the three Preliminary Reviewers (one Main Examiner and two Sub-Examiners). The application forms for the Preliminary Review under the Thesis Review Course are different from those used for the "International Peer-Reviewed Paper Course." Please ensure to use the forms provided by the Educational Affairs Section when applying for the provisional application.

Format No.	Required Documents	Submission method
TR2_L01	Preliminary Review Result Sheet by Thesis Review Course	
TR2_L02	Notification of Preliminary Review by Thesis Review Course	Submit in an Excel File using the "Submission Form."

■ PhD Dissertation Defense under the Presentation "Thesis Review Course"

The application documents for the dissertation defense by degree applicants under the Thesis Review Course require almost the same application forms as those for the International Peer-Reviewed Paper Course. However, there are some differences, including forms that are in a different format or are not required, as outlined below.

I. Applications for PhD Thesis Presentation

Format No.	Required Documents	Number	
P01_1	PhD Dissertation Defense Application	1	In the field for the name of the academic journal (planned publication), please append " Application by Thesis Review Course " after the name of the journal (submission or planned submission).
TR2_L01	Preliminary Review Result Sheet by Thesis Review Course	1	Must obtain signatures of supervising professor, Main Examiner, and Sub-Examiners.
P09	Plagiarism report *Must attach the 3 sets of the reports of iThenticate.	3	The iThenticate report should be prepared by the supervising professor (unlike the International Peer-Reviewed Paper Course). Three sets of copies must be submitted: one for the Main Examiner and two for the Sub-Examiners.
P04	List of Research Achievement	1	In the fields for the academic journal's name, volume (issue), page numbers, and year, please append " Application by Thesis Review Course " after the name of the journal (submission or planned submission).

II. Applications for Doctoral Degree

Format No.	Required Documents	Number	
H02	Consent Form	Not required	It is not required as the application is with a single-authored thesis.
H03	List of Publications	1	In the field for the publication (planned) date, please append " Application by Thesis Review Course. "

After the dissertation defense, the result submitted by the examining faculty members conducting the evaluation is required from a total of three members: one Main Examiner and two Sub-Examiners, unlike the International Peer-Reviewed Paper Course where it is submitted only by two Sub-Examiners.

[Notes]

【If the thesis is accepted by a journal during the degree application under the Thesis Review Course】

You have the option to suspend the evaluation under the Thesis Review Course and switch to the International Peer-Reviewed Paper Course, or to continue with the evaluation under the Thesis Review Course.

【Points to Note when applying for a degree under the Thesis Review Course】

The research content presented at the dissertation defense (research presentation) will be considered as publicly disclosed. Please proceed with the presentation carefully, taking into account any considerations regarding patent applications or other matters related to the research content.

Post-Degree Award Considerations under the Thesis Review Course

[Responsibilities after Degree Conferment]

Within one year of receiving the degree, the full text of the thesis or a summary, utilizing exceptions, must be publicly disclosed through Osaka University's institutional repository.

[Responsibilities of the Supervising Professor after Degree Conferment]

Following the application details submitted during the provisional application under the Thesis Review Course, the supervising professor bears responsibility for the journal publication of the thesis.

- **Progress Confirmation for Journal Acceptance**

The supervising professor must submit progress reports annually. Additionally, they must submit a final report upon journal acceptance. If the thesis is published in a journal that does not meet the criteria of the Thesis Review Course, the degree has already been conferred and will not be revoked. However, the supervising professor must provide an explanation of the circumstances in a written final report. While accepting a minimum requirement of international peer-reviewed paper course standard journal acceptance within 3 years post-degree conferment, there may be room for extension. Beyond 3 years, the supervising professor must annually report progress to the doctoral program committee.

[Contact Information for Doctoral Degree Application]

Educational Affairs Section (KYOMU- KAKARI),

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