

Guidelinesⁱ for the Global Master Program in Management (SESAMI) Program and the SESAMI Ph.D. Program of the Graduate School of Business Administration, Kobe University - Academic Year 2021-2022 -

1. Overview

These guidelines describe the requirements for the Global Master Program in Management (Strategic Entrepreneurship and Sustainability Alliance Management Initiatives) Program (hereinafter “GMAP in Management (SESAMI) Program”) and the Strategic Entrepreneurship and Sustainability Alliance Management Initiatives Ph.D. Program (hereinafter “SESAMI Ph.D. Program”) of the Graduate School of Business Administration, Kobe University (hereinafter “Graduate School”) - pursuant to Article 4 Paragraph 1 of the Graduate School of Business Administration, Kobe University Bylawsⁱⁱ (Instituted on April 1, 2004. Hereinafter “Graduate School Bylaws”).

2. Courses

The GMAP in Management (SESAMI) Program Course (hereinafter “GMAP in Management (SESAMI) Course”) shall be placed in the Graduate School of Business Administration Master’s Program and the SESAMI Ph.D. Program Course (hereafter “SESAMI Ph.D. Course”) shall be placed in the Graduate School of Business Administration Ph.D. Program. Accordingly, the course previously existing in the Business Administration shall be called the Regular Course (hereinafter “Regular Course”).

[Reference] Graduate School Bylaws Article 4 Paragraph 1 and 2

3. Program Objective

The objective of this program is to define the research and educational field of strategic entrepreneurship and sustainability alliance management, which is formed from the fusion of academic disciplines of sustainability management and entrepreneurship management. It aims to establish a global standard of related business practices based on the strength of Japanese business systems.

4. GMAP/SESAMI/KIBER Steering Committee

- (1) The GMAP/SESAMI/KIBER Steering Committee in the Graduate School is to plan and implement the curriculum, entrance examination, and social cooperation related items for the GMAP in Management (SESAMI) Course and the SESAMI Ph.D. Course.
- (2) The SESAMI Alliance Committee is to exchange opinions with the SESAMI Alliance companies regarding the implementation of the GMAP in Management (SESAMI) Course and the SESAMI Ph.D. Course. The SESAMI Alliance Committee shall be composed of committee members who are nominated and selected by the members of the GMAP/SESAMI/KIBER Steering Committee and the SESAMI Alliance companies.

ⁱ This Guideline is a part of the Graduate School of Business Administration Bylaws in the Student Handbook of the Graduate School of Business Administration, Kobe University.

ⁱⁱ Graduate School of Business Administration Bylaws is a part of the Student Handbook of the Graduate School of Business Administration, Kobe University (available in Japanese).

5. Courses and Credits

- (1) Courses and credits of the GMAP in Management (SESAMI) Course and the SESAMI Ph.D. Course shall be as stated in the Graduate School Bylaws Appendix 1ⁱⁱⁱ, Appendix 2^{iv}, and Appendix 3.
- (2) Courses of the GMAP in Management (SESAMI) Course shall be classified into Course Groups S1 to S6 as given in Appendix S of the GMAP in Management (SESAMI) Program Course Bylaws (hereinafter “GMAP in Management (SESAMI) Course Bylaws”). The courses prescribed in the Graduate School Bylaws Appendix 1 shall be the Course Group S3 courses. Further, the courses prescribed in Appendix 2 shall be the Group S5 courses.
- (3) Courses of the SESAMI Ph.D. Courses shall be classified into Course Groups 4 and Group 6 as given in Appendix C in the Graduate School Course Bylaws (hereinafter “Course Bylaws”).

[Reference] The GMAP in Management (SESAMI) Course Bylaws
The Graduate School Course Bylaws

6. Research Supervision

- (1) The research supervisors for the GMAP in Management (SESAMI) Course shall be designated by the GMAP/SESAMI/KIBER Steering Committee at the beginning of the Master’s program.
[Reference] The Graduate School Bylaws Article 15 Paragraph 3
- (2) The research supervisors for the GMAP in Management (SESAMI) Course shall be re-designated by the GMAP/SESAMI/KIBER Steering Committee on April 1, at the beginning of the second academic year of the Master’s program.
[Reference] The Graduate School Bylaws Article 15 Paragraph 2
- (3) The research supervisors for the SESAMI Ph.D. Course shall be designated by the GMAP/SESAMI/KIBER Steering Committee.
[Reference] The Graduate School Bylaws Article 15 Paragraph 4

7. Course Admission and Changes

- (1) The admission to the GMAP in Management (SESAMI) Course for the students entering the Master’s program at the Graduate School of Business Administration shall be determined by the GMAP/SESAMI/KIBER Steering Committee on October 1 of the entering school year. The admission to the GMAP in Management (SESAMI) Course of the students who have passed the Master’s Regular Course Admission shall be determined in consultation with the requested research supervisor stated in the admission application.
- (2) If a student desires to change from the GMAP in Management (SESAMI) Course to the Regular Course, or vice versa, then the student must submit the change request in July or January of each academic year. The student who has submitted the course change request will be interviewed by GMAP/SESAMI/KIBER Steering Committee members. Whether or not the student is able to change his/her course will be determined by the committee and must be approved by the faculty council of the Graduate School of Business Administration. When the GMAP/SESAMI/KIBER Steering Committee determines if the student is able to change his/her course, it shall be consulted with the prospective supervisor for changing from the GMAP in Management (SESAMI) Course to the Regular Course; and with the supervisor of the Regular Course for changing from the Regular Course to the GMAP in Management (SESAMI) Course.
[Reference] Graduate School Bylaws Article 4 Paragraph 1

ⁱⁱⁱ Appendix 1 is included in the Graduate School of Business Administration Bylaws in the Student Handbook of the Graduate School of Business Administration, Kobe University.

^{iv} Appendix 2 is included in the Graduate School of Business Administration Bylaws in the Student Handbook of the Graduate School of Business Administration, Kobe University.

- (3) The change of supervisor accompanying a student’s change from the GMAP in Management (SESAMI) Course to the Regular Course, or vice versa, shall be handled as an exception pursuant to the Graduate School Bylaws Article 15 Paragraph 2.

[Reference] The Graduate School Bylaws Article 15 Paragraph 2

- (4) The admission and the change for the SESAMI Ph.D. Course shall apply the regulation defined in (1) to 0 of section 7, where “Master’s Regular Course” is to be replaced with “Ph.D. Regular Course” and “GMAP in Management (SESAMI) Course” is to be replaced with “SESAMI Ph.D. Course.”

[Reference] The Graduate School Bylaws Article 4 Paragraph 4
The Graduate School Bylaws Article 15 Paragraph 2

8. Taking Courses

- (1) The GMAP in Management (SESAMI) Course students shall earn at least 30 credits as specified by the items below, which are selected from the Graduate School Bylaws Appendix 1, Appendix 2, and Appendix 3 and approved by the research supervisor:

- (a) SESAMI Research Seminar 2 credits
- (b) SESAMI seminar 10 credits
- (c) At least 18 credits for courses other than SESAMI Research Seminar and SESAMI Seminar

[Reference] The Graduate School Bylaws Article 18 Paragraph 2

- (2) The GMAP in Management (SESAMI) Course students shall meet the course requirements prescribed in the GMAP in Management (SESAMI) Course Bylaws Appendix S.

[Reference] The GMAP in Management (SESAMI) Course Bylaws

- (3) The SESAMI Ph.D. Course students shall meet the course requirements prescribed in the SESAMI Ph.D. Course Bylaws Appendix C.

[Reference] The SESAMI Ph.D. Course Bylaws

9. Performance Evaluation Criteria

The performance evaluation criteria and the standard distribution of the courses of the GMAP in Management (SESAMI) Course and the SESAMI Ph.D. Course are as follows:

S:	Superior	90-100 points	20%
A:	Excellent	80-89 points	40%
B:	Good	70-79 points	} 40%
C:	Pass	60-69 points	
F:	Fail	0-59 points	

10. Requirements for Advancing to the Ph.D. Program

The GMAP in Management (SESAMI) Course students who wish to advance to the SESAMI Ph.D. Course shall be asked to confirm their desire when submitting their Master's thesis title in October, and will be selected based on the evaluation of advancing to the Ph.D. program. The evaluation is based on the excellence in the Master’s thesis and “sufficient comprehensive scholastic ability” (the grades of the coursework approved in advance by the GMAP/SESAMI/KIBER Steering Committee). In the case of not meeting the coursework, re-taking courses are accepted and the latest grades shall be used for evaluation.

[Reference] “Requirements for Advancing to the Ph.D. Program at the Graduate School of Business Administration, Kobe University” of the Students in the Course Information for Students in the Graduate School of Business Administration in the Student Handbook

11. Comprehensive Scholastic Ability Examination

- (1) To determine whether the GMAP in Management (SESAMI) Course students possess “sufficient comprehensive scholastic ability” as prescribed in Article 4 Paragraph 2 of the Graduate School of Business Administration Bylaws, the students are evaluated based on the grades of the coursework approved in advance by the GMAP/SESAMI/KIBER Steering Committee.
[Reference] Graduate School of Business Administration the Kobe University Bylaws Article 4 Paragraph 2
- (2) Students who advance from the GMAP in Management (SESAMI) Course to the SESAMI Ph.D. Course will be deemed to possess “sufficient comprehensive scholastic ability” when they meet all of the following requirements:
 - (a) have earned sufficient credits for the courses approved in advance by the GMAP/SESAMI/KIBER Steering Committee.
 - (b) have been deemed by the GMAP/SESAMI/KIBER Steering Committee to possess “sufficient structured scholastic ability” based on the grades in the approved courses.
 - (c) have passed Qualifying Paper Examination course in Group 3.
- (3) To determine whether students in the GMAP in Management (SESAMI) Course, who apply to advance to the SESAMI Ph.D. Course, possess “Sufficient Comprehensive Scholastic Ability” as prescribed in Bylaws Article 4 Paragraph 2 of the Graduate School of Business Administration, the students are evaluated based on the grades of the coursework approved in advance by the GMAP/SESAMI/KIBER Steering Committee, as well as pass Qualifying Paper Examination in Group 3.

The Qualifying Paper Requirement:

The Qualifying Paper is the thesis that is created after writing the Master’s thesis and before the submission of the Ph.D. thesis, and it is used to examine the student’s ability to submit his/her Ph.D. thesis. The Qualifying Paper is categorized as Group 3 of the Comprehensive Scholastic Ability Examination. Passing the Qualifying Paper means that the student has met the requirements to submit a Ph.D. thesis. The Qualifying Paper submission period is concurrent with the submission period for other degree theses and occurs once each of the first and second semester, but it is desirable for it to be submitted by the second semester of the first year or the first semester of the second year of the Ph.D. program.

Upon the entrance to the Ph.D. program, the student is required to take the Thesis Writing Seminar (1st year, 2nd semester) and the Doctoral Candidate Workshop (2nd year, 2nd semester). During the first year, the students study the second theses of upper classmates. During the second year, they will present their own theses and have them discussed, so that they are to proceed with their preparations in conjunction with this course.

It is possible to substitute the Qualifying Paper with a research paper that has been published by a peer-reviewed journal. In this case, follow the instructions of your supervisor and make the required preparation.

Appendix 3 Courses and Credits of the GMAP in Management (SESAMI) Program Course (Based on Article 14)

Area of Study	Course	Credits	Classification
Integrated Social Sciences	Financial Accounting	2	Group SS
	Financial Management	2	Group SS
	Advanced Portfolio Management-Theory and Practice	2	Group SS
	Business Economics	2	Group SS
	Econometrics	2	Group SS
	Macroeconomics	2	Group SS
	Microeconomics	2	Group SS
	Japanese Legal System (1)	2	Group SS
Japanese Legal System (2)	2	Group SS	
Strategic Entrepreneurship	Entrepreneurship Theory and Method	1	Group S1
	Advanced Entrepreneurial Finance	2	Group S3
	Advanced Entrepreneurship	1	Group S3
	Corporate Entrepreneurship	1	Group S3
	Global Entrepreneurship	1	Group S3
	Research Topics in Strategic Entrepreneurship	1 - 4	Group S3
Sustainability Alliance Management	Sustainability Accounting and Reporting	2	Group S1
	Advanced Supply Chain Management	2	Group S1
	Sustainability Management	2	Group S3
	Service Management and Servicizing	2	Group S3
	Research Topics in Sustainability Alliance Management	1 - 4	Group S3
Strategic Management	Strategic Management	2	Group S1
	Marketing Communications Research	1	Group S1
	Organizational Behavior / Human Resource Management	2	Group S1
	Statistics	2	Group S2
	Statistical Theory	2	Group S2
	Econometrics for Business Economics	2	Group S2
	Advanced Empirical Management Research	2	Group S2
	Qualitative Research Methodology	1	Group S2
	Advanced International Business	2	Group S3
	Advanced Marketing	2	Group S3
	Economics of Network Industries	1	Group S3
	Public Administration and Project Evaluation	2	Group S3
Research Topics in Strategic Management	1 - 4	Group S3	
Research	SESAMI Research Seminar	2	Group S6
	SESAMI Seminar	10	Group S6

Note: Group SS: core courses of integrated social science; Group 1: core courses of the graduate school; Group 2: methodology; Group 3: advanced courses to Group 1 and Group 2; Group 4: Thesis Writing Seminar and Doctoral Candidate Workshop; Group 5: advanced courses to the core knowledge of business administration; Group 6: SESAMI Research Seminar and SESAMI Seminar

Appendix S Course Requirements for Completion (The GMAP in Management (SESAMI) Program Course)

Course Classification	Required Number of Credits		Remarks
Group SS	At least 6 credits	At least 18 credits	<p>Note 1: The credits earned for Graduate School Bylaws Appendix 1 courses include the credits earned from Group S3. However, only up to 6 credits for courses from Group 8 may be counted (Excluding the case project research, theme project research, and modern management seminars).</p> <p>Note 2: A maximum of 4 credits can be earned for courses from Graduate School Bylaws Appendix 2 including the credits from Group S5. However, the maximum total with the Group 8 credits in Note 1 is 6 and these can be included in the total number of credits required for the degree.</p> <p>Note 3: SESAMI Research Seminar is 2 credits and are included in the Group S6 credits. The SESAMI seminars are 10 credits and are included in the Group S6 credits.</p> <p>Note 4: Credits earned for other graduate school courses in the university are included in the credits for Group S3. However, permission from the research supervisor and academic advisor is required to take other graduated school courses in the university.</p> <p>Note 5: Credits earned from cross-over courses from the Graduate School, School of Economics, Osaka University; the Graduate School of Economics, Kyoto University; and the Graduate School of Management, Kyoto University are handled in accordance with Note 4.</p>
Group S1	At least 4 credits		
Group S2	At least 2 credits		
Group S3	At least 2 credits		
Group S5			
Group S6	12 credits		
Total	At least 30 credits		

Appendix C Course Requirements for Completion (Ph.D. Program)

Course Classification		Required Number of Credits	Remarks
Group 4	Thesis Writing Seminar	1 credit	
	Doctoral Candidate Workshop	1 credit	
Group 6	Seminar	8 credits	
Total		10 credits	

Typical Time Table of the Global Master Program in Management (SESAMI) Course and the SESAMI Ph.D. Course

The SESAMI students are encouraged to conduct their research using the following typical time table as a guideline.

Master's Year 1 (October 1st to September 30th)

Take the courses approved by the GMAP/SESAMI/KIBER Steering Committee. Based on the grades of such courses, the pass/fail of the Comprehensive Scholastic Ability Examination (Excluding Qualifying Paper Examination) is determined in September. Take the required course entitled SESAMI Research Seminar offered in the Fall semester.

Master's Year 2 (October 1st to March 31st)

October	Master's thesis title submission
January	Master's thesis submission
February	Master's thesis defense
March	Master's thesis review pass/fail determination, Comprehensive Scholastic Ability Examination (Excluding Qualifying Paper Examination) pass/fail determination, determination of the advancement of the Ph.D. program

Ph.D. Year 1

April-June and October-December	Thesis writing seminar
March	Qualifying Paper submission

Ph.D. Year 2

April	Ph.D. Thesis Supervisory Committee formed (*For students who have passed the Qualifying Paper Examination)
April-June and October-December	Doctoral Candidate Workshop

Ph.D. Year 3

October	Ph.D. thesis title submission
November	Provisional Examination Committee formed (Submit Ph.D. thesis manuscript to the Provisional Examination Committee)
December	Present the Ph.D. thesis at a public doctorate thesis conference. Receive a provisional examination by the Provisional Examination Committee to determine if the Ph.D. thesis can be submitted.
January	Receive a recommendation as a Ph.D. thesis from the Provisional Examination Committee, and Ph.D. thesis submission
February	Ph.D. thesis examination and final examination by the Examination Committee