

IV. System for Graduating in 3.5 Years

In the School of Political Science and Economics, there is a system whereby students with outstanding grades and who meet prescribed requirements can graduate in 3.5 years if they wish to do so.

(1) Application period

- At the end of the student's 2.5 year

(2) Conditions for filing an application

- The student has obtained 100 or more credits (excluding voluntary courses).
- The student has obtained all the credits of required courses.
- The student has a GPA of 3.3 or higher for all courses obtained (excluding voluntary courses).
- The student has a GPA of 3.3 or higher for courses in the "Political Science," "Economics," and "Methodology" categories combined.
- The student has registered and passed "Advanced Seminar 1, 2".

(3) Course registration after application

- Students who have been judged as eligible to graduate in 3.5 years will register for courses to fulfill the required number of credits for graduation by the last semester.
- Students must take "Advanced Seminar 3, 4" and "Thesis".

(4) Judgment regarding graduation

- The student has obtained 124 or more credits and has a GPA of 3.3 or higher for all courses obtained (excluding voluntary courses).
- The student has a GPA of 3.3 or higher for courses in the "Political Science," "Economics," and "Methodology" categories combined.
- The student has passed "Advanced Seminar 3, 4" and "Thesis".

(5) Handling of academic fees

- If a student graduates in 3.5 years, academic fees will not be collected after the last semester.

(6) Withdrawal

- It is possible for a student to decide not to graduate in 3.5 years even after applying to do so.
- If it is determined that a student has not fulfilled the prescribed requirements at the end of the 1st semester in the fourth year, the courses that were registered for over 20 credits will be changed to voluntary courses so as not to be included in the credits counted toward graduation.

(7) Leave of absence and study abroad

- Students who take a leave of absence will continue to be eligible for 3.5-years graduation. However, in the case of a half-year leave of absence, etc., students cannot graduate in 3.5 years, except for the period of the leave of absence due to the order of taking the Advanced Seminar and the semester in which the courses are offered.
- Students who study abroad are not eligible for 3.5-years graduation.

(8) Higher Education and Employment

- Currently, the number of graduate schools and companies in Japan that regard 3.5-year graduates with favor is very limited. It is therefore important for students to research this matter well when considering a future career plan.