



Certificate of Translation

This is to certify that the document entitled “Regulations of Khon Kaen University on Graduate Education Level, B.E. 2566” was translated by Center for English Language Excellence, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Khon Kaen University.

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Regulations of Khon Kaen University
on Graduate Education Level, B.E. 2566

In order to ensure that graduate education adheres to academic standards, attains high quality and efficiency, aligns with academic development and the strategic plan for education transformation, integration of graduate education with research, and standard criteria for graduate education programs;

By virtue of Section 23 (2) of the Khon Kaen University Act B.E.2558, the resolution of the board of Khon Kaen University administrative committee made at the 2nd meeting of 2023 on the 13th of February 2023, and the resolution of the Khon Kaen University Council made at the 5th meeting of 2023 on the 3rd of May 2023, the regulations are hereby issued with the following particulars.

Chapter 1
General Provisions

Article 1 These Regulations shall be called "Regulations of Khon Kaen University on Graduate Education Level, B.E. 2566".

Article 2 These Regulations apply to new and revised graduate education programs of the University, effective as of September 27th, 2022 onwards.

Article 3 The Regulations of Khon Kaen University on Graduate Education Level, B.E.2559 shall be repealed. Any other rules, regulations, announcements, orders, or resolutions contradicting the current regulations shall be superseded by these Regulations.

Article 4 In these Regulations:

"University" refers to Khon Kaen University.

"University Council" refers to the Khon Kaen University Council.

"Academic Council" refers to the Khon Kaen University Academic Council.

"President" refers to the President of Khon Kaen University.

"Faculty" refers to the faculty, college, or an organization providing graduate education programs.

"Dean" refers to the Dean of the faculty, college, or the chief of an organization with graduate education programs.

"Field" refers to the fields of graduate education programs.

"Program committee" refers to the program committee appointed by the Dean to oversee and manage graduate education programs, with responsibilities for curriculum management and development.

"Program chairperson" refers to the chairperson of the program committee appointed by the Dean to oversee graduate education programs.

"Bureau of Academic Administration and Development" refers to the Bureau of Academic Administration and Development, Khon Kaen University.

"Graduate School" refers to the Graduate School, Khon Kaen University.

"Graduate School committee" refers to the committee of the Graduate School, Khon Kaen University.



Certified Correct Translation

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“Board of Faculty” refers to the board committee of the faculty, college, or an organization with another title equivalent to a faculty or college.

“University staff” refers to university staff in accordance with the Rule of Khon Kaen University on Human Resource Management B.E.2565.

“Lecturer” refers to a lecturer of graduate education programs, Khon Kaen University.

“Full-time instructor” refers to university staff categorized as academic faculty members, including regular instructors, professional (clinical) instructors, instructors involved in teaching and research at a level below higher education, and university employees categorized as research staff, including research scholars or personnel of external organizations entering into collaborative agreements with responsibilities aligned with the University’s mission and an understanding of the higher education academic qualifications. These individuals of external organizations entering into such agreements shall be approved by the Academic Council.

“Program instructor” refers to a full-time instructor with qualifications directly related or corresponding to the field offered by the program, with responsibilities for teaching and carrying out research in the field. These instructors can be program instructors for multiple programs simultaneously.

“Instructor responsible for the program” refers to a program instructor assigned the responsibilities for managing and developing curriculums and instruction, encompassing planning, quality assurance, monitoring and evaluation, and curriculum development. These faculty members responsible for the program are required to serve the program throughout its duration of implementation. They are not allowed to take this role for more than one program simultaneously. Except for interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary programs, they can assume responsibility for an additional program; in this instance, no more than two of the instructors responsible for the program are allowed to be responsible for another program.

“Part-time instructor” refers to an instructor who is not a full-time instructor.

“Instructor” refers to a full-time or part-time instructor assigned to teach a particular course or topic in each course.

“Academic advisor” refers to a full-time instructor assigned by the faculty to provide advice on academic or educational matters and their program plans.

“Major advisor” refers to a program instructor assigned to oversee the learning process for a thesis or an independent study of individual students, such as reviewing a proposal, providing guidance, and overseeing progress, a thesis or independent study defense examination.

“Co-advisor” refers to a full-time instructor or an external qualified instructor appointed by the faculty to collaborate with a major advisor in reviewing a proposal, providing advice, and overseeing the progress of the student’s thesis or independent study.

“External qualified expert” refers to an individual who is not a full-time instructor but has been appointed as a co-advisor or a thesis examiner, with qualifications specified for the given responsibility.

“Expert” refers to an external qualified expert who may lack qualifications and academic achievements required for the given role but is acknowledged for their expertise and extensive experience

which are deemed relevant to the topic of the thesis or independent study. The appointment of this role requires approval from the University Council.

“Student” refers to a student enrolled in a graduate program at Khon Kaen University.

“Collaborative agreement” refers to a formal agreement between a higher education institution and an external organization for curriculum development and management. This agreement is to be established through the endorsement of the University Council and the particular external organization.

“External organization” refers to a higher education institution located within or outside the country, officially certified by the relevant education authority of that country. It can also refer to a government agency at the departmental level or equivalent, a professional council, a state enterprise, or a public organization, or a private company registered in the Stock Exchange of Thailand. In the case of a private company not registered in the Stock Exchange of Thailand, its inclusion is subject to the discretion of the University Council, providing that it demonstrates its capability and readiness to collaborate in producing graduates in compliance with the quality standards of higher education.

Article 5 The President shall comply with these regulations and have the authority to issue announcements, orders, or establish criteria which do not contradict these regulations.

In cases where principles and operational guidelines are not stipulated in these regulations, or in instances involving issues related to compliance with the regulations or interpretation issues, the Graduate School committee shall review and present recommendations to the President. The President has the authority to make final determinations, and the President’s decision shall be deemed final.

In this respect, the determination or interpretation shall adhere to the principles or guidelines stipulated in the Announcement of the Commission of Higher Education Standards on the Criteria for Graduate Level Programs, B.E. 2565 and its amendments.

Chapter 2 Education System

Article 6 The management of graduate-level education shall be implemented as detailed below.

6.1 The Graduate School is to uphold the standards of the University’s graduate-level programs.

6.2 The Graduate School is mandated to coordinate and support the management of graduate-level education, while faculties and departments are responsible for managing education in their relevant fields of study.

6.3 The Graduate School shall establish a joint program committee to oversee and manage education in programs with courses from various faculties; the components and responsibilities of the committee shall be pursuant to the University’s announcements.

Article 7 The education system adheres to a bi-semester system in which one academic year is divided into two regular semesters, e.g., the first semester and the second semester. Special sessions can

be arranged. Each regular semester typically lasts for a study duration of no fewer than 15 weeks or its equivalent.

As for the special session, the duration and number of credits shall be determined in proportion to those of regular semesters.

In other education systems, the determination of study durations shall be comparable to the bi-semester system. It should clearly articulate all details of the education system in the program, including the duration of learning units in comparison to credits in the bi-semester system, theoretical and practical courses, internship or field practices, implementation of assigned projects or activities which contribute to enhancing learning, a thesis and an independent study; these should align with and be appropriate for the University's prescribed education system.

Article 8 Credit calculation based on the bi-semester system

8.1 A theoretical course which requires a minimum of 15 hours of lectures or discussions in a regular academic semester is equivalent to one credit.

8.2 A practical course which requires no fewer than 30 hours of practice or experiments is equivalent to one credit.

8.3 Internship or field practices requiring at least 45 hours are equivalent to one credit.

8.4 Project-based learning or other assigned learning activities which last at least 45 hours are equivalent to one credit.

8.5 A thesis course with a minimum of 45 hours of study is equivalent to one credit.

8.6 An independent study course with at least 45 hours of study is equivalent to one credit.

8.7 In relation to any additional learning activity beyond the specified form, the calculation of durations for that particular activity in a regular semester is equivalent to one credit, as stipulated by the University.

8.8 The program may determine credits based on the students' performance or experience as specified by the program, allowing for equivalency, in compliance with the University's stipulation.

Article 9 The design of study plans entails formulating study plans in the program by determining the average credits throughout the program, with a maximum of 15 credits per regular semester for the bi-semester system.

Article 10 The study durations for each program according to study plans are specified below.

10.1 The duration of study for a graduate diploma does not exceed three academic years.

10.2 The study duration for a master's degree does not surpass five academic years.

10.3 That for a higher graduate diploma does not exceed six academic years.

10.4 That for a doctoral degree does not exceed eight academic years for those completing a bachelor's degree and six academic years for those completing a master's degree.

It should be noted that the periods of an academic leave or suspension of studies are not factored into the calculation. In case any program wishes to establish a longer study duration than specified, approval must be sought from the University Council on a case-by-case basis.

The duration of study for programs implementing other forms of education management shall conform to the University's stipulations.

Chapter 3

Programs

Article 11 Graduate programs are listed below.

11.1 A graduate diploma program focuses on the development of academics and professionals, aiming to instill expertise in a specific discipline. Its objective is to cultivate knowledge and skills among individuals, enabling them to excel in their specialized areas, in accordance with the National Higher Education Development Plan, the philosophy of higher education, the higher education institution's philosophy, and academic and professional standards.

11.2 A master's degree program is dedicated to enhancing knowledge and expertise of academics and professionals in various fields through research. It aims to enable them to seek new knowledge independently, to make creative contributions to academic advancements, and to synthesize and integrate different disciplines continuously in line with the National Higher Education Development Plan, the philosophy of higher education, the higher education institution's philosophy, and international academic and professional standards. Additionally, the program intends to cultivate academic and professional ethics as well as promote a profound understanding of building and applying new knowledge for the betterment of work and society.

11.3 A higher graduate diploma program aims to equip academics and professionals with expertise in specialized fields. It focuses on fostering knowledge and skills, enabling them to perform their work more effectively. The program is aligned with the National Higher Education Development Plan, the philosophy of higher education, the higher education institution's philosophy, and academic and professional standards.

11.4 A doctoral degree program focuses on the development of academics and scholars with sophisticated knowledge and skills in various fields through research. It aims to empower them to explore and pursue new knowledge independently, to contribute to academic advancement creatively, and to synthesize and integrate various relevant disciplines in harmony with the National Higher Education Development Plan, the philosophy of higher education, the higher education institution's philosophy, and international academic and professional standards. Furthermore, the program is dedicated to instilling academic and professional ethics and nurturing the ability to carry out research for the creation of new knowledge or innovations, with benefits for the development of work, society, the nation, and the global community.

Article 12 A graduate diploma degree program and a higher graduate diploma degree program require the completion of a minimum of 24 credits throughout the program.

Article 13 A master's degree program mandates a minimum of 36 credits to be completed throughout the program. It is divided into two program plans detailed below.

13.1 Plan 1 Academic Program is a research-oriented program, with the completion of a thesis to contribute knowledge to the specific area of study. It is divided into two types detailed below.

Type A 1 focuses solely on the completion of a thesis with a minimum of 36 credits. The program committee may mandate additional non-credit coursework or academic activities, and the achievements must be in accordance with the University's requirements.

Type A 2 involves both the completion of a thesis with a minimum of 12 credits and the study of additional coursework totaling no fewer than 12 credits. The total credit requirement throughout the program shall be at least 36 credits.

13.2 Plan 2 Professional Program focuses on the study of coursework and an independent study through the practical application of knowledge in the professional field without the requirement to complete a thesis. An independent study shall be completed with a minimum of three credits and a maximum of six credits. The total credit requirement throughout the program shall be no fewer than 36 credits.

Article 14 A doctoral degree program consists of two program plans with a focus on research to develop advanced academics and professionals as detailed below.

14.1 Plan 1 is a research-oriented program with the completion of a thesis to contribute new knowledge. The program committee may require the completion of additional non-credit coursework or academic activities, and the achievements must be in line with the University's requirement.

Plan 1.1 Those holding a master's degree are mandated to complete a thesis of no fewer than 48 credits.

Plan 1.2 Those completing a bachelor's degree are required to complete a thesis of at least 72 credits.

14.2 Plan 2 focuses on both research with the completion of a thesis of high quality contributing to academic and professional advancements and additional coursework as specified below.

Plan 2.1 Those completing a master's degree are obligated to complete a thesis of no fewer than 36 credits and study additional courses of at least 12 credits.

Plan 2.2 Those completing a bachelor's degree are required to complete a thesis of no fewer than 48 credits and undertake additional coursework of at least 24 credits.

Article 15 There are two types of programs as listed below.

15.1 A regular program refers to any particular program where the primary language of instruction is Thai. Nonetheless, certain courses may be taught using a foreign language.

15.2 An international program refers to a program with knowledge and content of international relevance. Activities are incorporated to promote an international outlook, with the aim of producing graduates of exceptional quality and international standards. A foreign language is utilized as the medium of instruction.

Faculties or departments may work in concert with external organizations to develop a curriculum, which would strengthen the program. This collaboration shall adhere to the criteria stipulated by the University.

Article 16 Educational management of the programs shall be carried out as detailed below.

16.1 Each program is overseen by the program committee serving a two-year term, appointed by the Dean of the relevant faculty and endorsed by the Board of the Faculty.

16.2 The program committee comprise instructors responsible for the program, and additional program instructors may be appointed as committee members, as deemed appropriate. It should be noted that the program chairperson shall be the instructor responsible for the program.

16.3 The responsibilities of the program committee shall adhere to the faculty's stipulation.

Article 17 The Board of the Faculty are assigned to oversee the quality and administration of all graduate programs holistically throughout the relevant faculty.

Article 18 Quality assurance

In terms of the quality assurance of the program, each program shall establish a quality assurance system in compliance with the University's program of quality assurance.

Chapter 4

Enrollment

Article 19 Applicants for admission to graduate programs are required to have educational backgrounds in accordance with the criteria established for each program and possess additional qualifications as stipulated by the program committee, with the endorsement of the Graduate School.

19.1 Candidates applying for a graduate diploma program are obligated to complete a bachelor's degree or equivalent.

19.2 Those applying for a higher graduate diploma program are required to complete a graduate diploma or a master's degree or equivalent.

19.3 As for a master's degree program, applicants must hold a bachelor's degree or a graduate diploma or equivalent.

19.4 Applicants for a doctoral degree program must complete one of the following degrees.

(1) A master's degree or equivalent

(2) A bachelor's degree or equivalent with an outstanding academic record and adequate knowledge, skills, and potential to carry out a thesis

Article 20 Application

Application forms, the application period, accompanying documents, and other conditions shall adhere to the Graduate School's announcement.

Article 21 Admission to graduate programs

Announcements for the admission of individuals to graduate programs shall be issued by the Graduate School, with adherence to the following criteria.

21.1 The program committee, endorsed by the Board of the Faculty, are authorized to establish the conditions, methods, and the number of students to be admitted in each field. Additionally, approval shall be obtained from the Graduate School committee.

21.2 The Graduate School committee may grant approval for exceptional admissions. Nevertheless, this necessitates approval from the program committee and the Board of the Faculty.

21.3 The Graduate School committee may approve the admission of individuals with an educational background of not lower than a bachelor's degree and qualifications as per Article 19 to study or carry out research without seeking a degree on a case-by-case basis. In this case, approval must be sought from the program committee and the Board of the Faculty.

21.4 In cases where applicants are waiting for the results of their undergraduate or graduate studies, the admission process will be deemed complete upon their submission of documentation indicating completion of studies at either level, in line with the program's requirements, within the period specified by the Graduate School.

21.5 Admissions of international students shall comply with the University's announcement.

21.6 Admissions of students from programs in collaboration with external organizations shall be in accordance with the University's announcement.

In the event that admissions do not correspond to Articles 21.1 – 21.6, it shall be at the discretion of the Graduate School committee.

Article 22 Enrollment and student registration

Enrollment and student registration shall conform to the Graduate School's announcement.

Article 23 Individuals entering graduate programs shall be recognized as students, with further categorization given below.

23.1 Regular students refer to those approved by the University to enroll in graduate programs to pursue a degree or diploma.

23.2 Special students refer to those approved by the University for admissions on a special basis and can be classified as below.

(1) Trial students in the program

(2) Individuals enrolled on a course or a module or a training program at the graduate level provided in the form of lifelong learning and wishing to obtain a degree

(3) Students from other education institutions enrolled in cross-institutional courses

Chapter 5

Graduate-level Instructors

Article 24 The qualifications of program instructors, instructors responsible for the program, instructors, major advisors, independent study advisors, co-advisors, thesis or independent study examiners, and part-time instructors for graduate diploma programs, master's degree programs, higher diploma programs and doctoral degree programs shall comply with the Announcement of the Commission of Higher Education Standards on the Criteria for Graduate Level Programs, B.E. 2565 and its amendments, together with the Graduate School's announcement.

Article 25 The responsibilities of thesis and independent study advisors shall be in compliance with the Announcement of the Commission of Higher Education Standards on the Criteria for Graduate Level Programs, B.E. 2565 and its amendments as well as the Graduate School's announcement.

Chapter 6 Course Registration

Article 26 Registration, and course addition or withdrawal.

26.1 Course registration is divided into two following types.

26.1.1 Credit course registration

26.1.2 Audit course registration

26.2 Registration in the regular semester

For students in programs requiring course registration, when deemed necessary, registration for more courses than stipulated in Article 9 can be undertaken with the endorsement of either the academic advisor or the major advisor and final approval from the Dean of the student's relevant faculty. Still, the total credits shall not exceed 20.

Students in doctoral degree programs who have not successfully completed the qualifying examination may be exempted from registration in that particular semester; this shall be approved by the Dean of the student's relevant faculty and endorsed by the program committee. Nevertheless, the students are required to renew their student registration and pay the required tuition fees according to the specified rate.

26.3 In the special session, the students are allowed to register for a maximum of six credits.

26.4 If deemed necessary, registration for more credits than specified in Articles 26.2 and 26.3 can be done with the endorsement of either the academic advisor or the major advisor, the Dean of the student's relevant faculty, and the submission of the request to the Graduate School for further review and approval.

26.5 Students may be allowed to re-register for the same courses in which they have earned a grade below "B" or its equivalent "Good".

Those who have completed their required coursework in the program but have achieved a GPA below the specified criteria for graduation are allowed to re-register for the same courses in which they have received a grade below "A" or its equivalent "Excellent".

26.6 In cases of students who have completed the required coursework in the program but have not yet graduated as well as those on academic leave, it is mandatory to pay the fees for the retention of student status as stipulated by the University.

26.7 Students are allowed to enroll in courses incorporated in the program plan or equivalent courses offered by other education institutions or universities, which can be recognized as a course within the program. This requires the endorsement of the program administrative committee and the approval from the Dean of the relevant faculty.

Article 27 The criteria for course addition and withdrawal are detailed below.

27.1 Course addition can be done within the first two weeks of the regular semester or the first week of the special session or within the period specified by the University.

27.2 Course withdrawal shall comply with the following criteria.

27.2.1 Withdrawal from a course shall be made within one-fourth of the duration of the course in a particular semester as of the date classes start according to the University's academic calendar or the curricular particulars. This will not be recorded on the transcript, and students can undertake this withdrawal process independently through the Internet.

27.2.2 Withdrawal from a course later than the specified period in Article 27.2.1 and prior to one week of the first day of the final examination as specified in the University's academic calendar will result in a grade of W, which will not be shown on the official transcript though. This shall be approved by the academic advisor or the major advisor, and the process must be carried out at the Bureau of Academic Administration and Development.

27.2.3 Withdrawal from a course later than the specified period in Article 27.2.2 will result in a grade of F, which will be displayed on the transcript.

With respect to courses with a duration of fewer than 15 weeks, the periods for course addition and withdrawal shall be established in proportion to those stated in Articles 27.1 and 27.2.

27.3 In the event of the course addition or withdrawal, the total credits shall not contradict the stipulations in Articles 26.2 and 26.3.

Article 28 Any transfer of credits and grades of the courses taken from other educational institutions or universities shall adhere to the Graduate School's announcement.

Article 29 Program change

Students may be allowed to request a program change, and this process of a program change shall be in accordance with the Graduate School's announcement.

Article 30 Change of academic levels

Students pursuing programs at a lower academic level may be considered for transfer to programs at a higher academic level, and vice versa. This shall be subject to the conditions specified in each program and the Graduate School's announcement.

Chapter 7

Grades, Meanings, and Values per Credit

Article 31 The grades are assigned as letters or descriptors, meanings and values as shown below.

Letter grades	Descriptors	Meanings	Values per credit
A	Excellent	Excellent	4.0
B+	Very Good	Very Good	3.5
B	Good	Good	3.0
C+	Fairly Good	Fairly Good	2.5
C	Fair	Fair	2.0
D+	Poor	Poor	1.5
D	Very Poor	Very Poor	1
F	Fail	Fail	0
S	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	-
U	Unsatisfactory	Unsatisfactory	-

The other letters with specific meanings indicating academic status include I, T, W, AU, and N. These do not contribute values per credit, except for the letter grade T.

Letters	Corresponding meanings
I	Incomplete
P	In Progress
R	Repeat
T	Transfer
W	Withdrawn
AU	Audit
N	No Grade Reported

Any transfer of grades from a non-formal educational system shall be in line with the Regulations on the Transfer of Grades from a Non-Formal Educational System and an Informal Educational System to a Formal Educational System and Any Additional Amendments.

Article 32 The designation of the letter grades or descriptors is detailed below.

32.1 The letters A B+ B C+ C D+ D, and F or the descriptors "Excellent", "Very Good", "Good", "Fairly Good", "Fair", "Poor", "Very Poor", and "Fail" are to be designated in the following cases.

32.1.1 In any course where students are assessed through examinations or submit assignments which can be marked

32.1.2 In the case where an "I" can be changed within the period specified by the faculty which offers the course

32.1.3 In the case where an "R" can be changed within the allotted period and according to the regulations stipulated by the University

32.1.4 In addition to the cases mentioned in Articles 32.1.1, 32.1.2, and 32.1.3, the letter grade "F" or the descriptor "Fail" can be designated to students in the following cases.

(1) The student is disqualified from taking the final examination.

(2) The student violates the final examination regulation and is penalized with an "F" or "Fail" in accordance with the University's announcement on the final examination or fails to comply with the criteria or conditions of assessment as specified in Article 32.1.

(3) The student fails to correct an "I" within the specified period, and as a result, the Bureau of Academic Administration and Development will change the students' grade "I" to "F" or "Fail" in compliance with Article 32.2.

(4) The student withdraws from the course later than the specified period of time.

(5) The student violates the relevant rules, regulations, announcements, or orders of the University. This necessitates seeking approval from the President.

32.2 The letter "I" can be designated to students in the following cases.

32.2.1 The student fails to complete all of the assignments given by the course instructor owing to necessity or a force majeure.

32.2.2 The designation of an "I" requires approval from the course instructor and the Dean of the faculty which offers that course. Upon the issuance of an "I", the relevant faculty shall determine a date and time for the examination or a deadline for the completion of the missing assignment; this shall be completed by the following semester. Otherwise, the letter "I" will be changed to an "F" or "Fail". In the case of an audited course, the grade "U" will be assigned, unless deemed necessary. The Dean of the relevant faculty, with the endorsement of the course instructor, has the authority to extend the duration to one semester at a time, for a maximum of two semesters; advance notification shall be provided to the Bureau of Academic Administration and Development.

32.3 A "P" is designated in cases where the course is consecutively taught for more than one semester, and the assessment is conducted in its final semester. The grading scale consists of the letter grades A, B+, B, C+, C, D+, D, and F or the descriptors "Excellent", "Very Good", "Good", "Fairly Good", "Fair", "Poor", "Very Poor", or "Fail".

32.4 The letter grades "S" and "U", or the descriptors "Satisfactory" and "Unsatisfactory" are designated in the following instances.

32.4.1 The course specifies that grading assessment is not implemented, or the student is enrolled in an audited course.

32.4.2 The correction of an "I" is made within the period specified by the relevant faculty offering that particular course with assessments designated as the letters "S" and "U", or the descriptors "Satisfactory" and "Unsatisfactory".

32.5 The letter grade "T" is designated in the case of a transferred course, with the endorsement of the Board of the Faculty to which the course is transferred. This letter grade shall be written in parentheses next to the title of the transferred course.

32.6 The letter grade "W" is designated in the instances as follows:

32.6.1 The course for which the student has been permitted to withdraw in accordance with Article 27;

32.6.2 The student has been granted approval for an academic leave of absence;

32.6.3 The student has been ordered to be suspended in that semester.

32.7 The letter grade "AU" is designated in the case where the student has been granted approval to enroll in an audited course as per Article 26.1.2.

32.8 The letter grade "N" is designated for courses in which no academic results are to be reported.

Chapter 8

Assessment and Evaluation

Article 33 Assessment and evaluation, encompassing Formative Assessment and Summative Assessment, shall be conducted through a range of approaches as follows:

33.1 Assigning assignments;

33.2 Assigning projects;

33.3 Assigning reports;

33.4 Authentic assessment;

33.5 Examinations;

33.6 Other approaches as set forth in the course or program.

Article 34 Assessment and evaluation at the graduate education level are detailed below.

34.1 Course examination: Students are required to take examinations for each course in which they are enrolled, except for those courses from which they have properly withdrawn in compliance with the regulations. The course instructor shall submit the course evaluation results using the form provided by the Bureau of Academic Administration and Development, with the approval of the program committee, the Board of the Faculty, and the Dean.

34.2 A comprehensive examination is a written or oral examination, or a combination of both types of examinations for the students in the master's degree program Plan 2 Professional Program. The examination covers courses in the major and related fields. The appointment of the comprehensive examination committee, proposed by the program committee, shall be endorsed by the Dean.

34.3 A thesis examination is conducted to evaluate the thesis conducted by the students in the master's degree program Plan 1 and those in the doctoral degree programs. This examination involves a comprehensive review and assessment of the quality of the thesis, an oral defense by the students, and a committee meeting to deliberate on the thesis. The thesis examination is conducted by the thesis examination committee.

34.4 An independent study examination is carried out by the independent study examination committee to evaluate the independent study conducted by the students in the master's degree program Plan 2 Professional Program. The examination involves a thorough review and assessment of the quality of the independent study, an oral defense by the students, and a committee meeting to deliberate on the independent study.

34.5 A qualifying examination is conducted to assess the knowledge and abilities of students in the major and related fields. Its objective is to evaluate whether the students possess the ability to carry out

research independently and are qualified to submit a thesis proposal at a doctoral level; the students in doctoral degree programs Plan 1 and 2 are required to pass this examination. The criteria and procedures are detailed below.

34.5.1 A qualifying examination is a written or oral examination, or a combination of both in the major and relevant fields.

34.5.2 The qualifying examination committee shall be responsible for conducting the qualifying examination once in each semester. If deemed necessary, the examination can be held in a special session. The committee shall comprise no fewer than four members, and it may include up to two external members, proposed by the program committee and appointed by the Dean.

34.5.3 Students eligible to take a qualifying examination are as follows:

- (1) Those enrolled in doctoral degree programs from the first semester onwards;
- (2) Master's degree students seeking to change academic levels, specifically those pursuing Plan 1 Type A 2 in the same field as the doctoral program must fulfill the following conditions: completion of a minimum of 12 credits of courses, graded with letters A, B+, B, C+, C, D+, D, and F, or the descriptors "Excellent", "Very Good", "Good", "Fairly Good", "Fair", "Poor", "Very Poor", or "Fail"; attainment of a GPA of 3.50 or higher in the last semester before the qualifying examination. This also applies to the students in master's degree programs Plan 1 Type A 1, who have research projects with the potential to be developed into a doctoral thesis. Approval must be obtained from the program committee and the Dean.

34.5.4 In terms of the evaluation of the qualifying examination, the designation of an "S" indicates a pass while that of a "U" represents a fail. The chairperson of the examination committee is required to submit the results to the relevant faculty, the Bureau of Academic Administration and Development, and the Graduate School through the program chairperson within 15 days commencing on the examination date.

34.5.5 Students having passed the qualifying examination are referred to doctoral students and are eligible to submit their doctoral thesis proposal for approval.

34.6 The assessment of English language proficiency for doctoral students shall be compliant with the Graduate School's announcement.

Article 35 In relation to the comprehensive examination, the qualifying examination, and the assessment of English language proficiency stated in Articles 34.2, 34.5, and 34.6, the Graduate School shall determine the criteria and methods, with the approval of the Graduate School committee.

Article 36 The evaluation of each course shall be conducted at the end of each semester, except for a thesis course or an independent study course where the evaluation shall take place before the end of the semester.

Article 37 The evaluation of the comprehensive examination and the qualifying examination shall observe the following.

S (Satisfactory) means passing the examination.

U (Unsatisfactory) means failing the examination.

Article 38 Students who have attained a grade below C or obtain a U, as the case may be, in compulsory courses are deemed as not fulfilling the standard and are required to re-register for those courses.

Article 39 The University shall conduct assessments for courses in which students are enrolled during a particular semester, and upon the completion of the final assessment of any course, the course is considered concluded.

Article 40 Course instructors are required to inform students in advance of the criteria and conditions for assessment and evaluation of the courses.

Article 41 Upon the completion of the instruction, course instructors are to conduct the evaluation using the criteria of letter grades specified in Chapter 7 and shall report the evaluation results to the Bureau of Academic Administration and Development according to the University's academic calendar.

Article 42 The grading system of each course is to follow the letter grades or descriptors established in Chapter 7, and the students are permitted to file an appeal in compliance with the University's announcement.

Article 43 The calculation of the grade point average (G.P.A.) is to be carried out at the end of each semester.

Article 44 Calculation of Credits and Cumulative Grade Point Average

44.1 The calculation of the cumulative grade point average (Cumulative G.P.A.) shall adhere to the following guidelines.

44.1.1 The point values which the students have achieved are multiplied by the number of credits for each course which is being assessed. Afterwards, the results for all courses are totaled and divided by the number of cumulative credits. The outcome is the cumulative grade point average.

44.1.2 Division should be carried out until there are four decimal points. In case the last decimal is 5 or greater, add 1 to the third decimal; this process should be continued until there are two decimals left.

44.2 In case the students have enrolled in a course more than once, the cumulative grade point average in Article 44.1 shall be calculated based on the highest point from the letter grade and the credit they have obtained.

44.3 The meanings of the cumulative grade point average are defined below.

Cumulative Grade Point Average	Meanings
3.60 and higher	Excellent
From 3.25 but below 3.60	Very good
From 2.50 but below 3.25	Good
From 2.25 but below 2.50	Fairly good
From 2.00 but below 2.25	Fair
From 1.75 but below 2.00	Poor
From 1.75	Very poor

Chapter 9

Thesis and Independent Study

Article 45 Students with qualifications specified in each program are eligible to register for a thesis or an independent study, with the approval from a thesis advisor or an independent advisor. Other criteria shall be in accordance with the Graduate School's announcement.

Article 46 Submission of the Thesis or Independent Study Proposal

46.1 Master's degree students are required to obtain approval of a thesis proposal or an independent study proposal within one academic year upon the date of registration for a thesis or an independent study.

46.2 Doctoral students are required to obtain approval of a thesis proposal within two academic years upon the date of registration for a thesis.

Article 47 A thesis or an independent study shall be supervised by one major advisor, and a co-advisor may be appointed, if deemed appropriate. In doctoral programs, a minimum of one program instructor or external qualified instructor must be appointed as a co-advisor; either of them shall possess qualifications and academic achievements similar to the major advisor.

Article 48 Evaluation of the Progress of the Thesis or Independent Study

48.1 The progress of the thesis or independent study shall be evaluated in every semester, with approval from both the program committee and the Dean of the relevant faculty.

48.2 A thesis or independent study advisor is to evaluate the progress of the students' thesis or independent study and report the evaluation results to the program committee, the Board of the Faculty, the Dean, and the Bureau of Academic Administration and Development.

48.3 The designation of an "S" means the satisfactory result of the evaluation of the thesis or independent study progress. The thesis or independent study advisor is to evaluate the progress of the students' thesis or independent study by specifying the number of thesis or independent study credits designated with an "S" in each semester; this should not exceed the registered credits. In case no progress has been made, the number of credits designated with "S" in that semester shall be equivalent to 0 (zero).

The original draft of the thesis or independent study prepared for submission to the examination committee and the original copy of the thesis to be published according to the conditions specified by the program shall be deemed as part of the thesis or independent study; the allocation of credits will be determined as deemed appropriate in each case.

48.4 In cases of the students earning 0 (zero) for the thesis or independent study progress, the program committee are required to identify the potential causes. This may result in the students being considered for a change of a thesis or an independent study topic or a change of the advisor, or other actions, as the case may be. Additionally, the program chairperson is required to report the causes and the outcome of the review to the program committee, the Board of the Faculty, and the Dean to seek a resolution.

Article 49 In cases when a student is granted approval to change the topic of the thesis or their independent study which will result in substantial content changes, a thesis advisor or an independent

study advisor is required to evaluate the number of credits from the previous topic which are applicable to the new one. Nevertheless, this shall not exceed the number of credits obtained in the previous topic, and these credits shall be counted as a passing credit designated with an "S", which can be used to fulfill the curricular requirements for graduation. This necessitates obtaining approval from the Dean and the program committee, and the relevant faculty must inform the Bureau of Academic Administration and Development within 15 days and document the changes in the student's academic record.

Article 50 Thesis or Independent Study Examination

50.1 The thesis or independent study examination shall be conducted within 45 days upon the date of passing the progress evaluation and earning an "S" for the required number of credits in the thesis or independent study course of the particular program.

For the final progress report wherein the student has passed and achieved the "S" designation for the specified credits of the thesis or independent study course of that particular program, the advisor is required to propose to the Dean the appointment of the thesis or independent study examination committee and a defense date.

In the event that the examination cannot be conducted within 45 days, the designation of "S" for the last evaluation shall be deemed invalid.

50.2 Thesis Examination

50.2.1 The program committee shall propose to the Dean the appointment of the thesis examination committee in accordance with the Announcement of the Commission of Higher Education Standards on the Criteria for Graduate Level Programs, B.E. 2565 and its amendments as well as the Graduate School's announcement.

50.2.2 The thesis examination shall be open to a general audience, allowing interested individuals to attend the presentation given by the examinee, and the relevant faculty is required to announce the examination at least 7 days prior to the scheduled date.

The thesis examination committee shall have the authority to permit or disallow the audience to pose questions or express opinions related to the thesis. This also encompasses regulating the period for asking questions and ensuring that the examination proceeds smoothly.

50.2.3 On the date of the examination, there must be the presence of the examination committee with no fewer members than stipulated in the Graduate School's announcement. Upon meeting this condition, the examination shall be deemed complete.

In the event that the members of the examination committee are not complete as per the specified number mentioned above, the examination may be postponed. If deemed necessary, changes to the committee members may be made, with the Dean appointing the replacement for any member unable to carry out their duties. In this case, it is mandatory to schedule a new examination date, allowing adequate time for the newly appointed member to review the thesis carefully.

50.2.4 The examiners shall be the members of the committee present on the examination date. The evaluation is carried out by assigning votes as follows: the major advisor and co-advisor(s) together constitute

one vote, the program instructor represents one vote, and the external qualified expert counts as one vote. The evaluation result is considered based on the committee's decision, necessitating two out of three votes from the entire committee members.

50.3 Independent Study Examination

50.3.1 The program committee shall propose to the relevant faculty the appointment of the independent study examination committee in accordance with the Announcement of the Commission of Higher Education Standards on the Criteria for Graduate Level Programs, B.E. 2565 and its amendments as well as the Graduate School's announcement.

50.3.2 The independent study examination shall be open to a general audience, allowing interested individuals to attend the presentation given by the examinee, and the relevant faculty is required to announce the examination at least 7 days before the scheduled date.

The independent study examination committee shall have the authority to grant or deny permission for the audience to ask questions or provide comments related to the content of the independent study. This also encompasses regulating the time for asking questions and ensuring that the examination proceeds smoothly.

50.3.3 On the date of the examination, there must be the presence of the examination committee with no fewer members than stipulated in the Graduate School's announcement. Upon meeting this condition, the examination shall be deemed complete.

In the event that the members of the examination committee are not complete as stipulated above, the examination may be postponed. If deemed necessary, changes to the committee members may be made, with the Dean appointing the replacement for any member unable to carry out their duties. In this case, it is mandatory to schedule a new examination date, allowing sufficient time for the newly appointed member to review the independent study carefully.

50.3.4 All the examiners shall be the members of the examination committee. The evaluation is carried out by assigning votes as follows: the major advisor and co-advisor(s) collectively constitute one vote, the program instructor represents one vote, and the external qualified expert counts as one vote. The evaluation result is considered in accordance with the committee's decision, necessitating two out of three votes from the entire committee members.

As per these provisions, the examinations can be held no more than two times.

Article 51 The evaluation of the thesis or independent study examination shall adhere to the Graduate School's announcement. Specifically, it can be classified into the four following levels.

Excellent	means that	the evaluation result is excellent.
Good	means that	the evaluation result is good.
Pass	means that	the evaluation result is pass.
Fail	means that	the evaluation result is fail.

Article 52 The chairperson of the examination committee shall notify the examination result in writing to the Dean and the examinee within five days after the examination. Failure to report the results within the specified period will render that examination invalid.

52.1 In cases of passing with revisions required, it is essential to document the issues or items requiring revisions and inform the examinee. The examinee is required to complete the revisions and obtain approval from the examination committee within 60 days from the examination date. Failure to complete the process within the specified period will result in that examination being deemed a fail, and the examination committee are to report the final results to the Dean.

52.2 In the event of failing, the examination committee shall prepare a written summary detailing the primary reasons for the examinee's fail. This summary shall be submitted to the Dean within three days from the examination date. Additionally, the relevant faculty is obligated to notify the examination result to the Bureau of Academic Administration and Development within 15 days.

Article 53 In cases when the students are absent from the examination without a justifiable reason, it shall be deemed as a fail for that particular examination.

Article 54 Those failing the thesis or independent study examination on their first attempt in accordance with Article 52.2 are eligible to request the second examination within 30 days following the first examination date and are obliged to complete the examination within 90 days from the first examination date.

In cases of failing the examination according to Article 52.1, the students are obligated to file a request for the second examination within 30 days upon the specified revision period and to undertake the examination within 90 days upon the specified period for the revision.

In both cases, examination or registration fees must be paid as specified by the relevant faculty. Failure to comply with the aforementioned requirements will result in termination of student status.

The provision of the second examination does not warrant exemption or relief from adherence to regulations or criteria specified elsewhere.

Article 55 The Format, Submission, and Copyright of the Thesis or Independent Study Report

55.1 The format of the thesis or independent study report shall be compliant with the Graduate School's requirements.

55.2 Students are mandated to submit the complete thesis or independent study report according to the specified format and the period established by the Graduate School.

55.3 The copyright or patent rights of the thesis or independent study report shall belong to Khon Kaen University. Students and/or advisors of those studies are allowed to publish them for academic purposes. Nevertheless, any use of the content or results of such works beyond those purposes shall correspond to criteria and procedures established by the University.

In cases when a thesis or an independent study is funded by research grants with copyright or patent obligations approved by the University, those obligations shall be complied.

Chapter 10

Graduation

Article 56 Graduation

The Board of the Faculty has the authority to approve graduation, and the date of approval shall be deemed the official date of graduation. To graduate, students are required to fulfill the following requirements.

56.1 Graduate Diploma and Higher Graduate Diploma Programs

56.1.1 Complete the credits required by the program.

56.1.2 Attain a cumulative grade point average not lower than 3.00 on a 4-point scale or its equivalent.

56.2 Master's Degree Program

56.2.1 Possess English proficiency according to the criteria stipulated in the Graduate School's announcement.

56.2.2 Students in Plan 1 Type A 1 are required to present the thesis and pass the final oral defense. The oral examination shall be carried out by the thesis examination committee appointed by the University, comprising members as specified in Article 50.2.1, and must be open to interested individuals to attend. The thesis or a portion of it must be published or at least accepted for publication in a nationally or internationally recognized journal, or recognized as an innovation or invention or other academic works; it should be retrievable and verifiable as stipulated by the University Council.

56.2.3 Those in Plan 1 Type A 2 are obligated to complete the course requirements of the program, achieving a cumulative grade point average not below 3.00 on a 4-point scale or its equivalent. Additionally, they must present the thesis and pass the final oral examination. The oral examination shall be conducted by the thesis examination committee appointed by the University, with members as stipulated in Article 50.2.1, and must be open to a general audience to attend. The thesis or a portion of it must be published, or at least accepted for publication in a nationally or internationally recognized journal, or presented at a conference with standard proceedings, or recognized as an innovation or invention or other academic works; it should be retrievable and verifiable as stipulated by the University Council.

56.2.4 Students in Plan 2 are required to complete the course requirements of the program, with a cumulative grade point average not lower than 3.00 on a 4-point scale or its equivalent, and to pass the comprehensive examination through written or oral examinations. In addition, they must present the report of the independent study and pass the final oral examination. This oral examination shall be conducted by the examination committee appointed by the University pursuant to the Graduate School's announcement and must be open to a general audience. The independent study report must be published, or at least the work or a portion of it should be accepted for publication in a journal or presented at a conference, which can be retrieved or verified.

56.3 Doctoral Degree Program

56.3.1 Fulfill the assessment criteria for English language proficiency in accordance with the Graduate School's announcement.

56.3.2 Pass the qualifying examination.

56.3.3 Students in Plan 1 are mandated to present the thesis and pass the final oral defense.

The oral examination shall be conducted by the thesis examination committee appointed by the University, comprising internal and external qualified experts, and must be open to interested individuals to attend. The criteria for evaluating performance in the examination encompass a body of new knowledge based on statement(s) of originality and the students' depth of understanding of their thesis.

Moreover, the thesis or a portion of it must be published or at least accepted for publication in an internationally recognized journal of quality, with a minimum of two articles, in accordance with the Announcement of the Commission of Higher Education Standards.

Alternatively, the thesis or a portion of it must be published or at least accepted for publication in an internationally recognized journal of quality, with at least one article, in accordance with the Announcement of the Commission of Higher Education Standards. Additionally, it should be an innovative or a creative work with potential commercial, social, and economic benefits, with a minimum of such a work; alternatively, it should be granted one patent.

In case of innovations or creative works, the thesis must be evaluated by an external qualified expert committee in the same or related field, comprising at least three members recognized for their knowledge, expertise, and extensive experience, as specified by the University Council.

As for students in the field of Humanities and Social Sciences, the thesis or its portion must be published or accepted for publication by an internationally recognized journal of quality according to the Announcement of the Commission of Higher Education Standards, with one article. Furthermore, it should be published in a national or international journal of quality, with one article.

56.3.4 Students in Plan 2 are required to complete the course requirements of the program, attaining a cumulative grade point average not below 3.00 on a 4-point scale or its equivalent, to present the thesis and pass the final oral examination. The oral examination shall be conducted by the thesis examination committee appointed by the University as provided in Article 50.2.1, with members comprising internal and external qualified experts, and must be open to a general audience to attend. The criteria for evaluating performance in the examination encompass a body of new knowledge based on statement(s) of originality and the students' depth of understanding of their thesis.

More importantly, the thesis or its portion must be published or at least accepted for publication in an internationally recognized journal of quality, with one article, in accordance with the Announcement of the Commission of Higher Education Standards. Alternatively, it should be granted one patent, it should be an innovative or a creative work with potential commercial, social, and economic benefits, with one such of work.

Regarding publication in an international journal, for students in the field of Humanities and Social Sciences, if any program does not yet meet the conditions, it is allowed to request an exemption; this request is to be submitted to the Academic Council for approval.

In cases of innovative or creative works, the thesis must be evaluated by an external qualified expert committee in the same or related field, comprising at least three members acknowledged for their knowledge, expertise, and substantial experience, as specified by the University Council.

The University or the program may establish graduation criteria not lower than those provided in Articles 56.2 or 56.3, as the case may be.

Concerning doctoral degree programs admitting students with a bachelor's degree in Plan 1.2 and Plan 2.2, in the event that students choose not to continue their studies to complete the program, they are entitled to request a master's degree. To be eligible, they are to fulfill the graduation criteria established in Article 56.2 and defined by the relevant program.

Article 57 For students in the programs requiring thesis publication as part of graduation requirements, in cases when they have fulfilled other requirements but are waiting for acceptance for publication in journals, waiting for patent approval, or waiting for the evaluation results of innovative or creative works, and have completed the period of study as specified in Article 10, they are allowed to submit a request for extensions of the graduation period for one semester at a time. This is subject to the Graduate School's announcement.

Article 58 The imposition of penalties on students involved in academic misconduct shall be carried out in compliance with the University's regulations, guidelines, and criteria for the assessment of academic penalties for graduate students engaged in academic misconduct.

Article 59 Approval for a Degree

59.1 Students to be nominated by the relevant faculty to the University Council for approval of a degree are obligated to fulfill the following requirements.

59.1.1 Complete the graduation requirements specified in Article 56.

59.1.2 Have no outstanding fees or debts with the University or the relevant faculty.

59.1.3 Not be under disciplinary action.

59.1.4 Submit the thesis or independent study and other relevant documents prepared according to the format and quantity specified by the University.

59.2 Nomination of students to the University for approval of a degree shall be subject to the University's stipulation.

Article 60 If deemed necessary and appropriate, the University may not allow any graduate to attend the Royal Commencement. This is subject to the criteria established by the University.

Article 61 Revocation of a Degree or Diploma

The University Council may consider revoking the degree or diploma which has been approved for any graduate, depending on the following cases.

61.1 The graduates do not possess the complete qualifications as provided in the eligibility criteria for admission or graduation of the program which they have completed in accordance with Articles 19 or 56 of these regulations. Revocation of the degree or diploma is to be effective as of the date of the University Council's approval.

61.2 Their thesis, independent study or other academic works which are integral to the completion of graduation requirements of the program have been found to be copied or plagiarized from the works of others, contain modified untrue information, fabricate research results, or not carried out by graduates themselves. Revocation of the degree or diploma takes effect as of the date of the University Council's approval.

61.3 The graduates have committed actions which tarnish the reputation of the University or the dignity of the awarded degree or diploma. Revocation of the degree or diploma is to be effective as of the date on which the University Council resolves to revoke it.

Chapter 11

The Status of the Student

Article 62 Students wishing to take an academic leave of absence are obligated to submit a request to the relevant faculty, subject to the consideration of the academic advisor or the major advisor and the program chairperson. The request will be submitted to the Dean for approval.

Article 63 There are two types of academic leave detailed below.

63.1 Upon registering for courses in each semester within the specified period according to the academic calendar and completing the payment for the tuition fees for that semester, provided that the students wish to request an academic leave in that semester, the request must be submitted and approved before the scheduled examination of that semester with a minimum notice period of two weeks. Exceptions include cases of force majeure or illness, which will be subject to the discretion of the faculty.

63.2 In cases of an academic leave without course registration, the request shall be submitted in accordance with the University's academic calendar.

(1) Students are entitled to take an academic leave for a maximum of one regular semester. In cases of justifiable reasons and necessity, an academic leave of one academic year may be allowed, subject to approval from the President.

(2) Those granted permission for an academic leave are required to complete the registration fee as stipulated by the University.

Article 64 Students wishing to resign are mandated to submit the request to the relevant faculty, subject to the consideration of the academic advisor or the major advisor, the program chairperson, and the Dean. The request will be then submitted to the University for approval.

Article 65 Student status will be terminated in any of the following cases.

65.1 Graduation

65.2 Death

65.3 Granted resignation

65.4 The University mandates dismissal owing to violation of registration and tuition fee payment regulations or rules.

65.5 Complete fewer than half of the total credits of the courses with grades in the program and obtain a cumulative grade point average lower than 2.50.

65.6 Complete more than half of the total credits of the courses with grades and obtain a cumulative grade point average below 2.75.

65.7 Fail the thesis or independent study examination, the comprehensive examination, or the qualifying examination on the second attempt.

65.8 Not proceed with the second thesis or independent study examination within the specified duration after failing the first examination.

65.9 Complete the period of study as provided by the program.

65.10 Be sentenced to imprisonment, except for petty offences or offences committed by negligence.

65.11 Be subjected to disciplinary punishment resulting in expulsion from student status

Article 66 Student Re-Admittance

Students who have been dismissed as stipulated in Articles 65.3 and 65.4 are entitled to request to have their student status reinstated. This is subject to the Graduate School's announcement.

Transitory Provisions

Article 67 New programs or revised programs approved by the University Council before September 27, 2022, shall adhere to the standard criteria related to the programs in accordance with the Regulations of Khon Kaen University on Graduate Education Level B.E.2559. Nonetheless, Articles 14, 26.2, 29, 31.6, 38.2, 45.3, and 55.7 shall follow the criteria and procedures specified in these regulations.

It should be noted that the programs must be revised and adhere to these regulations within five years from the last revision or the start of their implementation, as the case may be.

Article 68 Any announcements, orders, or criteria related to graduate education which took effect prior to the issuance of these regulations set forth herein shall remain effective until amended in accordance with these regulations. The amendment process must be completed within 180 days as of the date of announcing the enforcement of these regulations.

Announced on May 3, 2023.

(Mr. Narongchai Akrasanee)

President of Khon Kaen University Council