

# Statutes of the Graduate Institute of Ferrous & Eco Materials Technology

Established September 1, 2005	Amended March 1, 2014	Amended July 2, 2024
Amended March 1, 2009	Amended October 26, 2017	Amended July 30, 2024
Amended June 1, 2012	Amended October 21, 2020	Amended June 10, 2025
Amended November 16, 2012	Amended September 1, 2023	

## Chapter 1. General Provisions

### Article 1 (Purpose)

The Graduate Institute of Ferrous & Eco Materials Technology of Pohang University of Science and Technology (hereinafter referred to as the “GIFT”) aims to foster creative and competent scientists and engineers with professional expertise by providing education and conducting research on the profound theories and broad applications of science and technology related to eco-friendly materials. Through these endeavors, the GIFT seeks to contribute to the advancement of science and technology, the development of the eco-friendly materials industry, and the progress of the nation and humankind. (Amended September 1, 2023)

### Article 2 (Programs)

The GIFT shall offer Master’s degree programs (hereinafter referred to as the “Master’s Program”), Doctoral degree programs (hereinafter referred to as the “Doctoral Program”), and Integrated Master’s and Doctoral Programs (hereinafter referred to as the “Integrated Program”).

### Article 3 (Degree Conferment and Classification of Degrees)

① Details concerning the conferment of Master’s and Doctoral degrees shall be determined separately. However, a student enrolled in the Integrated Program who satisfies the requirements for the Master’s degree may be awarded a Master’s degree.

② Each degree under Paragraph ① may be classified as a professional degree or an academic degree, and details concerning such classification shall be determined separately.

#### **Article 4 (Departments and Admission Capacities)**

① The GIFT shall comprise the Department of Eco-Friendly Materials and the Department of Battery Engineering. Within the Department of Eco-Friendly Materials, sub-majors in Steel and Hydrogen shall be established. (Amended July 2024)

② The admission capacity for each program shall be as reported to the Ministry of Education. (Amended October 26, 2017)

## **Chapter 2. Admissions, Transfers, and Readmissions**

#### **Article 5 (Time of Enrollment)**

Enrollment in the GIFT shall take place within thirty (30) days from the beginning of each semester.

#### **Article 6 (Eligibility for Admission)**

① An applicant for the Master's Program or the Integrated Program shall hold a bachelor's degree or be recognized as having an equivalent or higher level of education.

② An applicant for the Doctoral Program shall hold a master's degree or be recognized as having an equivalent or higher level of education.

#### **Article 7 (Application Procedures)**

① An applicant for each program of the GIFT shall submit the following documents together with the prescribed application fee and undergo the designated admission screening process:

1. Applicants for the Master's Program or the Integrated Program: application form, certificate of (or expected) graduation from an undergraduate institution, official

undergraduate transcripts, list of research achievements, and a research plan.

2. Applicants for the Doctoral Program: application form, certificate of (or expected) conferral of a master's degree, official undergraduate and graduate transcripts, and a copy of the master's thesis.

② A student currently enrolled in the Master's Program who wishes to apply for transfer to the Integrated Program shall submit the prescribed application form to the Dean of the GIFT (hereinafter referred to as "the Dean").

### **Article 8 (Admission Screening)**

① The admission screening for the Graduate Institute shall be conducted by the following methods. However, the President of the University (hereinafter referred to as "the President") may, when deemed necessary, waive part of the screening process or adopt an alternative method.

1. Document review of the applicant's academic background and academic achievements.
2. English proficiency test (for applicants from non-English-speaking countries).
3. Oral examination in the applicant's major field of study (for foreign applicants, this may be substituted with at least two letters of recommendation from professors at the applicant's home university).

② Details concerning the screening process for a student currently enrolled in the Master's Program who wishes to apply for transfer to the Integrated Program shall be determined separately.

### **Article 9 (Enrollment Procedures)**

An applicant who has been granted admission to the Graduate Institute shall submit the required documents within the designated period.

### **Article 10 (Transfer Admission)**

① When a faculty member from another university transfers to the Graduate Institute, the students under that faculty member's supervision who wish to transfer may be admitted to the Graduate Institute upon deliberation by the Graduate Institute Committee (hereinafter referred to as "the Committee") and approval by the President. However, the number of transfer students shall be limited to the admission quota for

the relevant academic year.

② Academic matters such as credits earned, duration of study, and period of enrollment at the previous institution shall be governed mutatis mutandis by Article 13, Paragraph 2.

③ (Deleted)

#### **Article 11 (Readmission)**

① A person who has voluntarily withdrawn or been dismissed from the Graduate Institute may apply for readmission. The President may grant readmission within the admission quota for the relevant academic year following deliberation by the Committee. However, no person falling under any of the following categories shall be eligible for readmission:

1. A person who has exceeded the enrollment time limit as specified in Article 17, Paragraph 1, Subparagraph 3 of the Statutes. (Amended June 10, 2025)
2. A person who has been dismissed for disciplinary reasons under Article 17, Paragraph 2 of the Statutes. (Amended June 10, 2025)

② For readmitted students, previously completed coursework shall be reviewed and reassessed for credit recognition.

### **Chapter 3. Enrollment and Change of Academic Status**

#### **Article 12 (Enrollment)**

Students shall complete enrollment and course registration within the designated enrollment period of each semester.

#### **Article 13 (Change of Affiliation)**

① A student enrolled in another graduate school within the University who wishes to transfer to the Graduate Institute, or a student of the Graduate Institute who wishes to change affiliation to another graduate school within the University, may do so upon deliberation by the Graduate Studies Committee (hereinafter referred to as “the

Committee”) of each graduate school and approval by the President. (Amended October 26, 2017)

② For a student whose change of affiliation has been approved, academic matters such as credits earned, duration of study, and period of enrollment at the previous graduate school shall, notwithstanding these Statutes, be reviewed by the Committee and finalized with the approval of the President. (Amended October 26, 2017)

③ (Deleted)

④ A student enrolled in the Integrated Program of the general graduate school may change affiliation to the Doctoral Program if all of the following requirements are met: (Established November 16, 2012)

1. Completion of at least three (3) semesters of enrollment;
2. Completion of all course credits required for the Master’s degree;
3. A cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher; and
4. Passing the Doctoral Qualifying Examination.

⑤ The results of a Doctoral Qualifying Examination taken during the period of enrollment in the Integrated Program shall be deemed valid following deliberation by the Committee. (Established November 16, 2012)

#### **Article 14 (Leave of Absence)**

① A student who, due to illness or other unavoidable circumstances, is unable to attend classes for one-fourth (1/4) or more of the total class days in a semester may apply for a leave of absence and take such leave upon approval by the President.

② The period of a single leave of absence shall not exceed two (2) consecutive semesters, and the total accumulated period of leave shall not exceed three (3) semesters for the Master’s Program and four (4) semesters for the Doctoral Program. However, the period of compulsory military service shall not be included in the total period of leave.

#### **Article 15 (Return from Leave of Absence)**

① A student whose leave of absence has expired or whose reason for leave no longer exists shall submit an application for return during the enrollment period of the relevant semester and obtain approval from the President.

② A student returning from military service may be permitted to return within one (1)

year of discharge. However, if the date of discharge falls within one-fourth (1/4) of the instructional days in a semester, the President may grant permission to return for that semester notwithstanding Paragraph ①.

#### **Article 16 (Voluntary Withdrawal)**

A student who wishes to voluntarily withdraw from the Graduate Institute shall submit a withdrawal application signed jointly with the guarantor and obtain approval from the President.

#### **Article 17 (Dismissal)**

① A student who falls under any of the following categories shall be dismissed by the President following deliberation by the Committee, and such dismissal shall be notified to the student and his or her guardian:

1. Failure to return to the Institute in the semester following the expiration of the leave of absence;
2. Failure to complete enrollment within the designated enrollment period of each semester;
3. Failure to complete the prescribed program within the enrollment time limit; (Amended October 21, 2020; June 10, 2025)
4. (Deleted) (Amended June 10, 2025)
5. Death. (Established June 10, 2025)

② A student who falls under any of the following categories shall be dismissed following deliberation by the Committee: (Established June 10, 2025)

1. A student who has received two (2) cumulative academic warnings and is deemed unlikely to complete the program successfully; (Established June 10, 2025)
2. A student who has been dismissed for disciplinary reasons under Article 44 of these Statutes. (Established June 10, 2025)

#### **Article 18 (Appeal)**

A student who has been dismissed pursuant to Article 17 and objects to the decision may file an appeal within two (2) weeks from the date of receipt of the dismissal notification. (Amended October 21, 2020)

## **Chapter 4. Classes and Credits**

### **Article 19 (Number of Instructional Weeks)**

The number of instructional weeks shall be at least thirty (30) per academic year and at least fifteen (15) per semester.

### **Article 20 (Curriculum)**

Matters concerning the organization and operation of the curriculum to be completed by students shall be determined separately by the President.

### **Article 21 (Duration of Study and Enrollment Time Limit)**

- ① The duration of study shall be two (2) years each for the Master's and Doctoral Programs and four (4) years for the Integrated Program. However, if a student fulfills the degree requirements early through accelerated credit acquisition, credit transfer between programs, recognition of credits earned at Pohang University of Science and Technology (hereinafter referred to as "the University") or other universities, or submission of an outstanding thesis that satisfies the degree requirements ahead of schedule, the minimum duration of study may be reduced by up to one and one-half (1.5) years for the Integrated Program, one (1) year for the Master's Program, and six (6) months for the Doctoral Program. (Amended September 1, 2023)
- ② The enrollment time limit shall be three (3) years for the Master's Program, six (6) years for the Doctoral Program, and seven (7) years for the Integrated Program.
- ③ If a student enrolled in the Master's Program is admitted to the Integrated Program, the semesters completed in the Master's Program shall be included in both the duration of study and the enrollment time limit for the Integrated Program.
- ④ Periods of approved leave of absence shall not be counted toward the enrollment time limit.
- ⑤ Under unavoidable circumstances, the President may extend the enrollment time limit by one (1) year at a time, up to two (2) times, following deliberation by the Committee.

**Article 22 (Residence Requirements)**

Students shall meet the following minimum residence requirements: Master's Program—two (2) semesters; Doctoral Program—three (3) semesters; and Integrated Program—five (5) semesters. However, exceptions may be granted with the approval of the Dean. (Amended September 1, 2023)

**Article 23 (Completion of Coursework)**

① In exceptional cases, a student who has earned the credits required under Article 24, has maintained a grade point average (GPA) of B<sup>0</sup> (3.0) or higher, and has completed at least three (3) semesters in a Doctoral Program or five (5) semesters in an Integrated Program may be recognized as having completed the coursework.

(Amended September 1, 2023)

② A research student who has been recognized as having completed the coursework under Paragraph ① and continues to conduct research required for the degree shall be granted the same rights and obligations as a regular student.

**Article 24 (Credits Required for Completion of Coursework)**

① The minimum number of credits required for completion shall be twenty-eight (28) for the Master's Program, thirty-two (32) for the Doctoral Program, and sixty (60) for the Integrated Program.

② The minimum number of course credits required for each program shall be eighteen (18) for the Master's Program, twelve (12) for the Doctoral Program, and thirty (30) for the Integrated Program.

**Article 25 (Course Credits and Research Credits)**

① Course credits refer to credits earned through courses established separately in the curriculum of the Graduate Institute. However, the number of undergraduate course credits that may be recognized as graduate-level course credits shall not exceed six (6) credits from 400-level courses.

② Research credits refer to credits earned through research activities such as thesis research, seminars, and laboratory or practical work.

**Article 26 (Credits per Semester)**

A student enrolled in a program of the GIFT may earn a minimum of three (3) and a maximum of eighteen (18) credits per semester, including research credits.

**Article 27 (Credit Units)**

One (1) course credit shall represent at least fifteen (15) hours of instruction per semester. However, research credits such as thesis research, seminars, and laboratory or practical work shall be governed separately by equivalent standards.

**Article 28 (Recognition of Credits between Degree Programs)**

① If an undergraduate student of the University takes courses offered by the GIFT and earns credits, such credits may be recognized toward the requirements for the Master's Program or the Integrated Program.

② If a student enrolled in the Master's Program of the GIFT takes courses offered by the GIFT and earns credits, such credits may be recognized toward the requirements for the Doctoral Program or the Integrated Program. (Amended June 10, 2025)

③ The scope of credits recognized under Paragraphs ① and ② shall be limited to those earned in excess of the credits required for graduation or completion in each program. Such recognition shall be subject to review and approval by the President, and details concerning this matter shall be determined separately. (Amended October 21, 2020)

**Article 29 (Recognition of Credits Earned in the General Graduate School)**

A student of the GIFT may take courses offered by the University's General Graduate School (hereinafter referred to as "the General Graduate School") and earn credits therefrom. However, such enrollment requires the approval of the student's academic advisor and the Dean, and the total number of credits earned shall not exceed six (6) credits per semester.

**Article 30 (Grading)**

① Grades for courses carrying course credits shall be assigned based on examinations, assignments, attendance, and other performance factors. The corresponding letter grades and grade points shall be as follows. (Amended July 30, 2024)

Grade	A <sup>+</sup>	A <sup>°</sup>	A-B <sup>+</sup>	B <sup>°</sup>	B-C <sup>+</sup>	C <sup>°</sup>	C-	D <sup>+</sup>	D <sup>°</sup>	D-	F	S (Satisfactory)	U (Unsatisfactory)	W (Withdrawal)	I (Incomplete)	
Points	4.3	4.0	3.7	3.3	3.0	2.7	2.3	2.0	1.7	1.3	1.0	0.7	0.0	N/A	N/A	N/A

- ② Courses carrying research credits shall be graded as "S" (Satisfactory) or "U" (Unsatisfactory).
- ③ When evaluation materials are incomplete, a provisional grade of "I" (Incomplete) may be assigned.

### **Article 31 (Credit Recognition and Grade Point Average Calculation)**

- ① Only courses graded D- (or higher) or S (Satisfactory) shall be recognized as earned credits.
- ② Credits graded S (Satisfactory) shall not be included in the computation of the grade point average (GPA).

### **Article 32 (Change of Course Registration)**

A student may change course registration during the designated correction period with the approval of the academic advisor. (Amended October 21, 2020; July 30, 2024)

### **Article 33 (Withdrawal from Courses)**

A student may withdraw from a course between the fourth (4th) and ninth (9th) weeks after the beginning of the semester with the approval of both the course instructor and the academic advisor. The withdrawn course shall be recorded with a grade of W. (Amended October 21, 2020)

### **Article 34 (Make-up Examinations)**

- ① When a student is unable to take an examination due to illness or other unavoidable circumstances, the student shall submit an application for a make-up examination with the approval of the course instructor and the Dean. (Amended October 21, 2020)
- ② The make-up examination shall be conducted before the grade correction deadline

for the relevant semester. (Amended October 21, 2020)

**Article 35 (Attendance Requirement for Credit Recognition)**

A student who has been absent for one-fourth (1/4) or more of the total class days without a justifiable reason shall not receive credit for the course.

**Article 36 (Repeating Courses)**

Repetition of courses shall, in principle, not be permitted. However, exceptions may be granted with the approval of the Dean.

**Article 37 (Recognition of Credits Earned at Other Graduate Schools)**

- ① Credits earned by a student at another graduate school prior to admission to the GIFT may be recognized by the President following deliberation by the Committee.
- ② A student may also earn credits at other graduate schools with which the University has a credit exchange agreement or that are recognized by the President. (Amended October 21, 2020)
- ③ Credits recognized under Paragraphs ① and ② shall not exceed one-half (1/2) of the total credits required for graduation in each program.

**Article 38 (Special Lectures)**

During vacation periods, the GIFT may, with the approval of the President following deliberation by the Committee, offer special lectures for each program, for which credits may be granted.

## **Chapter 5. Non-degree Programs**

**Article 39 (Public Lectures)**

The GIFT may, following deliberation by the Committee, offer public lectures for individuals who wish to acquire knowledge and skills necessary for liberal education or academic research.

**Article 40 (Research Students)**

- ① A person qualified for admission to the GIFT who wishes to take specific courses or participate in research projects may do so as a research student, provided that the person passes the prescribed screening and selection process conducted by the GIFT.
- ② The GIFT shall not charge any fees (including tuition) to research students. However, when a research student participates in research activities, the student may be paid a stipend with the approval of the President.
- ③ A research student with satisfactory research performance may be issued a Certificate of Research Performance, as provided in Form 1 (attached).

## **Chapter 6. Financial Support**

**Article 41 (Financial Support)**

- ① Students of the GIFT may be provided with financial support such as scholarships, the details of which shall be determined separately. (Amended March 1, 2014)
- ② Matters concerning the appointment and administration of student assistants shall be determined separately by the Dean.

**Article 42 (Prohibition of Multiple Scholarships)**

(Deleted March 1, 2014)

## **Chapter 7. Disciplinary Measures**

**Article 43 (Academic Warning)**

- ① A student whose grade point average for a semester falls below B<sup>o</sup> (3.0) shall receive an academic warning.
- ② A student who receives two (2) academic warnings during the period of enrollment

may be dismissed by the President following deliberation by the Graduate Studies Committee.

#### **Article 44 (Disciplinary Measures)**

① When a student of the GIFT commits an act inconsistent with his or her responsibilities as a student, the Committee shall decide on disciplinary measures.

② Disciplinary measures shall consist of admonition, suspension (definite or indefinite), and dismissal.

③ All disciplinary measures shall be lifted upon expiration of the specified period.

The Department Head may petition the Student Life Committee for early termination of a disciplinary measure or for lifting an indefinite suspension, after considering the academic advisor's opinion.

## **Chapter 8. Graduate Studies Committee**

#### **Article 45 (Composition)**

The Graduate Studies Committee shall be composed of not fewer than five (5) and not more than eleven (11) members appointed by the President from among the faculty members of the GIFT, and the Dean shall serve as Chairperson. However, when necessary, the President may appoint faculty members from the University as members.

#### **Article 46 (Term of Office)**

The term of office of the members shall be two (2) years. However, in the case of a vacancy, a newly appointed member shall serve for the remainder of the predecessor's term.

#### **Article 47 (Deliberation Matters)**

The Committee shall deliberate on the following matters:

1. Matters related to admission, completion of coursework, and conferment of degrees at the GIFT;
2. Matters concerning the establishment of basic academic plans for the GIFT;
3. Matters concerning the establishment and abolition of departments or majors at the GIFT;
4. Matters concerning the curriculum of the GIFT;
5. Matters concerning the enactment and amendment of regulations related to the GIFT;
6. Matters concerning public lectures and research students;
7. Matters concerning the rewards and disciplinary measures of graduate students;
8. Matters concerning scholarships;
9. Matters concerning the student quota of the GIFT; and
10. Other matters deemed necessary for the operation of the GIFT by the Dean.

**Article 48 (Convening and Resolution of Committee)**

The Committee shall be convened by the Dean as necessary and shall make decisions with the approval of a majority of the members present.

## **Chapter 9. Degree Conferment**

**Article 49 (Degree Conferment)**

The Graduate School may confer the degrees of Master of Engineering and Doctor of Engineering. Matters concerning degree conferment shall be governed, mutatis mutandis, by the Regulations on the Conferment of Graduate Degrees.

**Article 50 (Thesis Examination Committee)**

In principle, the Thesis Advisor shall serve as the Chairperson of the Thesis Examination Committee pursuant to the preceding provision. However, when necessary, a full-time faculty member of the University other than the Thesis Advisor may be appointed as the Chairperson.

## **Chapter 10. Amendment of the Statutes**

### **Article 51 (Statutes Amendment Procedures)**

These Statutes shall be amended through prior notice, deliberation by the Committee, and approval by the President. (Amended October 21, 2020)

## **Chapter 11. Application Mutatis Mutandis**

### **Article 52 (Application Mutatis Mutandis)**

Matters not specifically provided for in these Statutes shall be governed mutatis mutandis by the Statutes and Regulations of the General Graduate School.

**Addendum (Addenda)**

1. (Effective Date) These Statutes were amended and shall take effect on September 1, 2005.
2. (Interim Measures) Matters processed prior to the enforcement of these Statutes shall be deemed to have been processed under these Statutes.

**Addendum (Addenda)**

1. (Effective Date) These Statutes were amended and shall take effect on March 1, 2009.
2. (Interim Measures) The transitional provisions under Articles 1, 2 (3), and 3 (3) of the Addenda are hereby deleted, and matters processed prior to the enforcement of these Statutes shall be deemed to have been processed under these Statutes.

**Addendum (Addenda)**

(Effective Date) These Statutes were amended and shall take effect on June 1, 2012.

**Addendum (Addenda)**

1. (Effective Date) These Statutes were amended and shall take effect on November 16, 2012.
2. (Interim Measures) Matters concerning change of student affiliation and transfer admission shall be governed by Articles 10 and 13 of these Statutes, and matters processed prior to the enforcement of these Statutes shall be deemed to have been processed under these Statutes.

**Addendum (Addenda)**

(Effective Date) These Statutes were amended and shall take effect on March 1, 2014.

**Addendum (Addenda)**

1. (Effective Date) These Statutes were amended and shall take effect on October 26, 2017.
2. (Interim Measures) The establishment of the Plant Engineering sub-major under Article 4 shall take effect on March 1, 2018.

**Addendum (Addenda)**

(Effective Date) These Statutes were amended and shall take effect on October 21, 2020.

**Addendum (Addenda)**

(Effective Date) These Statutes were amended and shall take effect on September 1, 2023.

**Addendum (Addenda)**

(Amendment and Enforcement Date) These Statutes were amended on July 2, 2024, and shall be enforced retroactively as of May 27, 2024.

**Addendum (Addenda)**

(Effective Date) These Statutes were amended and shall take effect on July 30, 2024.

**Addendum (Addenda)**

(Effective Date) These Statutes were amended and shall take effect on June 10, 2025.

(Form 1)

## Certificate of Research Performance

**Place of Family Register:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Province)

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Birth:** \_\_\_\_\_

The individual named above has carried out research in the Master's/Doctoral Program of the Graduate Institute of Ferrous & Eco Materials Technology at Pohang University of Science and Technology (POSTECH GIFT) for a period of \_\_\_ years and \_\_\_ months, demonstrating dedication and commendable achievement in research.

**Date of Issue:** \_\_\_\_\_

(Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Degree)

**Dean of the Graduate Institute of Ferrous & Eco Materials Technology  
Pohang University of Science and Technology**