

**AGREEMENT ON MASTER DOUBLE DEGREE PROGRAM  
BETWEEN  
COLLEGE OF PLANNING AND DESIGN OF  
NATIONAL CHENG KUNG UNIVERSITY, TAIWAN  
AND  
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN  
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY CORPORATION KYUSHU UNIVERSITY,  
JAPAN**

This Agreement on Double Degree Program (hereinafter referred to as this “Agreement”) made and entered into March 14, 2024 (hereinafter referred to as the “**Effective Date**”) by and between National University Corporation Kyushu University, having its address at 744 Motooka, Nishi-ku, Fukuoka, Japan (hereinafter referred to as “**KYUSHU**”) and National Cheng Kung University, having its address at No.1, University Road, Tainan City 701, Taiwan (hereinafter referred to as “**NCKU**”) (KYUSHU and NCKU may be referred to individually as the “**Party**” and jointly as the “**Parties**”) based on the Agreement for Academic Cooperation and Exchange concluded between the Parties on June 22, 2022,

WITNESSETH:

**WHEREAS**, KYUSHU and NCKU are interested in establishing a double Master degree program in the area of design between the Graduate School of Design of KYUSHU (hereinafter referred to as “**GSD-KYUSHU**”) and the College of Planning and Design of NCKU (hereinafter referred to as “**CPD-NCKU**”) to promote their mutual interests in cooperation for education and research, and to strengthen the long-term relationship;

**NOW THEREFORE**, KYUSHU and NCKU hereto hereby agree as follows;

**Article 1**      **Objectives**

1.1      The Parties agree to jointly establish a double Master degree program (hereinafter referred to as the “**DDP**”) between GSD-KYUSHU and CPD-NCKU that facilitates their graduate students from both GSD-KYUSHU and CPD-NCKU to simultaneously pursue Master’s degrees from KYUSHU and NCKU.

**Article 2**      **Definition**

2.1      The “**Double Degree**” means two (2) recognized degree certificates: the Master of Design or the Master of Design Strategy at KYUSHU and the Master of Science at NCKU.

2.2      The “**Home University**” means the Party at which a DDP Student is initially enrolled and pays tuition for the DDP.

2.3      The “**Host University**” means the Party which has agreed to accept DDP Student from the Home University for the duration of its DDP.

2.4      The “**DDP Student**” means graduate students participating in the DDP.

- 2.5 The “Credit” means one (1) credit at KYUSHU corresponds to one (1) at NCKU and vice versa, which is awarded to the DDP Student through coursework of the respective Party and thesis at NCKU in order to meet the requirements of the Double Degree.

### **Article 3 Admission of DDP Student**

- 3.1 The Parties acknowledge and agree that the DDP Student accepted by the Parties shall meet the requirements as follows:
- (a) shall be registered as the graduate students at GSD-KYUSHU or CPD-NCKU to be eligible to join the DDP;
  - (b) shall pass the entrance examinations of the Host University.

### **Article 4 Number of DDP Student**

- 4.1 The number of the DDP Student of each Party shall be determined by mutual consultation of the Parties in consideration of balance before starting recruitment for the concerned DDP. Each academic year, in principle, each Party is entitled that up to two (2) DDP Student may be accepted to the DDP.

### **Article 5 DDP Structure**

- 5.1 The Parties acknowledge and agree that the DDP at each GSD-KYUSHU and CPD-NCKU is offered as part of the DDP between KYUSHU and NCKU, is developed and organized jointly by the Parties, and leads to the Double Degree.
- 5.2 The studies leading to the Double Degree will have duration of three (3) academic years, which will be divided as follows: two (2) year spend in the Home University and one (1) academic year in the Host University, according to a plan defined in Appendix 1 jointly defined and agreed by the Parties.

### **Article 6 Academic Supervision**

- 6.1 The Host University shall appoint a qualified supervisor for each DDP Student and shall provide appropriate courses of study.
- 6.2 Each Party shall provide necessary research guidance to the DDP Student in accordance with the regulations of each Party.

### **Article 7 Completion Requirement - Credit**

- 7.1 The Parties agree that the DDP Student must fulfill the coursework and Credit requirement as follows:
- 7.1.1 The DDP Student must fulfill the coursework and Credit requirements at GSD-KYUSHU with no less than forty (40) Credits. The detailed credit requirements are stipulated in Items 5 of Appendix 1.
  - 7.1.2 The DDP Student must fulfill the coursework and Credit requirements at CPD-NCKU with no less than thirty-four (34) Credits. The detailed credit requirements are stipulated in Items 6 of Appendix 1.

## **Article 8**      **Completion Requirement - Thesis**

- 8.1 The Parties agree that the DDP Student must fulfill the thesis requirement as follows:
- (i) two (2) different Master theses with related topic or two (2) different Master works are required to be submitted to the Home University and the Host University respectively. In addition, the Master thesis submitted to GSD-KYUSHU shall be written in English or in Japanese; the Master thesis submitted to CPD-NCKU shall be written in English; and
  - (ii) success in thesis defense of both the Home University and the Host University

## **Article 9**      **Conditions for Obtaining the Double Degree**

- 9.1 The Parties agree that the Double Degree shall only be awarded after the DDP Student has completed the DDP requirements indicated in Article 5 through Article 8.

## **Article 10**      **Degrees to be Granted**

- 10.1 The Parties agree that the DDP Student successfully completed the DDP at the both Parties will be awarded the Double Degree:
- Master of Design or Master of Design Strategy by KYUSHU; and
  - Master of Science by NCKU

## **Article 11**      **Documentation of Coursework**

- 11.1 The Host University will send the DDP Student's official transcript of the credits in English to the Home University at the coursework completed by the DDP Student.

## **Article 12**      **Fees and Other Rights and Privileges**

- 12.1 The Parties acknowledge that the DDP Student will pay tuition and other related fees to its Home University during the term of the DDP. The Host University shall waive the examination fee, enrollment fee, and tuition fee for the DDP Student.
- 12.2 The Parties acknowledge that the DDP Student will be responsible for the costs of travel to the Host University and living expenses during its stay in host country, including accommodation, books, equipment, supplies, health and travel insurance, student union fees (if applicable), and other personal expenses arising from DDP.
- 12.3 The Parties shall affirm and agree that the DDP Student will be entitled to the same rights and privileges and subject to the same rules, policies, penalties and discipline as other enrolled students at the Host University.

### **Article 13**      **Housing**

13.1 The Parties agree and understand that the DDP Student will be responsible for making their own living arrangements and, in particular, for securing their own housing. The Parties agree to provide the DDP Student with the level of assistance in obtaining housing.

### **Article 14**      **Student Service**

14.1 The Host University shall assist the DDP Student in obtaining necessary information on all aspects of living in the host country, such as visas, health services, housing, language tutoring, cultural activities and so on.

### **Article 15**      **Visas**

15.1 The Parties will ensure that each DDP Student will be responsible for obtaining a proper student visa in a timely manner, although the Host University will directly assist in their visa application. The cost for obtaining the visa shall be borne by each DDP Student.

### **Article 16**      **Health Insurance and Payment**

16.1 The Host University will ensure that each DDP Student shall be covered by health insurance that is effective in the host country. The Parties agree that payment for said health insurance coverage, for medical treatment, for travel expenses and for additional living costs in the host country shall be the responsibility of each DDP Student personally and neither Party shall be held liable for such payment. NCKU understands that each DDP Student shall purchase Personal Accident Insurance for Students Pursuing Education and Research (PAS) and each DDP Student who will stay in Japan more than three (3) months shall purchase the Japanese National Health Insurance at its own expenses.

### **Article 17**      **Liaison Office**

17.1 KYUSHU and NCKU designate the liaison office (each referred to as the "Liaison Office") indicated in Appendix 1 to accommodate the implementation of the DDP. Each Party may change its Liaison Office by written notice to the other Party.

### **Article 18**      **Program Review**

18.1 The Parties agree that the NCKU-KYUSHU-DDP Promoting Committee comprised of the DDP-related Faculty members from both Parties will review the progress of the DDP and may suggest modification to this Agreement, if needed.

## **Article 19**      **Duration**

19.1 This Agreement shall be executed on the Effective Date and shall remain in effect for a period of five (5) years.

## **Article 20**      **Amendment and Renewal**

20.1 No amendment to this Agreement will be effective unless confirmed in a written amendment signed by each Party's authorized representative.

## **Article 21**      **Others**

21.1 This Agreement may be terminated by either Party upon six (6) months prior written notice without prejudice to the completion of the DDP in progress.

21.2 Nothing in this Agreement is intended to confer any right, remedy, claim or benefit, express or implied, on any person or a Party hereto.

21.3 Each Party will comply with its applicable local laws and regulations.

21.4 Each Party agrees not to use the other's name, marks, or logos without prior written consent.

21.5 In the event of any dispute arising out of this DDP, the Parties shall resolve such disputes amicably through good faith negotiations between the authorized representatives of each Party.

21.6 Neither Party shall be liable for any obligation or delay provided for in this Agreement, and if the nonfulfillment or delay is due to any cause such as natural disasters and land disasters beyond the reasonable control of such Party, including, but not limited to, if the other Party reasonably believes that the continuation of the obligation set forth in this Agreement is impossible or impractical (hereinafter referred to as "Force Majeure"), such Party shall not be deemed to be in breach of its obligations. In the event of Force Majeure, the Parties shall negotiate in good faith a mutually satisfactory solution.

21.7 The Appendix constitutes a part of this Agreement and is incorporated into this Agreement by reference. Should any inconsistency exist or arise between a provision of this Agreement and a provision of any exhibit, schedule, or other incorporated writing, the provision of this Agreement will prevail.

21.8 Each Party undertakes to take all necessary measures required by the legislation to ensure confidentiality and protection of the DDP Student's personal data which is exchanged under this Agreement in accordance with its national laws and regulations. At KYUSHU, regarding collection and management of the personal data can be found at:

<https://www.kyushu-u.ac.jp/en/website/privacypolicy>.

At NCKU, regarding collection and management of the personal data can be found at:

<https://pims.ncku.edu.tw/policy.php>.

21.9 Signatures delivered by PDF, scanned document or other electronic transmission and electronic signature shall be deemed original signatures for purposes of this

Agreement and all matters related thereto, with such scanned and electronic signatures having the same legal effect as original signatures.

- 21.10 This Agreement has been prepared in English and has been translated into other languages for reference purposes only. In the event of any differences in understanding, meaning, or interpretation, the English version shall prevail.
- 21.11 Authorized representatives of both Parties shall sign only the English version.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, the authorized representatives of the Parties have signed this Agreement written in duplicate, both documents are equally authentic and have the same legal effects.

For and on behalf of:  
NCKU

For and on behalf of:  
KYUSHU

*Chien-Hsu Chen*

*尾平 章*

Professor Chien Hsu Chen  
Dean of College of Planning and Design  
National Cheng Kung University

Professor Akira Omoto  
Dean of Graduate School of Design  
Kyushu University

Date: *Feb. 16th. 2024*

Date: *Feb. 27th. 2024*

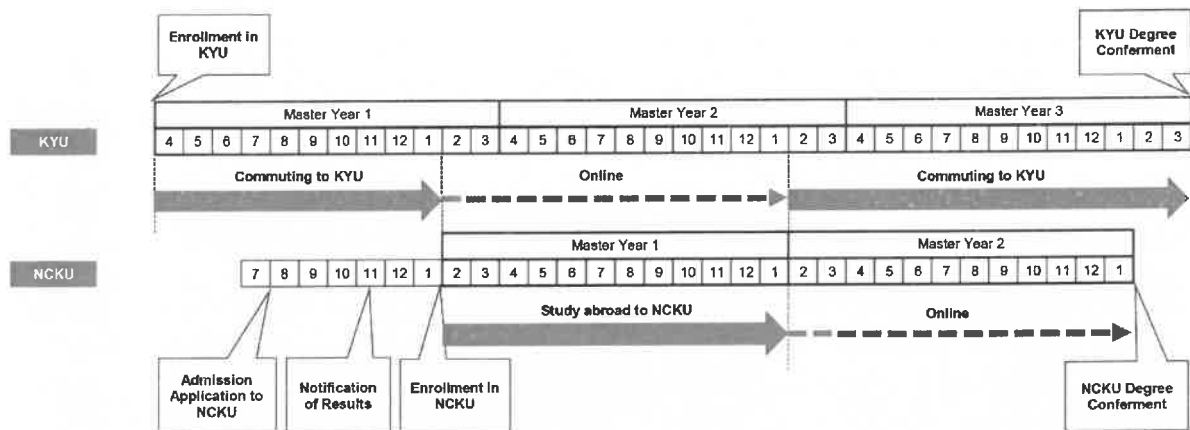
## Appendix 1

### 1. DD Program Structure (refer to Section 5.2)

#### Standard examples of study schedules

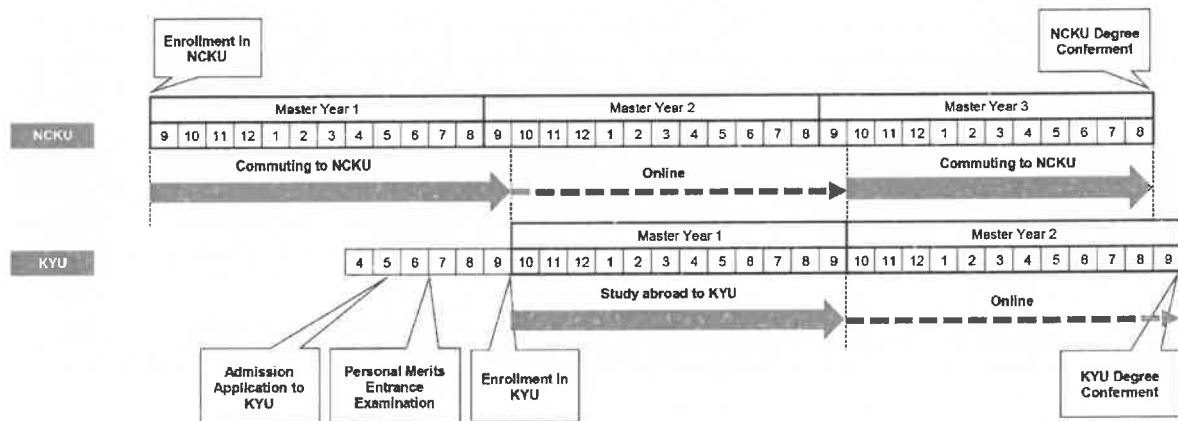
[Admission to NCKU: February]

Students will enter KYU in April and apply to NCKU in the summer of their first year, applying for admission to the master's program. If they pass the document screening, they will study abroad at NCKU from February of their first year to January of their second year. Upon returning to Japan, the students will begin their studies at the Graduate School of Design in February of their second year and receive online guidance for their master's thesis from their academic advisors at NCKU. In addition, students will take online subjects offered at NCKU as needed.



[Admission to KYU: October]

Students will enter NCKU in September, apply to KYU in April or May of their first year, and take the personal merits entrance examination in July. If they pass the two-step screening, they will study abroad at KYU from October of their second year at NCKU to September of their third year at NCKU. From October of the third year at NCKU, students will take subjects at NCKU and receive online guidance for their master's thesis from their academic advisor at KYU.





Appendix 1

2. Liaison Office

GSD-KYUSHU:

Student Affairs and Support Section, Graduate School of Design, Faculty of Design,  
Kyushu University

Tel: (+81) 92 553 4586

Email: [gkggakusei@jimu.kyushu-u.ac.jp](mailto:gkggakusei@jimu.kyushu-u.ac.jp)

CPD-NCKU:

Department of Industrial Design, College of Planning and Design,  
National Cheng Kung University

Tel: (+886) 274 6089

Email: [idencku@gmail.com](mailto:idencku@gmail.com)

## Appendix 1

### 3. Courses offered by KYUSHU

Courses offered by KYUSHU can be found at:

<https://std.design.kyushu-u.ac.jp/education/handbook/>.

Refer to Graduate School of Design Student Handbook

### 4. Courses offered by NCKU

Courses offered by NCKU can be found at:

<https://course.ncku.edu.tw/index.php?c=qry11215>.

Select Department/Institute courses > Search by College, Dept.

>graduation school, and Planning and Design > (P3) Industrial Design

ID to find the courses in our department.

The course list announced on our department website only includes courses tagged with “English-friendly courses” and “courses taught in English” on the course enrollment website.

<https://ide.ncku.edu.tw/p/426-1160-66.php?Lang=en>

### 5. Completion Requirement – Credit (GSD-KYUSHU)

The DDP Student must fulfill the coursework and credit requirements at GSD-KYUSHU with no less than forty (40) credits.

a) Such forty (40) credits can be earned by taking lectures held in GSD-KYUSHU which consist of Subject Related to Master’s Research with eighteen (18) credits, Course Core Subjects with six (6) credits, Studio Projects with two (2) credits and Electives with fourteen (14) credits.

b) The lecture held in CPD-NCKU with maximum of fourteen (14) credits can be transferred from CPD-NCKU to GSD-KYUSHU to be accounted as the credits of Electives.

### 6. Completion Requirement – Credit (CPD-NCKU)

The DDP Student must fulfill the coursework and credit requirements at CPD-NCKU with no less than thirty-four (34) credits.

a) Such thirty-four (34) credits can be earned by taking lectures held in CPD-NCKU which consist of Required Subjects with six (6) credits, Required Electives Subject with four (4) credits, Master’s Thesis with six (6) credits, and Elective Subject with eighteen (18) credits.

b) The lecture held in GSD-KYUSHU with maximum of fourteen (14) credits can be transferred from GSD-KYUSHU to CPD-NCKU to be accounted as the credits of Elective Subjects.

Appendix 1

KYU	Classification		NCKU
18 credits	Subjects Related to Master's Research	Required Subjects	6 credits
6 credits	Course Core Subjects	Required Electives	4 credits
2 credits	Studio Projects	Master's Thesis	6 credits
14 credits	Electives	Electives	18 credits
<b>40 credits</b>	<b>Total</b>		<b>34 credits</b>

