

Graduation Requirements for Ph.D. Students

Article 1 The purpose of these requirements is to promote PhD students' research capability, professional knowledge, so as to enhance the competitiveness of this Institute in turn.

Article 2 Admission

- (i) Students passing the PhD entrance examination;
- (ii) Foreign students applying for admission under NCKU relevant regulations;
- (iii) Master students transfer directly their master studies to the PhD program without taking the entrance examination. Relevant requirements are stipulated under the bylaw of "Regulations for Master Students Directly Transferring to Ph.D. Study".

Article 3 Period of Study

Three to seven years, not including the period of deferring to registration and/or suspension of studies.

Article 4 Areas of Study

Based upon orientation, focus, and nature of the study of political economy, the PhD study in this Institute is divided into four principal areas: Political System and Public Economics; Political Governance and Development; Global and International Political Economy; Regional Studies of Political Economy.

Article 5 Course Selection

Every PhD student should gain at least 30 credits (10 courses) to fulfill your study in this Institute. PhD students are required to choose one out of four areas of study to be your major and another one as your minor. You should take at least three courses (9 credits) within the major area of study, and another 2 courses (6 credits) within the minor area. The remaining two courses (6 credits) could be within any four areas of study. Students who transfer directly from Master to PhD program are required to fulfill all PhD requirements, together with the successful completion of all required courses in the master program. Additional clauses include:

- (i) All courses one plans to take should be subject to PhD dissertation supervisor's instructions and consent. For those who have not decided their supervisor(s), s/he is temporarily under the instructions and consent of the Head of the

Institute.

- (ii) During the first academic year, PhD students should take at least four courses for the entire year, with no less than two courses in each semester.
- (iii) Students who have a master degree from this Institute cannot take the identical course previously taken during his/her master study, nor can s/he waive the course(s).

Article 6 Language Capability

The Graduate Institute of Political Economy requires all PhD students to present proof of the General English Proficiency Test (GEPT) at the High-Intermediate level in the final test before they can apply for doctoral dissertation oral defense. Alternatively, you need to get your work, at least ONE, published in any English journal in related fields of academic study. If the work is written more than one authors, you will then be the first author. Offprint is needed as a proof. Besides, foreign students whose mother language is English will be required to present proof or certificate indicating your Chinese proficiency at primary level.

Article 7 Credit Transfer

Upon registration, new PhD students can apply for the credit transfer in his/her first semester if s/he has already studied any PhD program at a higher institution in Taiwan. The decision will be made by the Committee of Curriculum Planning in this Institute, with the maximum credit transfer 9 units.

Article 8 Retaking Course(s)

The Institute and/or his/her dissertation supervisor may require any PhD student to retake a number of taught courses at master or undergraduate level if this is helpful and necessary in enhancing a PhD student's academic knowledge and laying his/her research foundation. Those credits earned by retaking some courses will not be counted into total credits during his/her PhD study.

Article 9 PhD Dissertation Supervisor(s)

The supervisor(s) can be any full-time faculty with professorship or associate/assistant professors with PhD degree. Alternatively, the leading supervisor can be a part-time faculty in this Institute and/or University, with a second supervisor from this Institute. In this case, the second supervisor should be a full professor or an associate professor with PhD degree.

All PhD students need to choose his/her supervisor(s) by the end of the first semester

of his/her second year. A written letter from supervisor(s) will be needed to show his/her willingness on your supervision. If you wish to change your supervisor(s), you will need to present a written letter with reasons why you need to change. The final decision of the possible change of supervisor will be left with the Head of the Institute.

Article 10 Special Topic Report and Discussion Seminar

All PhD students at their first and second years are required to participate in the “Special Topic Report and Discussion Seminar”, six times in a semester. Every PhD student needs to present your work at least one in a semester. Those who fail to do so will not be permitted to apply for the qualification examination of Ph.D. candidanship.

Article 11 Qualification Examinations

A PhD student can apply to attend any Qualification Examination(s) if s/he has successfully completed one-year study in this Institute with credits more than 18 units.

Article 12 PhD Candidanship

Relevant main points relating to the PhD candidanship are provided in Part IX in this Handbook.

Article 13 Article Publications

Prior to your dissertation oral defense, a PhD candidate needs to get your work published in any blind peer-referred journals. You may choose any one of them to fulfill this requirement:

- (i) Any one piece of work published in a SSCI, SCI, JEL, EI, or A&HCL indexed journal;
- (ii) Any two pieces of work published in the TSSCI-indexed journals;
- (iii) Any three pieces of work published in the peer-referred journals that are recognized by the Institute Staff Meeting. PhD students need to be the first author in the published work. Offprint, acceptance letter(s), or any other relevant documents are needed as a proof.

Article 14 PhD Dissertation Proposal

The deadline to submit your thesis proposal is October 15 for the first semester and April 15 for the second semester. After the submission of the proposal, it will be

reviewed within one month by a committee consisted off five faculty members, including the supervisor, and four other members from inside and outside Institute, all of whom are to be agreed and employed by the Head of this Institute. At least one committee member should be from an off-campus faculty, and the supervisor cannot serve as a convener in the committee. Note that there will be no reviewing process during the summer and winter vacations.

The success of the proposal reviewing will be subject to the consent by at least two thirds of participating committee members and the average score of oral defense for more than 70 points. After passing the review process, the student can proceed with his/her dissertation writing, and s/he can have an oral defense of his/her dissertation after six months.

Article 15 PhD Dissertation Oral Defense

After the dissertation write-up, the PhD candidate may apply for the oral defense under the consent of his/her supervisor(s). Relevant main points stipulating the PhD Dissertation Oral Defense are provided in this Handbook.

Article 16 The implementation of these Requirements are firstly discussed and passed by the Institute Staff Meeting, and then recognized by the school authorities.