# \* Graduate Program Regulations

# **Graduate Institute of Learning and Instruction, National Central University**

(Applicable for New Students Enrolled in the 105th Academic Year)

\*國立中央大學學習與教學研究所碩士班、博士班研究生修業辦法(105學年度入學新生適用)

# **Chapter 1: Admission**

- 1. Matters concerning admission, studies, and examinations for master's and doctoral students are handled according to the following regulations.
- 2. Those admitted through the institute's open admissions can enroll in the master's and doctoral programs. Master's students who meet the requirements of the "Regulations for Direct Admission to Doctoral Programs" can directly pursue a doctoral degree.
- 3. The Graduate Institute of Learning and Instruction organizes an admissions committee annually to handle admissions.
- 4. The number of admissions, examination methods, subjects, and related regulations for the master's and doctoral programs are published in the admissions brochure after being approved by the institute meeting.

# **Chapter 2: Studies and Course Selection**

- 5. The duration of studies for the master's program is limited to one to four years. For the doctoral program, it is two to seven years. The duration for the master's in-service program is also limited to one to four years. However, students who do not complete the required courses or the thesis within the specified time can extend their studies by one year. Those who are pregnant, giving birth, or nurturing children under three years old, with appropriate documentation, can also extend their studies by one year. Graduate students admitted as in-service students who do not complete the required courses or thesis within the specified time can extend their studies an additional year. When students change their degree programs, their status as in-service or regular students must be re-evaluated. Students who directly pursue a doctoral degree will follow the regulations of the doctoral program from the time they enter the doctoral program.
- 6. Minimum graduation credits: Master's students must complete at least 27 credits, doctoral students at least 24 credits, and students directly pursuing a doctoral degree must complete at least 36 credits. The thesis is counted separately.

7. The course structure and credit limits per semester for the master's and doctoral programs are as follows:

#### 7.1. Master's Program Students:

- 7.1.1. In the first academic year, the total number of credits per semester should not exceed 15 credits and should not be less than 3 credits. In the first semester of the second year, at least 3 credits.
- 7.1.2. The required credits for the master's program are 12, which include (1) 6 credits for "Research Methods", with "Educational Research Methods" as a required subject, and another 3 credits from other research methods courses, (2) 3 credits within the scope of "Learning and Theory" and (3) 3 credits within the scope of "Integration of Learning and Technology". Besides required credits, students must pass four semesters of "Graduate Seminar" courses.
- 7.1.3. Master's students must take at least one course each from the "Institute of Network Learning Technology" and the "Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience" at National Central University.
- 7.1.4. Master's students must take at least three other research laboratory courses.
- 7.1.5. Those taking additional education programs, supplementary or elective courses should not exceed 20 credits per semester.
- 7.1.6. First-year master's students need course selection guidance and approval from their academic advisor. After the second semester, course selection requires the guidance and approval of the thesis advisor.
- 7.1.7. Master's students must choose a thesis advisor from the institute before the start of the second semester. The advisor should be a full-time (or adjunct) faculty of the institute.

#### 7.2. Doctoral Program Students:

- 7.2.1. In the first academic year, the total number of credits per semester should not exceed 9 credits and should not be less than 3 credits. In the first semester of the second year, at least 3 credits.
- 7.2.2. The required credits for the doctoral program are 9, which include: (1) 6 credits for "Research Methods"— advanced statistics and advanced qualitative research, (2) 3 credits for "Advanced Learning Theory". Besides required credits, students must pass four semesters of "Graduate Seminar" courses.
- 7.2.3. Doctoral students must take at least two other research laboratory courses.

- 7.2.4. Doctoral students should determine their thesis advisor based on their research direction and interests by the end of the second semester. The advisor should be a full-time (or adjunct) teacher of the institute.
- 8. Credit exemptions for courses are handled according to the institute's "Credit Exemption Regulations".
- 9. Inter-institutional course selection for graduate students is handled according to the university's "Inter-Institutional Course Selection Regulations".

# **Chapter 3: Examinations**

- 10. Master's students must complete the following procedures to apply for a degree examination:
  - 10.1. Master's Thesis Proposal Presentation: Master's students can submit and present their thesis proposal with the advisor's approval starting from the second semester.
  - 10.2. Master's Thesis Proposal Oral Examination: After the thesis proposal presentation, master's students must apply for and pass the thesis proposal oral examination. They can then apply for the degree examination in the next semester or after a three-month interval. The composition of the oral examination committee is handled according to the "National Central University Doctoral and Master's Degree Examination Regulations".
- 11. Doctoral students must complete the following procedures to qualify as doctoral candidates:
  - 11.1. Complete 18 credits, including 9 required credits and one year of "seminar" courses, before applying for the qualification examination.
  - 11.2. Pass the qualification examination:
    - 11.2.1. The qualification examination committee, composed of at least three teachers invited by the director and the advisor, will administer the qualification examination.
    - 11.2.2. The qualification examination can be conducted in one of two ways: (1) written and oral examinations, with subjects determined by the qualification examination committee. Scores of 70 or above are considered passing; (2) by journal publication, where the student must be the first author (excluding the advisor), and the paper must be reviewed by the qualification examination committee. The paper cannot be counted as part of the graduation research output.
    - 11.2.3. The qualification examination must be passed within four years of enrollment in the doctoral program. Those who fail will be dismissed. However, students directly

- pursuing a doctoral degree who fail the qualification examination can return to the master's program upon approval by the institute meeting and the president.
- 12. Doctoral candidates must apply for and pass the thesis proposal oral examination before applying for the degree examination in the next semester. The composition of the oral examination committee is handled according to the "National Central University Doctoral and Master's Degree Examination Regulations".
- 13. To graduate, doctoral students must have at least two journal papers published or accepted, with one as the first author. The journal paper review is conducted by the student's degree examination committee along with the degree examination.
- 14. Graduate degree examinations are conducted according to the university's "Doctoral and Master's Degree Examination Regulations".

### **Chapter 4: Supplementary Provisions**

- 15. If there are any matters not covered by these regulations, they will be handled according to the Ministry of Education and the university's relevant regulations.
- 16. These regulations are implemented after approval by the institute meeting and submission to the Academic Affairs Meeting for record, and the same applies to amendments.