

Chung Hua University Regulations for Doctoral Degrees Examination

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Approved the amendments to Articles 1, 6, 18, 19, and 20 under the letter TAI-GAO(II) No. 1080093206.
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Approved the amendments to Articles 4 and 20 under the letter TAI-JIAO-GAO(II) No. 1080193904.

Clause I The following regulations are formulated by the ‘University Act,’ ‘Enforcement Rules of the University Act,’ ‘Academic Degrees Act,’ and the ‘Bylaws of Chung Hua University.’ ◦

Clause II CHU graduate students who meet the following conditions may apply to be doctoral degree candidates:

1. Complete the required doctoral program courses and credits. Students who enroll in a CHU doctoral program with a valid Master’s degree must complete at least 18 credits. Those who enroll in a CHU doctoral program with a bachelor’s degree must complete at least 30 credits and pass the assessments required by the respective department (degree program) for the doctoral degree.
2. Pass the doctoral degree candidate qualification examination.

Clause III Regulations on the qualification examination of CHU doctoral degree candidates:

1. The qualification examination for CHU doctoral degree candidates shall be held at least once a year, and those who pass the qualification assessment shall be sent by each department (degree program) to the Academic Affairs Office for registration in the transcript of previous years. Doctoral students shall complete the qualification examination within three academic years of enrollment (suspension is not counted as the number of years), and those who fail to pass the prescribed period shall be withdrawn.
2. Each department (degree program) shall formulate methods for evaluating the qualifications of doctoral degree candidates and send them to the Academic Affairs Office for future reference.
3. During the semester(s) of suspension, the results that the graduate students have obtained and the number of times that the graduate students have participated in the qualification examination will not be counted.

Clause IV After completing the required period of study as prescribed by law, doctoral degree candidates may, with the consent of their dissertation advisor, submit the following documents to the

department (graduate program, degree program) to apply for the doctoral degree examination:

1. Preliminary dissertation draft and abstract.
2. Academic transcripts from previous years.
3. Foreign language proficiency certification.
4. Application form for the doctoral degree examination.
5. At least one paper published (including online publication) in a journal ranked as outstanding or excellent according to regulations set by each department (degree program) and listed in the CHU's Office of Research and Development,
6. Dissertation similarity comparison report.
7. Certificate of completion for academic ethics education courses.

After obtaining approval from the department (degree program) chair, the department (degree program) shall prepare a list of doctoral degree examination committee members along with the application and submit it to the Office of Academic Affairs for review and approval by the CHU President before the doctoral degree examination can be held.

For doctoral programs in art, applied science and technology, or physical education and sports, doctoral students' dissertations may be replaced with works, evidence of achievement plus written report, or technical report. The scope, documentation format, content items, and other related matters for dissertation substitution shall be evaluated based on the "Regulations Governing the Conferral of Degrees and the Criteria for Dissertation Substitution for Master's and Doctoral Degrees."

Clause V. The doctoral degree examination shall be conducted by the following regulations:

1. The doctoral degree examination committee shall consist of 5 to 9 members, with at least one-third (included) being external members. The dissertation advisor will be an ex officio member but cannot serve as the chairperson. The chair shall be elected among the attending committee members. The examination can only be held when at least one-third of the present committee members are external members. The internal and external examination committee members shall be nominated by the department (degree program) director and appointed by the CHU President.
2. To avoid conflict of interest, a student's relative within the third degree of kinship or person with significant interest involvement shall not serve as the student's advisor or examination committee member. Violators shall have their eligibility revoked. If the degree examination has been completed, the examination results shall be deemed as failing; if the degree has been conferred, the degree shall be revoked, and the doctoral diploma annulled. The student shall be notified to return the diploma, and the revocation and annulment shall be reported to other universities/colleges and relevant authorities.

Clause VI In addition to having research expertise in the doctoral candidate's field of study, doctoral degree examination committee members shall meet one of the following qualifications:

1. Currently or formerly a professor or associate professor.
2. Academician of Academia Sinica, or currently or formerly a research fellow or associate research fellow of Academia Sinica.
3. Holder of doctoral degree with outstanding academic achievements.
4. In a rare or specialized research field with outstanding academic or professional

achievements.

The criteria for determining qualifications as stated in the preceding paragraphs, i.e., the third and fourth qualifications, shall be determined by the respective department, degree program, or college committees responsible for awarding degrees.

Clause VII Those approved to take a doctoral degree examination shall prepare the final version of their dissertation and abstract by the "Format Guidelines for Graduate Dissertations" and submit them along with the "Dissertation Advisor's Recommendation Form" to the department (degree program) to be forwarded to the degree examination committee for review. The examination date shall be scheduled accordingly.

Clause VIII Dissertations already used to obtain a degree domestically or internationally must not be reused as professional dissertations or other written reports for different degrees. Otherwise, it will be considered academic fraud.

Clause IX The doctoral degree examination date shall be scheduled by each department (degree program) within the period stipulated in the CHU calendar. For students applying for early registration after the end of a semester and before the registration date of the next semester, the doctoral degree examination may be held during this period.

Clause X To change dissertation advisors during the study period, students must apply to changing advisors, which can only be approved after being signed by the former advisor, new advisor, and the department (degree program) director.

Clause XI The doctoral degree examination includes a dissertation defense and dissertation review. The dissertation defense shall be conducted openly by oral examination; other examination forms may be arranged if necessary.

Clause XII The doctoral dissertation defense grade shall be based on a comprehensive evaluation of the dissertation content and the oral defense (and other examination methods). The evaluation method is as follows:

1. Committee members shall first conduct an anonymous pass/fail vote, with two-thirds (included) approval required to pass. If the pass threshold is not met, it will be deemed as a failure.
2. For students who pass the dissertation defense, the final score shall be the average of the scores given by the attending committee members. The evaluation is limited to once, with 70 as the passing score. Students who fail the dissertation defense before the expiration of the study period shall have the examination recorded as a failure.

Clause XIII, The dissertation advisor must rigorously review the quality of the doctoral dissertation to prevent plagiarism. Doctoral students must also sign the "Dissertation Non-Plagiarism Declaration" to complete the doctoral degree examination.

Clause XIV For dissertations passing the review, the attending examination committee members shall sign the "Dissertation Acceptance Certificate" to complete the dissertation review. Students passing the dissertation review will have the dissertation defense grade recorded as the

degree examination grade. Dissertations deemed by the examination committee as requiring revision shall be revised and resubmitted for review. Dissertations involving plagiarism or fraud identified by the examination committee shall be considered examination fails and referred to the Student Affairs Council for processing.

Clause XV CHU doctoral students failing the degree examination may apply to retake the examination in the following semester or academic year before the expiration of the study period. The retake is limited to once; those who still fail shall be dismissed.

Clause XVI If a doctoral degree candidate is found to have committed plagiarism, pirating, or falsifying data in the dissertation after being conferred the doctoral degree, as verified by an investigation committee formed by CHU, the degree shall be revoked, and the doctoral diploma annulled. The student shall be notified to return the diploma, and the revocation and annulment shall be reported to other universities/colleges and relevant authorities.

Clause XVII CHU doctoral students completing the study period, passing all assessments, and the doctoral degree examination shall be issued a doctoral diploma by the University, with the graduation date being the end of that semester (January or July). However, for postgraduate students in the 4th year or above, the graduation date shall be based on the dissertation submission month, which is February 20 for first-semester graduates and August 31 for second-semester graduates.

Clause XVIII CHU graduate students approved for direct pursuit of a doctoral degree who pass the doctoral candidate qualification examination but fail the doctoral degree examination if their dissertation, work, evidence of achievement plus written report, or technical report is deemed by the doctoral degree examination committee as meeting master's degree standards, may be conferred a master's degree.

Clause XIX Dissertations, works, evidence of achievement, written reports, technical reports, or professional practice reports already used to obtain degrees domestically or internationally must not be reused for the dissertations, works, evidence of achievement, written reports, technical reports, or professional practice reports referred to in these Regulations. However, this restriction shall not apply to dissertations jointly supervised by domestic and international universities through academic cooperation for which both universities grant degrees.

Clause XX Upon being passed at the CHU's academic affairs council meeting(s), these Regulations shall be announced and implemented by the CHU President and submitted to the Ministry of Education for reference. The same shall apply to any amendments.

(If discrepancies occur between the English and Chinese versions of these regulations, the Chinese version shall prevail)