

National Central University

Doctoral Program Regulations for Philosophy Graduate Students

These regulations apply to students enrolled starting from the academic year 101.

Article 1: These regulations are established according to the "Regulations for Degree Examination of Graduate Students in Doctoral and master's Programs" of this university.

Article 2: The period of study is limited to two to seven years. Graduate students admitted under working status who have not completed their degree thesis within the specified study period may extend their study period by one year. During the course of study, students may apply for a leave of absence ranging from one semester to two academic years, with a cumulative leave not exceeding two academic years.

Article 3: The minimum required credits for graduation are 25 credits (including), and for the Medical Ethics Group, it is 28 credits (including). The credits obtained must comply with Article 6. Courses not offered by this department (excluding those jointly offered with the Chinese Department) are capped at 6 credits for inclusion in graduation credits and must be approved by the advising professor and the Departmental Affairs Meeting.

Article 4: Course credit requirements are as follows:

1. The subjects for study in the Medical Ethics Group are specified separately in item seven.
2. Credits may be exempted according to the "Regulations for Credit Exemption for Graduate Courses" of this department, applying for credits to be waived from doctoral courses (including joint master's and doctoral courses).
3. The maximum credits per semester for coursework are 10 credits, subject to approval by the department head in special circumstances.
4. A proficiency assessment in a second foreign language must be passed before obtaining a doctoral degree.
5. Graduates not from the Philosophy Department must complete 6 credits of courses offered by this department, including 3 credits in basic philosophy issues. This requirement does not apply to foreign students.
6. Intercollegiate course selection is conducted according to the "Implementation Measures for Intercollegiate Course Selection" of this university.

7. The Medical Ethics Group must complete a Special Discussion (4 credits), Special Topics in Bioethics I (3 credits), Special Topics in Bioethics II (3 credits), and a doctoral thesis (6 credits).
8. Courses offered by the Medical Ethics Group are jointly taught with Taipei Medical University's doctoral program in Bioethics and Medical Education.
9. All courses in the Medical Ethics Group are taught in English.

Article 5: Regulations for assessing proficiency in a second foreign language ("Second Language"):

1. Proficiency must meet the ability to read philosophical texts in the second language.
2. Proof of second language proficiency must be submitted before obtaining a doctoral degree.
3. Methods of assessing second language proficiency:
 - (1) Possessing one of the following three certified documents, approved by the Departmental Affairs Meeting, satisfies the assessment requirements:
 1. Certification issued by a credible institution domestically or internationally, approved by the Departmental Affairs Meeting. (Note: "Credible institutions" include all universities offering courses. Additionally, courses in Sanskrit or Pali offered by Buddhist academies focused on Buddhist studies are included. For courses taken at other extension centers or in-service training credit classes, please review and provide relevant course information for evaluation by the Departmental Affairs Meeting.)
 2. Obtaining credits from relevant language courses: If taken at the undergraduate level, a minimum of 9 credits must be completed with a grade of 60 or above; if at the graduate level, a minimum of 6 credits must be completed with a grade of 70 or above.
 3. Passing a government-funded study abroad examination or a test recognized by a foreign government.
 - (2) If no relevant certification is available, the applicant must take an assessment test organized by this department:
 1. Determination of assessment subjects: Subjects related to doctoral thesis research and approved by the advising professor.
 2. Each assessment test is prepared by one to two experts invited by the department head.
 3. Each assessment test lasts for three hours.

4. Whether dictionaries or other texts are allowed during the assessment will be decided by the question-setting experts.

(3) Alternative assessment scheme: Passing the "Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)" (iBT score of 75 or above), and presenting an additional English oral presentation of at least 10 minutes during the doctoral thesis defense, including several English oral examinations by the defense committee, can substitute for the second language proficiency assessment.

Article 6: To qualify as a doctoral candidate, the following two procedures must be completed:

1. Completion of 10 credits allows application for the doctoral qualification examination.

2. Passing the qualification examination:

(1) Doctoral qualification examination: Choose one from Applied Philosophy, Western Philosophy, or Contemporary Interpretation of Chinese Philosophy, and publish a paper (must be published in TSSCI, THCI, A&HCI, SSCI, SCI [including its "List"]). If no paper is published, it can be substituted with either "Metaphysics and Epistemology" or "Ethics and Political Philosophy" (choose one). For the Medical Ethics Group, the examination subjects are Bioethics, and an oral defense based on a related paper published in an international journal.

(2) The examination subjects and bibliography set by the department will be part of the examination content.

(3) Applications must be submitted within one month of each semester's registration date, and examinations will be scheduled three months after the registration date. Once an application is submitted, it cannot be canceled or changed.

(4) A passing score for each examination is 70 or above. If a subject is not passed, a reapplication can be submitted up to two times. If unsuccessful in both attempts, the student will be expelled.

(5) Passing the doctoral qualification examination grants the status of doctoral candidate in this department.

Article 7: Doctoral candidates must first pass the review of their doctoral thesis proposal before proceeding to the oral defense of their doctoral thesis; passing the oral defense of the doctoral thesis is required to obtain a doctoral degree.

1. The research scope of a doctoral candidate's

thesis focuses on "Contemporary Interpretation of Chinese Philosophy," "Western Philosophy," or "Applied Philosophy." For doctoral students in the Medical Ethics Group, the research scope focuses on Bioethics.

2. The advising professor for a doctoral candidate's thesis is primarily a faculty member of this department.

3. Doctoral candidates must undergo the review of their doctoral thesis proposal and oral defense of their doctoral thesis according to the department's regulations and schedule. The qualifications of the doctoral thesis proposal review committee and the doctoral thesis defense committee must comply with Article 4 of the "Regulations for Degree Examination of Graduate Students in Doctoral and Master's Programs" of this university.

(1) Review of the doctoral thesis proposal: A doctoral candidate must first meet the relevant qualifications within the department, obtain approval from the thesis advisor, submit a letter of agreement from the advising professor, and submit the doctoral thesis proposal for review. A doctoral candidate may submit an application for review of the doctoral thesis proposal (submit four copies of the thesis proposal) within two months after the start of each semester and undergo an oral defense of the thesis proposal by the committee within the same semester.

(2) Oral defense of the doctoral thesis: After passing the review of the doctoral thesis proposal (including within the same semester), a doctoral candidate may submit an application for the oral defense of the doctoral thesis according to the department's regulations (following the schedule and rules of the master's degree examination) and proceed with the oral defense of the doctoral thesis.

4. Upon passing the oral defense of the doctoral thesis and completing the necessary formalities for leaving the university, the doctoral degree will be granted.

Article 8: Any matters not covered by these regulations shall be handled according to the relevant regulations of the Ministry of Education and this university.

Article 9: These regulations were approved by the Departmental Affairs Meeting, endorsed by the Academic Affairs Meeting, and implemented after modifications.