

National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University
Institute of Electronics
Academic Regulations for the Doctor of Philosophy Program

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Applicable to admissions of the 2020 and later academic years

I. Admission:

1. A person with the following qualification, after passing the doctoral program entrance examination of National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University (hereunder NYCU), may enter the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) program of the Institute: (a) graduated with a master's degree from a domestic public or private university or college registered with the Ministry of Education, (b) graduated with a master's degree from a foreign university or college recognized by the Ministry of Education, or (c) having legally equivalent education level to enter a doctoral program through such examination.
2. NYCU students and students of University System of Taiwan (UST) of the following status who also meet the qualification set forth in the "Procedural Regulations Regarding Primary Evaluation for Direct Admission of Students into Ph.D. Program" may apply for direct entrance into the Ph.D. program of the Institute: (a) the student is an undergraduate student who is due to graduate in the current academic year (i.e., a "due bachelor graduate") or a master's student, and (b) the student is of this Department and Institute or of a department/institute of a related academic field. The application shall be reviewed by the Admissions Committee of the Institute. If approved, it shall be forwarded to a committee in NYCU that is chartered to examine such direct admission affairs for further review, and lastly to the President of NYCU for final approval. A student admitted via this mechanism is considered to start the Ph.D. study in the following semester.
3. Under normal circumstances, a Ph.D. student admitted through entrance examination is not allowed to change his/her Group. If, however, one requests for a change due to special reasons, the Institute may, after due consideration, decides whether to approve the request and, in the case of approval, whether to specify additional requirements for the student. If a Ph.D. student admitted through entrance examination requests to have a faculty member outside his/her Group to be the advisor, it is considered a request for change of Group.
4. A newly admitted student who cannot start his/her study on time due to serious illness or due to having received the call-up order for military service may apply to NYCU for retaining the admission for one year. Such an application should state the reason(s) for the application and include related document evidence(s), and it should be filed by the

registration deadline.

II. Duration of Study:

1. The allowed duration of study for each student is from two to seven years, except for individuals with an “at work” status may extend it for an additional year. The above limits to duration of study also apply to a direct entrance student, whose duration of study is counted from the semester he/she starts the Ph.D. study.
2. A student who for any reason applies for suspension from school shall acquire the consent of his/her advisor and the Director of the Institute. A suspension shall be taken in units of one semester or one academic year, up to a maximum of four semesters (two academic years). The cumulated length of suspensions is limited to two academic years. In case of serious illness or special incidences, a student may apply for extending the duration of suspension, the sum total duration of suspension of a student is limited to four academic years. If a student on suspension is drafted to military service, the student shall apply for extension of the limit on length of suspension, providing as supporting document a copy of the call-up order. Upon completion of the military service, the student may apply to resume the academic study within the legally prescribed time limit by presenting the discharge order. The time period a student spends in such military service is not counted into the limit on allowed length of suspension. A student applying for suspension due to pregnancy, childbearing, or caring of children under three years of age shall provide documentary evidence issued by a hospital or the child’s birth certificate; the associated period of suspension is not counted into the limit on allowed length of suspension. A student applying for suspension for a particular semester in the middle of that semester shall need to complete the application procedure prior to the first day of final exams announced in the school calendar for that semester, except in the case of a student who has completed all the required course credits, in which case he/she may complete his/her suspension application procedure by the end of the semester.

III. Credits and Courses:

1.
 - a. Ph.D. students of the 1st and 2nd years must have their course selections approved by the Director of the Institute or the students’ respective advisors.
 - b. A Ph.D. student must complete at least 18 credits of specialty courses (excluding Seminar courses and Graduate Research) before graduation. These credits must include at least nine (9) credits of required electives and six (6) credits of main courses in a minor area or minor areas outside his/her Group. A student who has applied for waiving of required electives or minor courses is nonetheless required to complete 18 credits of specialty courses. The two following types of students may apply for credit transfer during the registration and course selection period of a semester, where the transferred credits are deductible from the 18-credit graduation requirement, but such transfer is limited to courses taken as a Ph.D. student: (a) a student admitted through entrance examination who studied in another department or institute, and (b) a reentering student admitted through entrance examination.
 - c. Should a Ph.D. student in his/her undergraduate or master’s study have taken courses requested (i.e. Nine (9) credits of required electives and three (3) credits of general electives must be graduate courses of this Institute. Six (6) credits of main courses in a minor area or minor areas outside his/her Group must be graduate courses of University System of Taiwan (UST)), after being approved by the Director of the Institute and the students’ respective advisors, he/she may apply for credit deduction during the registration and course selection period of the first semester. Only credits

- acquired within the most recent ten years are allowed to be deductible.
- d. A direct entrance master-graduated student must acquire at least 24 credits (including main courses in a minor area or minor areas) during his/her master's and Ph.D. study before graduation. A direct entrance undergraduate-graduated student must acquire at least 24 credits (including main courses in a minor area or minor areas) during his/her master's and Ph.D. study (excluding Seminar courses and Graduate Research) before graduation. These credits must include at least nine (9) credits of required electives and six (6) credits of main courses in a minor area or minor areas outside his/her Group. And yet, they may apply for credit transferring, following regulations for master students.
 - e. Ph.D. students of the 1st and 2nd years must take and pass Graduate Research for four semesters and Seminar for two semesters. Otherwise they shall retake the course(s). Starting from academic year 2007, a properly approved outgoing exchange student may waive his/her Seminar for each semester he/she studies overseas.
 - f. A foreign student may enroll in English medium courses offered by other departments/institutes to fulfill the required or elective courses of similar contents of the Institute. For this, the student shall apply for it by submitting the form "Application for Approval of Courses Offered by Other Departments/Institutes for Foreign Students." This form needs to be signed by the student's advisor and approved by the Director of the Institute; and then the courses can be recognized and counted towards the graduation credits. This regulation applies to both current and newly admitted students.
2. The Institute has set forth required elective courses for Ph.D. students. A student of a particular Group shall take the required electives pertaining to his/her Group to meet the graduation requirements. Should a student in his/her undergraduate or master's study have taken a course similar to a required elective and have obtained a passing grade for it, he/she may request for waiving the course. The request shall be made to his/her advisor and the Director of the Institute by providing a relevant grade report.
 3. The courses of a student's minor(s) are selected by consulting his/her advisor. Such selection needs to be further approved by the Director of the Institute. For this, a student shall detail these courses in the "Minor Courses" section on his/her "Ph.D. Course Planning Sheet" and submit the latter along with the executed "Ph.D. Dissertation Advisor Agreement" to the Institute for review. The intention of minor courses is to broaden the student's scope, and thus in normal circumstances they should be different from the core courses offered in his/her Group and must be graduate courses of University System of Taiwan (UST)).
 4. The Director of the Institute shall determine whether a new student must make up the undergraduate Electronics course(s), the number of credit hours to be made up for this/these course(s), and the associated deadline. (It is required that a student should have a total of two semesters of Electronics or equivalent.) A student who needs to do the making up may do so by completing such undergraduate course(s) during his/her Ph.D. study with a passing grade (60 or above).
 5. A student must submit a "Ph.D. Dissertation Advisor Agreement" and a "Ph.D. Course Planning Sheet," both signed by his/her advisor to express agreement, **within two weeks** after he/she enters the Ph.D. program. Change course planning requires that an application be submitted, and the change shall take effect only after it is approved.
 6. a. A Ph.D. student of the Institute who reenters the program afterwards through entrance examination may apply to transfer all his/her credits from the previous Ph.D. study. Credit transfer requires the consent of his/her advisor. Further, only credits acquired within the most recent ten years are allowed to be transferred. During his/her Ph.D. study, if a student applies for not counting the period of suspension regarding his/her transferrable courses, the period will not be counted in ten-year basis.

- b. A student who studied in another department/institute's Ph.D. program and enters the Ph.D. program of the Institute through entrance examination may apply for partial credit transfer.
7. Graduate students who are legally allowed to take courses for credits before entrance into a degree program, may be granted credit transfer under proper conditions. The number of transferred credits shall be determined by the Institute.
8. The application for credit transfer should be submitted by the end of the first week of the semester following the one wherein the credits are acquired or, for a new student, by the end of the first week of his/her first semester. Late applications require approval by a relevant department and institute affairs meeting.

IV. Qualification Exams:

1. The newly admitted Ph.D. students (before their registration as 1st-year Ph.D. students) and the 1st- and 2nd-year Ph.D. students of the Institute are eligible to take the qualification exams.
2. The qualification exams are administered in each academic year, once during the winter vacation and once during the summer vacation, both on each Group's subjects of qualification exams.
3. A student shall pass his/her qualification exams within two years or four semesters after entering the Ph.D. program (i.e., prior to his/her turning a 3rd-year Ph.D. student from a 2nd-year one, excluding all periods of suspension). A student is permitted to choose up to four exam subjects. The number of times that the exam on a chosen subject can be taken is limited to three. A student must pass three qualification exam subjects.
4. Courses may be substituted for three qualification exams. Please refer to 'Instructions of Qualification Exam Subjects' for relating courses. Only courses hosted by Institute of Electronics or other specified undergraduate courses are eligible. Students must score 90 and above in such courses or must be of top 33% of a class. Grades certification must come with application for transferring credits. Such requests must be filed one week prior to the date of qualification exams before students turn a 3rd- year Ph.D. This regulation applies to both current students and newly admitted students.
5. A Ph.D. student is permitted to take the qualification exam during a winter or a summer vacation when he/she is on suspension. However, he/she shall resume his/her study in the semester following that exam. Otherwise, the grade he/she obtained in the exam for any subject shall be deemed invalid and inapplicable towards counting the number of passed subjects; yet he/she is considered to have taken the exam for one additional time.
6. A Ph.D. student who fails to satisfy the regulations concerning the qualification exams shall be required to withdraw from the Institute.
7. Pursuant to the Degree Conferral Law, if an undergraduate or a master's student is admitted into the Ph.D. program through direct entrance but fails the qualification exams, he/she may be admitted (or readmitted) into the master's program after such an application is reviewed and granted by the Institute Affairs Meeting and approved by the President of NYCU.
8.
 - a. A Ph.D. student of this Institute reenters through entrance examination may waive the previously passed qualification exam subjects that he/she passed in the most recent ten years in the previous Ph.D. study. During his/her Ph.D. study, if a student applies for not counting the period of suspension regarding his/her passed exams, the period will not be counted in ten-year basis.
 - b. A student who studied in another department/institute's Ph.D. program and enters the Ph.D. program of the Institute through entrance examination may not waive any qualification exam subject.

V. Dissertation Advising:

1. A Ph.D. student must choose an advisor within two weeks after entering the Ph.D. program. The advisor will be responsible for guiding his/her course work and research.
2. An advisor must have been qualified to be a full, associate, or assistant professor and have published in renowned international journals. The advisor must be a lecturer or full-time faculty member of the Institute. To finish his/her project and studying, students may consult other lecturers, scholars and expertise after obtaining his/her advisor's permission. Regulations of the Institute must not be violated in such cases.
3. If an admitted student wants to terminate the advisor/advisee relation or change advisor, he/she should inform the Institute, and will be effective after notifying original advisor with finishing all handover affairs. It is not necessary to get approval from original advisor.
4. If the advisor wants to terminate the advisor/advisee relation, he/she should inform the Institute, the review result will then be given to the student. After the termination of the advisor/advisee relation, the Institute will help the student to choose new advisor.
5. When students apply this regulation to terminate or change the relational bond with the original advisor, it needs to get approval from original advisor to publish research outcome originated or inspired from original advisor as his/her degree thesis/dissertation.

Rules 3 to 5 can be applied to the students admitted before this corrected regulation turns effective.

VI. Graduation:

1. A Ph.D. student may apply for oral defense after he/she has completed the required course credits, passed the qualification exams, and fulfilled the publication requirements regarding the contents of the Ph.D. dissertations of the Institute. As of Academic Year 2019, any student who conducts the oral defense shall first complete the "thesis originality check" and submit the result to the members of the oral defense committee.
2. After completing all the request in regulations aforementioned, a Ph.D. student may apply for oral defense with the advisor's recommendation. A Ph.D. degree will be conferred after he/she passes the oral defense.
3. If a graduate student who is admitted into the Ph.D. program through direct entrance, after passing the qualification exams, fails to pass the oral defense for Ph.D. degree, he/she may be conferred a master's degree if the Ph.D. oral defense committee judges that the student meets the requirements thereof.

VII. Appeal:

In the Academic Regulations for the Doctor of Philosophy Program, issues of which must be approved by advisers (including credits transferring, qualification exams, suspension, changing advisor and graduation) could be appealed. In the event that the advisor does not consent to such a change and no agreement can be reached after mediation, the student may appeal to the Curriculum Committee, which will review and decide on the case.