

National Sun Yat-sen University International Doctoral Program Marine Science and Technology Qualification and Degree Examination Regulations

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Approved by the President on July 3, 2022
Approved by the President on November 21, 2023

Article 1: The National Sun Yat-sen University International Doctoral Program Marine Science and Technology (hereinafter referred to as "the Program") followed the regulations of "Implementation bylaws for Ph.D. and Master Degree Examination" and established the "National Sun Yat-sen University International Graduate Program in Marine Science and Technology Qualification and Degree Examination Regulations" (hereinafter referred to as "the Regulation").

Article 2: Matters during the study period:

1. Duration of Study: The duration of study is two to seven years, stipulated by the Ministry of Education (excluding retention admission and suspension period).
2. Course Requirements:
 - (1) Students' course selection must be approved by the advisor.
 - (2) Doctoral students must complete a minimum of 24 credits, including required courses, before graduation. The details are as follows:
 - i. Core Courses - module A: Study at least 6 credits from various groups of Independent Study or equivalent, and at least 4 credits from various groups of Seminar/Colloquium.
 - ii. Elective Courses: Study at least 14 credits of elective courses from various groups. (Please refer to the program website for course requirements.)
 - (3) Role of the Advisor: The thesis advisor for doctoral students in the Program must be a full-time faculty member of the College of Marine Sciences. If there are significant reasons to appoint an advisor from another college, there should be a

faculty member of the college also advising.

- (4) Establishment of the Thesis Advisory Committee: The thesis advisor for doctoral students in the Program should assist students in forming a Thesis Advisory Committee composed of 3 to 5 internal and external scholars and experts in the field. The schedule for committee meetings is determined through consultation with the advisor, committee members and students. The composition of the Thesis Advisory Committee should be submitted to the Academic Committee of the Program for reference, and the advisor shall not serve as the convener.

Article 3: Doctoral Candidate Qualifying Exam

1. Doctoral program students must apply for the Doctoral Candidate Qualifying Exam within three years after enrollment (excluding a suspension). The application deadline is within one month from the start of each semester. The Doctoral Candidate Qualifying Exam consists of two parts: a subject examination and an oral examination of the research proposal. The subjects for the subject examination shall be determined by the student's thesis advisor, and the examination content shall be decided by the Doctoral Candidate Qualifying Exam Committee. The examination may be conducted through written or oral methods. The examination results will be evaluated as "pass" or "fail." The Doctoral Candidate Qualifying Exam Committee shall consist of 3 to 5 internal and external scholars and experts in the field. The members shall be determined and invited by the Thesis Advisory Committee, and the advisor shall not serve as the convener. A candidate who does not pass a subject may retake the examination once within one year after the announcement of the results. The candidate should be expelled when failing the retake.
2. The oral examination of the research proposal must submit a complete proposal to the Doctoral Candidate Qualifying Exam Committee two weeks before the oral examination. A candidate who does not pass the oral examination may retake it once within one year. If the candidate remains unsuccessful after the retake, dismissal from the program is required.

Definition of a Semester: The first semester is from August 1 to January 31 of the following year, and the second semester is from February 1 to July 31.

Article 4: Doctoral Dissertation Exam

Doctoral degree candidates must fulfill the following requirements before applying for the Doctoral Dissertation Exam:

1. Complete course requirements mentioned above.
2. Academic Presentation Ability:

- (1) Attend at least one international academic conference which the candidate presents in English (submit an acceptance letter or a conference abstract from the organizing committee, and video or photos for proving participation) before graduation.
- (2) Publish at least one academic paper related to the doctoral dissertation research in SCIE (Science Citation Index Expanded) or SSCI (Social Science Citation Index) journal as the first author or corresponding author. The paper accepted by the journal is considered to be published.

3. International Exchange (only for local students):

Local students must have exchanged overseas before applying for the Doctoral Dissertation Exam. Conditions include one of the following:

- (1) Overseas studies including laboratory research or advanced studies over three months.
- (2) Get a dual-degree with the overseas university cooperating with Sun Yat-sen University.
- (3) Students with jobs (students who have an employment certificate) or for other reasons cannot attend a long-term exchange program (such as pregnancy or childcare), must attend at least one international seminar, or forum, and present a paper. If international exchange is not allowed due to an international pandemic, an online international seminar may be accepted as a substitute. The details related to this rule would be recognized by the Academic Committee.

The Thesis Advisory Committee shall be nominated in accordance with the University's "Implementation Bylaws for Ph.D. and Master Degree Examination". The Doctoral Thesis Examination Committee shall be established upon approval by the program director and appointment sanction by the President. The committee shall consist of 5 to 7 internal and external scholars and experts in the field. The advisor shall not serve as the convener. The doctoral dissertation has to undergo an originality check, and comparison principals and results must comply with the related regulations of the University's " Implementation Bylaws for Ph.D. and Master Degree Examination." Those who fail their degree examination and have not reached their maximum study period may retake the examination in the following semester or academic year. They may only retake the exam once, and those who still fail shall be directed to withdraw from the program.

Article 5: Graduation: Those who meet the requirements mentioned above may apply for graduation.

Article 6: Any matters that are not defined by the Regulation shall be handled in accordance with relevant laws and regulations.

Article 7: The Regulations were approved by the Program Meeting and College Affairs Council and then submitted to the University President for sanction prior to implementation. Modifications shall follow the same procedure.