

# Guidelines for the Doctoral Program of the Department of Statistics, National Chengchi University

Passed in the Department of Statistics department affairs meeting on June 25, 2007  
Revised and passed in the Department of Statistics department affairs meeting on November 15, 2010  
Revised and passed in the 1st department affairs meeting of the semester on September 26, 2011  
Revised and passed in the extraordinary department affairs meeting on May 29, 2012  
Revised and passed in the 1st department affairs meeting of the semester on March 11, 2013  
Revised and passed in the 2nd department affairs meeting on April 15, 2013  
Revised and passed in the 2nd department affairs meeting on November 17, 2014  
Revised and passed in the last department affairs meeting of the semester on January 12, 2015  
Revised and passed in the 2nd department affairs meeting on March 28, 2016  
Revised and passed in the department affairs meeting on October 23, 2017  
Revised and passed in the 3rd department affairs meeting on December 10, 2018  
Revised and passed in the 3rd department affairs meeting on May 11, 2020  
Revised and passed in the last department affairs meeting of the semester on June 8, 2020

## Chapter 1 General Provisions

Article 1: The National Chengchi University Department of Statistics (hereinafter referred to as the "Department") established these Guidelines for the course requirements, degree examination, and graduation requirements of doctoral students.

Article 2: Any questions regarding the provisions in these Guidelines shall be determined by the Curriculum Committee.

## Chapter 2 Duration of Study and Credit Requirements

Article 3: The duration of study of doctoral students of the Department is two to seven years.

Article 4: Excluding the dissertation, doctoral students of the Department must acquire at least 34 credits.

Article 5: Course requirements for doctoral students of the Department before graduation are as follows:

- (I) Required courses: Seminar on Mathematical Statistics, Seminar on Linear Models, Probability Theory, Academic Ethics.
- (II) Required elective courses: Statistics Consulting, Seminar; in which "Seminar" is a required elective course every semester before taking the qualifying exam, and at most 4 credits may be acquired.
- (III) Students participate and publish a paper in the college's "Research Publication Camp," or attend and publish a paper in an international conference recognized by the Department within two years after passing the qualifying exam.
- (IV) After doctoral students pass the qualifying exam, they must schedule a roughly 30-minute speech during the "Seminar" course each semester until graduation. Students are exempted from giving a speech if they have already participated and published a paper in the college "Research Publication Camp" or published a paper in an international conference recognized by the Department that year.

Article 6: If students have already taken the doctoral program courses "Seminar on Mathematical Statistics," "Seminar on Linear Models," or "Statistics Consulting" in a master's program, they may transfer the credits.

Article 7: Doctoral students of the Department may take up to two master's program courses of the Department that will be included in the 34 credits required for graduation.

Article 8: In addition to the required courses in the PhD program, the academic committee members may recommend doctoral students to take some designated courses in the Master's program, while a final decision will be made by the Department Chair. The recognition of course credits must meet Article 7.

## Chapter 3 Qualifying Exam

Article 9: Doctoral students of the Department must pass the qualifying exam within six semesters (suspension of study is not calculated in the period of study) after enrollment.

Article 10: The subjects of qualifying exam for doctoral students include Mathematical Statistics, Linear Models, and Probability Theory.

Article 11: Qualifying exams are held once in February and September each year. In principle, the exam time is five hours. Students must retrieve a qualifying exam application form at the department office one month before the end of each semester, fill out the application form, and submit it to the department office before the deadline. Students must also sign an affidavit.

Article 12: Doctoral students can take the qualifying exam at most two times. Once the application for qualifying exam is submitted, students who wish to decline the exam should inform the Department at least one month before the exam date; students who fail to do so will be considered as being absent from the exam.

Article 13 Students who fail to pass the qualifying exam may submit an application for an additionally arranged oral exam within two weeks after the result of qualifying exam is announced. If the student still fails to pass the oral exam, he/she will be withdrawn from the University.

Article 14 Doctoral students must serve at the Statistics Consulting Center for at least one year after passing the qualifying exam. In principle, at most 2 doctoral students can serve for the Statistics Consulting Center at the same time.

#### **Chapter 4 Dissertation Topic Submission and Advisor Selection**

Article 15 Doctoral students may submit their doctoral dissertation after passing the qualifying exam.

Article 16 The thesis advisor must be a full-time faculty member of the Department.

#### **Chapter 5 Results presentation**

Article 17 Doctoral students of the Department must meet the following two conditions before taking the degree exam:

(I) Attend at least one international academic conference related to Statistics and publish a paper.

(II)

1. at least one paper published (or accepted) by an SCI (including SCI expanded) or SSCI journal, or

2. at least two papers published (or accepted) by a TSSCI journal or Journal of the Chinese Statistical Association.

Article 18 If the journal papers are jointly published (or accepted), the doctoral student's advisor must be on the author list. The first author or corresponding author must be the doctoral student or the advisor, and the content of the paper should not relate to the doctoral student's Master's thesis or a paper published before enrolling in the doctoral program.

#### **Chapter 6 Review of Dissertation Proposal**

Article 19 Before applying for taking the degree exam, doctoral students must submit their dissertation proposal for review, which will be carried out in the form of an oral defense. The proposal review procedures are as follows:

1. The proposal shall be reviewed by the Review Committee. The Review Committee for each proposal shall consist of four to five qualified members (including the dissertation advisor) from inside and outside NCCU, in which at least two members must be from outside NCCU.

2. Doctoral students must gain the approval of their advisor before submitting their dissertation proposal, and must retrieve an application form from the department office two weeks before the oral defense. The proposal must be delivered to each committee member one week before the oral defense. Contents of the proposal must include preliminary research results and a complete list of references.

3. Students must gain the approval of more than two thirds of defense jury members to pass the oral defense for the dissertation proposal. Students who do not pass must re-

apply for a different time.

4. Students may only apply for the degree examination six months after passing the proposal review.

### **Chapter 7 Doctoral Degree Examination**

Article 20 Doctoral students of the Department must meet one of the following criteria at the time of the degree examination.

- (I) Pass any one of the following test standards
  1. TOEFL IBT 94 points or higher (inclusive)
  2. TOEIC 800 points or higher (inclusive).
  3. IELTS 6.5 or higher (inclusive).
  4. Cambridge Certificate FCE or higher (inclusive).
  5. GEPT high-intermediate level.
- (II) Take 108 hours of English courses at the language center of a public or private university registered with the MOE, receive a score of at least 80 points for each course, and at least 1/3 must be writing classes and 1/3 must be conversation classes. Courses are only valid for two years after they are completed.
- (III) Obtained a bachelor or master's degree from an English speaking country that is recognized by the MOE.

Article 21 The degree examination for doctoral students of the Department is conducted in the form of an oral defense, and procedures are as follows:

1. The oral defense of the dissertation shall be carried out by the oral defense jury. The oral defense jury for each dissertation shall consist of five to nine members from inside and outside NCCU, in which members from outside NCCU must account for one-third or more (inclusive).
2. Students must gain the approval of more than two thirds of defense jury members with an average score of 70 points to pass. Students may retake the exam if they fail the oral defense, and shall be withdrawn from the University if they fail the exam the second time.

Article 22 Doctoral dissertations of the Department shall, in principle, be written in traditional Chinese or English. However, the title and abstract must still be written in traditional Chinese.

Article 23 Other matters shall be handled in accordance with the National Chengchi University Guidelines for Graduate Degree Examinations.

### **Chapter 8 Supplementary Provisions**

Article 24 Any matters that are not addressed in these Guidelines shall be governed by NCCU regulations.

Article 25 These Guidelines shall be implemented after approval by a department affairs meeting. The same applies to all subsequent amendments.