

Regulations for the Implementation of the Ph.D. Candidacy Examination

Department of Education, Graduate Institute of Curriculum and Instruction, National Taiwan Normal University

Approved at the 3rd departmental meeting of Academic Year 1993/1994 in 1994
Amended and approved at the 2nd departmental meeting of Academic Year 1998/1999 in 1998
Amended and approved at the 1st departmental meeting of Academic Year 1999/2000
Amended and approved at the 3rd departmental meeting of Academic Year 1999/2000
Amended and approved at the 6th departmental meeting of Academic Year 2000/2001
Amended and approved at the 4th departmental meeting of Academic Year 2002/2003 on June 25, 2003
Amended and approved at the 2nd departmental meeting of Academic Year 2004/2005 on January 21, 2005
Amended and approved at the 3rd departmental meeting of Academic Year 2005/2006 on January 11, 2006
Amended and approved at the 1st departmental meeting of Academic Year 2010/2011 on October 14, 2010
Amended and approved at the 3rd departmental meeting of Academic Year 2010/2011 on March 22, 2011
Amended and approved at the 3rd departmental meeting of Academic Year 2011/2012 on March 6, 2012
Amended and approved at the 4th departmental meeting of Academic Year 2011/2012 on June 19, 2012
Amended and approved at the 3rd departmental meeting of Academic Year 2012/2013 on June 18, 2013
Amended and approved at the 2nd departmental meeting of Academic Year 2013/2014 on January 10, 2014
Amended and approved at the 4th departmental meeting of Academic Year 2014/2015 on June 17, 2015
Amended and approved at the 2nd departmental meeting of Academic Year 2017/2018 on January 11, 2018
Amended and approved at the 5th departmental meeting of Academic Year 2018/2019 on June 19, 2019
Amended and approved at the 4th departmental meeting of Academic Year 2020/2021 on July 2, 2020
Amended and approved at the 1st departmental meeting of Academic Year 2023/2024 on October 5, 2023.

- Article 1 These regulations have been established in accordance with the university's regulations pertaining to examinations for M.A. and Ph.D. graduate study.
- Article 2 Ph.D. students who have completed the minimum number of credits required for graduation may apply to take the Ph.D. candidacy examination. Ph.D. students may apply to take the Ph.D. candidacy examination in the same semester in which they fulfill the credits requirement stated above. However, if a student fails to fulfill the credits requirement when the semester ends, the student's results from the Ph.D. candidacy examination will not be given recognition.
- Article 3 When applying to take the Ph.D. candidacy examination, Ph.D. students are required to submit a copy of their original transcripts for review. Only after they have passed the review can they take the examination.
- Article 4 Ph.D. students are required to choose two subjects for their examination from among the following eight domains: Philosophy of Education, History of Education, Theories of Sociology of Education, Research Methods in Sociology of Education, Curriculum, Instruction, Educational Policy, and Educational Administration (inclusive of School Administration). One of the examination subjects should be the student's own specialization (if the student is in a program with compulsory modules, these modules make up the specialization); the other examination subject should be a specialized area in which the student has taken six credits and above. Ph.D. students in the Program of Educational Studies may select any two subjects.
- Students can get exempted from taking the Ph.D. candidacy examination if, after their admission to the Ph.D. program, they have papers published in (or accepted to) SSCI, TSSCI or Scopus journals. The student has to be listed as the independent, or first author of the paper, and the exemption has to be reviewed and approved by the department's Curriculum Committee (or

submitted for external review, if necessary). Students from China can also be exempted from taking the Ph.D. candidacy examination if they have papers published in (or accepted to) CSSCI journals. If the paper is co-authored, one of the authors should be a full-time faculty member from the department. Additionally, the contribution of the first author to the paper should be at least 60%. Each paper can be used to apply for exemption from one examination in a relevant subject in the Ph.D. candidacy examination. The exemption is valid for up to a maximum of two subjects. The topic and content of the submitted paper should be closely related to the subject of the examination. The paper submitted to the journal must not be a reworked version of a Master's thesis.

Students from China can use papers published in (or accepted to) CSSCI education journals for this purpose.

Students applying for exemption from the Ph.D. candidacy examination through a journal article should submit the application form (including a contribution statement if the paper is co-authored) and the full text of the journal article to the department office. After review by the relevant academic group, the paper will be forwarded to the department's Curriculum Committee for approval (external review may be required if necessary). Each approved journal article can substitute for one subject in the Ph.D. candidacy examination.

- Article 5 The examination subjects to be taken in the Ph.D. candidacy examination are to be discussed and determined jointly by the academic advisor or supervising professor and the student. Students applying to take the examination can take one or two subjects in each application. Only one subject is to be taken a day. The Chairperson of the Department will appoint a faculty member or a part-time lecturer with relevant specializations to set the examination.
- Article 6 From the first semester of Academic Year 2014/2015, the Ph.D. candidacy examination is a closed-book examination. The examination time for each subject is 3 hours for domestic students and four hours for foreign students.
- Article 7 In addition to the examination setter, a second marker is appointed to grade the papers for each subject.
- Article 8 The Ph.D. candidacy examination is conducted in both English and Chinese. The passing mark is 70, with a full mark of 100. Re-examinations for failed subjects are based on the original subject taken.
- Article 9 Students who pass the Ph.D. candidacy examination and have fulfilled the relevant requirements for the conferment of doctoral degrees are to become Ph.D. candidates with the support of the department. Ph.D. candidates can then prepare for the dissertation proposal oral defense.
- Article 10 The Ph.D. candidacy examination takes place in January and June every year. The application period for the Ph.D. candidacy examination is as follows:
First semester: By October 31. Second semester: By April 30.
- Article 11 All matters not covered in this regulation shall be handled in accordance with the regulations of the university and the department.
- Article 12 These provisions have been approved and amended in departmental meetings. The implementation period and scope of these provisions have also been specified during the amendments.

Article 13 These provisions have been reviewed in departmental meetings prior to being sent to the Office of Academic Affairs for the President's reference and filing purposes. The same process has been observed when there are amendments made to the content.