

NCCU Department of English Regulation for Completion of the Doctoral Program (Literature Division)

Amended and passed by the MA/PhD-Lit. Meeting on Oct. 16, 2003
(part of the articles were amended according to the resolution of the 129th University Council Meeting)
Amended and passed by the PhD-Lit. and TESOL Meeting on Sep. 9, 2004
Amended and passed by the PhD-Lit. Meeting on Dec. 13, 2004
Amended and passed by the PhD-Lit. Meeting on June 13, 2005
(part of the articles were amended according to the resolution of the Consultative Conference on
Graduation Procedure for Leaving NCCU held by the Administration Automation Promoting Section on March 3, 2004)
(As amended according to the resolution of the Academic Council Meeting on December 25, 2006, 2
hardcover copies of the dissertation shall be submitted to the Library.)
Amended and passed by the Ad-hoc General Faculty Meeting on Oct. 3, 2005
Amended and passed by the PhD-Lit. Meeting on May 17, 2007
Amended and passed by the General Faculty Meeting on Jan. 15, 2009
Amended and passed by the MA/PhD-Lit. Meeting on Apr. 9, 2009
Amended and passed by the MA/PhD-Lit. & TESOL Meeting on Nov. 17, 2011
Amended and passed by the MA/PhD-Lit. Meeting on Nov. 26, 2012
Amended and passed by the MA/PhD-Lit. Meeting on May 29, 2014

- I. The duration of the doctoral program is two years and may be extended by five years.
- II. **Courses and credits:** at least 36 credits shall be completed, excluding the dissertation.
 1. Required course: Modern Western Literary Theories (3), must be taken with the first two years of admission.
 2. Elective courses: the student shall select mainly from the courses provided by this doctoral program. In the case of taking courses at other departments or universities, the student shall communicate the reasons therefore to the advisor or the Chair and then make adjustments as suggested by the teachers, provided that no more than 9 credits shall be earned by this means.
 3. Preparatory courses: the students who graduated from other than the Master's Program in British and American Literature shall complete 12 credits at least by taking the courses of our Master's Program within the duration of this Doctoral Program. (the credits thus earned will not be included in the graduation credits)
 4. Second foreign language: including French, German, Spanish, or other foreign languages accredited by the Department.

The student shall attain one of the following requirements prior to graduation:

 - (1) The student shall study one of the languages listed above for two years, and score 70 or above in every semester exam.
 - (2) The student, who had, within five years before admitted to this doctoral program, completed a two-year second foreign language course in a local or overseas university with the score of 70 or above, may be exempted from taking this course.
 - (3) The student may directly participate in the exam for exemption of the second foreign language course. This exam is held once a semester with the duration of 2 hours and the pass score is set at 70. Upon receipt of application from the student, the Chair will invite 2 teachers to design the questions and mark the paper. The student who has failed the exam twice with the score below 70 shall study the second foreign language for two years.

The credits for the second foreign language course will not be counted as the

graduation credits.

III. Qualifying exam:

1. The Student, who has completed or expect to complete within the current semester all the credits for graduation, may apply to the Departmental Office for the qualifying exam on general courses. The application shall be submitted in March or October and the exam is held once at the end of each semester.
2. There are two types of such exams, namely, the new version applicable to all the students and the old version which may be chosen by the students admitted to this Program before the 2004 academic year at their discretion.
 - 2.1 Old version: the exam on general courses focuses on the British and American literary works and consists of three sections: poetry, fiction and drama, with the bibliography provided by the Doctoral Program.
 - 2.2 New version: the exam on general courses focuses on the literary theories and the British and American literary works (of any of the three literary forms: poetry, novel and drama), with the bibliography provided by the Doctoral Program.
3. Only after passing the qualifying exam on general courses may the student submit the dissertation title solely in English. All the documents processed, with the exception of the “Theories”, shall be originally in English.
4. The student may, in the first week of every semester, submit the dissertation title and apply for the exam on the specialized courses which shall relate to the subject of the dissertation. To apply for the exam, the student shall submit (1) the dissertation-related bibliography worked out by consulting with the advisor and examined by the Doctoral Program Examination Committee (2) 1000-word maximum English abstract of the dissertation. The examination of the bibliography will take one month.
5. The Doctoral Program Examination Committee consists of three professors (including associate professors), and the advisor will be the ex-officio member and engaged by the Chair.
6. A student who was admitted to this Doctoral Program from the 1993 academic year onwards and has failed the same exam thrice (the exam on general courses and that on specialized courses are considered separately in this case) will be terminated from this Program. The student who registers for but fails to attend the examination will be deemed to have participated in the examination once.
7. Only after passing the qualifying exam on specialized courses will the student be accepted to the Doctorate candidacy.

IV. Dissertation:

1. The student who is qualified for the Doctorate candidacy may begin writing the dissertation proposal. Upon approval by the advisor, the student shall submit 4 copies of the proposal of 10-15 pages (excluding the page of bibliography), and the contents shall include the purport, literature review, research methods, expected achievements, bibliography, etc.

2. The dissertation proposal will be examined by three professors (including associate professors) invited by the Chair by way of an oral defense. The oral defense for the proposal, which the student may apply for before the specified deadline, is held three to six weeks after the application procedure has been completed and once a semester. The oral defense will be scored "Pass" or "Fail". The student who scores "Fail" may reapply for the oral defense next semester. The dissertation proposal shall be passed no later than in the semester before the dissertation oral defense.
3. The dissertation shall be written according to the Doctoral Dissertation Format adopted by this Doctoral Program, and application for the dissertation oral defense may be done anytime before the specified deadline for a semester, only if the student has passed the Graduation Requirements for Foreign Language Proficiency. For application, the student shall provide five copies of the completed dissertation together with the Doctoral Degree Examination Application Form (which may be requested from the Departmental Office or downloaded from the website of the Office of Academic Affairs and shall be signed by the advisor after filled in.). The advisor will recommend a list of professors, including four from the NCCU and four from outside the NCCU, and the Chair will pick out 4-8 professors from the list to join the advisor in conducting the oral defense.
4. The dissertation oral defense will be held three to six weeks after the application procedure is completed. The deadline for applying for the thesis oral defense will be announced by the Department Office. After the oral defense, the student shall revise the dissertation according to the opinions of the Oral Defense Committee members and may have the revised dissertation printed only after it has been reviewed and approved by the advisor and the Chair.
5. The student who passes the dissertation oral defense shall check out online the procedure for leaving NCCU and print out the Checklist for Leaving NCCU, whereby (s)he may visit all the entities concerned and the Department Office to go through the stamping formalities for leaving NCCU. Before proceeding with the procedure for leaving NCCU, the student shall complete the Online Archiving of the NCCU Doctoral and Master's Theses and submit two paperbound copies of the dissertation to the Departmental Office and two hardcover copies to the Collecting Section of the Library.

V. Others:

1. Since the Department has implemented Graduation Requirements for Foreign Language Proficiency since 2004, any student who falls short of the required standards shall not apply for the dissertation oral defense.
2. The student admitted to this program from the 2005 academic year onwards shall publish journals at least in the local or foreign journals or on the academic conferences (including the review mechanism) in this discipline within the duration of this Doctoral Program and before the degree examination; otherwise, (s)he shall not graduate. The student must, prior to the degree oral defense, turn in the offprints of the journals, or the Acceptance Letters issued by the chief editors of the journals together with the accepted papers. In the case of academic conference, the student shall provide (a) the letter of acceptance for presentation at the conference, (b) the conference program, (c) the paper in full text.

3. The students admitted after Year 2013 must provide prove of participating 4 academic lectures hosted by the department and one conference (exclude the departmental graduate students paper presentation) before applying for PhD dissertation proposal oral test.
4. The students admitted after Year 2014 must provide prove of participating 6 academic lectures hosted by the department and one conference (exclude the departmental graduate students paper presentation) before applying for PhD dissertation proposal oral test.