

# **Program Requirement for the International Ph.D. Program on Biomedical and Materials Science of Tunghai University**

Approved by the Program Council on July 14, 2020 (and applicable thereafter)

## **1. Objective**

This program requirement is in place to facilitate the enrolled students in scheduling course plans.

## **2. Length of Study**

The length of study for the Ph.D. program is two to seven years.

## **3. Courses and Credits**

- a. A student is required to take a minimum of 14 credits, inclusive of the compulsory 3-credit course of “Special Topics on Biomedical and Materials Science”. The rest are electives up to the supervisor’s suggestion and discretion. Additional credits from Seminar (4 credits) and Thesis (12 credits) are necessary.
- b. The above 14 credits do not include the 12-credit dissertation and the four 1-credit seminars.
- c. Student is required to pass the Seminar for at least four semesters (1 credit per semester).

## **4. Candidacy Examination**

- a. The candidacy examination follows the stipulation of “Tunghai University Implementation Directions for Ph.D. Candidacy Examination”.
- b. A student should choose his/her supervisor by the end of the first semester upon enrollment and take the candidacy examination in the supervisor’s research area.
- c. After completing the required courses, the examinee may propose a research plan which is NOT directly related to his/her dissertation to be assessed in an oral form by the candidacy examination committee which is organized by the supervisor and composed of three to five qualified professionals. The passing score is 70 on average. A make-up chance is applicable for one time only and must be within 6 months.

## **5. Dissertation Oral Defense for Ph.D. Degree**

- a. The oral defense of the dissertation for Ph.D. degree examination follows the stipulation of “THU Regulations Regarding Graduate Degree Examination”.

- b. In addition to a Ph.D. dissertation, a minimum of two peer-reviewed publications in SCI journals with the student as the first author is required to fulfill the requirement of the degree. The student should have the dissertation sent to the committee members two weeks in advance.
- c. The examinee's supervisor should nominate the members of the oral defense committee to be appointed by the President.
- d. The oral defense committee should be composed of five to seven professionals, in which, other than the examinee's supervisor as the ipso facto member, the rest one-third (and above) should be non-THU affiliated.
- e. The passing score is 70, calculated on average anonymously. A failure occurs if one-third of the members' individual scores are below 60.

## **6. Other Requirements**

- a. If student would like to switch to other research group during the course of graduate study, agreement should be reached from the Program Director, current supervisor and the student before the change of supervisory appointment to take effect. The student must take additional two years at least and complete the requirement from new supervisor before graduation.
  - b. A supervisor's expertise should be closely related to this Program, and the dissertation topic should fall in the supervisor's area of research. A meeting shall be called from the Program Council and reach of agreement if the candidate would prefer to have co-supervisor outside the Program.
7. All pending affairs not in this regulation shall comply with the regulations from the University and the Ministry of Education.
  8. This regulation comes into effect after passing the Program Council and being submitted to the Office of Academic Affairs for record and future reference.