

National Kaohsiung University of Hospitality and Tourism

Doctoral Degree Regulations for the Institute of Tourism Management

Application for the 2019-2020 Academic Year

- I. Doctoral program is divided into sub-divisions, research-oriented and industry-academia collaboration division. Students have to choose a division as their major. Students are unable to change their major after enrollment. National Kaohsiung University of Hospitality and Management (NKUHT) has set the following program regulation for Doctoral students.
- II. Period of study of the Doctoral Degree Program is limited from 2 to 7 years.
- III. Courses 、specialization and Qualifying Examination:
 - A. Required graduation credits are at least 36 credits, which includes 12 credits of core courses and minimum 24 credits of elective courses. The 6-credit doctoral is excluded.
Core courses: Methodology (3 credits), Qualitative Research (3 credits), Advanced Quantitative Methods (3 credits), and Lecture on Tourism and Hospitality (3 credits).
 - B. The courses for each semester should be arranged by thesis advisor. Before the students declare an advisor, a convener appointed by the director will be responsible for the course planning.
 - C. A Maximum of 6 credits of courses taken in other institutes may be used toward the degree.
 - D. Students of graduate program hold a non-major related master degree must fulfill the requirements by taking three of the following courses requested by the convener appointed by institute director: tourism and leisure research, **quantitative methods**, case studies in tourism, marketing management, human resources management, financial management, and information technology research in tourism industry. The credits will not be counted towards graduate degree.
Students must finish three master program courses before starting research proposal. Students who have completed courses which are listed prior to entering the PhD program, his or her credit exemption will be discussed by the convener and professors or associate professors in GITM.
 - E. Students must choose one area of specialization.
 1. There are three areas of specialization. The courses is listed in Ph. D. Course Structure.
 - a. Tourism and Recreation
 - b. Food and Beverage & Hotel
 - c. English-taught Program (International students only)
 2. The student should choose an area of specialization before the beginning of the fourth

semester. His or her study plan should be granted by the convener. Students must complete application form for area of study.

3. Change Area of Specialization: Students requesting for a transfer from one area of study to another need to apply through the institute office. The request can only be applied once.

F. After the student selects a thesis advisor, student can start taking Independent Research I and Independent Research II instructed by thesis advisor.

G. Students who have completed courses listed in the school curriculum prior to entering the Ph. D Program cannot apply for credit waivers. Ph. D. candidates who have exceeded the period of study or have failed degree examinations may resume the program by retaking the entrance exam. In this case, credit exemption should be ratified by the institute director.

IV. The convener is chosen within full-time faculty members in GITM and will serve four-year term. He or she may be re-elected to a second term. Convener works closely with the institute director and coordinates the Ph. D. program enrollment, degree examinations, and other related affairs. Before the expiration of his/her term in office, faculty members will vote anonymously one month in advance during the institute affairs meeting. If he/she secures more than half of votes, he/she will be re-elected.

V. Ph. D. Qualifying Examination

A. The Ph. D. qualifying examination includes written subject exam and thesis proposal oral defense.

B. After taking all core courses in GITM, students can apply for subject exam.

C. Subject exam is usually assessed through written test. It also can be a combination of a written and oral section. There are two fields for the Ph. D. written subject exam for each three sub-divisions. Examination committee consists of the institute director (chair of the board) and assistant professors from NKUHT and other university. Each field is designed by two examination committee members. Students who reach the passing mark in the assessments of more than two-third of committee members can pass the subject exam.

D. The subject exam is held every **academic year**. Students who intend to take the subject exam should apply for two weeks in advance before the **second** semester ends. **The examination dates will be set within the first two weeks in the new academic year.** The students who fail the Ph. D. qualifying examination is allowed to retake only once.

E. The subject exam can be assessed through publishing journal articles. Students have to choose at least 2 fields in each sub-divisions and must have had research results **published in overseas indexed journals (SSCI, SCI, SCIE and EI) or in domestic TSSCI-indexed journals.** Student must be the first author or the corresponding author of either one paper.

F. After passing the subject exam, Ph. D. candidates should propose thesis research proposal within a year. The thesis proposal oral defense will be examined and approved by thesis advisor and a group of five scholars. The exam board should include at least two experts from out of University who has expertise in the field of research. Students who fail the thesis

proposal oral defense may apply to retake the oral defense once.

G. The passing grade and full marks of the examination are 70 and 100, respectively.

H. The student becomes a Ph.D. Candidate after passing all qualifying examinations.

VI. Guidelines for Thesis Advisor:

Full-time faculty of GITM who is associate professor.

- A. **If the thesis requires an advisor who is not a faculty member of GITM, the advisor shall at most supervise 2 students.**
- B. Associate professor as thesis advisor for research-oriented division and **English-taught program.**
- C. Assistant professor as thesis advisor for industry-academia collaboration division.
- D. If the thesis requires an advisor who is not a faculty member of **NKUHT**, the student shall be co-supervised by one of the **assistant professor or above** from **NKUHT**.
- E. Guidelines for Co-Supervision: It requires one associate professor and assistant professor.
- F. Each GITM faculty can supervise a maximum of 5 students in five years (excluding students who have been suspended). Advisors from other institute **and other university** can supervise at most 2 students. In the case of co-supervision, that GITM faculty is regarded as supervising 1 student.

VII. Degree Examination:

Candidates who meet the following requirements are allowed to proceed to the Degree Examination no earlier than six months after passing thesis proposal oral defense:

- A. Requirements of Entrepreneur Trainee Program:
 - 1. Attend two months (320 hours) or above entrepreneurial training program and hand in one case study report.
 - 2. Attend at least three international academic conferences with screening system before applying for the Ph. D. Degree Examination and give a presentation in a foreign language. The certificate of presentation is required.
 - 3. Take total lecture above 54 hours in sister schools or other institutes approved by thesis advisor.
 - 4. Students who win first place individual in international contest and receive certificate of prize. Contest manual is required.

Complete one of the above requirements and the institute will not count towards the degree requirement unless preliminary reviewed by the thesis advisor and approved by the institute director

- B. Requirements of Language Proficiency

Students are required to possess a pass grade in one of the following examinations:
CBT TOEFL 213 or iBT TOEFL 79

TOEIC 750

IELTS 5.5

GEPT High-Intermediate level

JLPT N2 level; or other examinations approved by institute affairs meeting.

Students who obtained bachelor degree from an English speaking country or in Japan can apply for exemption. Students who have failed language proficiency test complete one of the following requirements:

1. Students can apply for the exchange student program or engage in research project (excluding in Mainland China, Hong Kong and Macau) for 3 months and above. Application form must be examined by the institute and submit a pass grade in all taken courses.
2. Attend at least two international academic conferences with screening system and give a presentation in a foreign language. The certificate of presentation is required.
3. Students who have failed language proficiency test twice should take the required English course with certificate of examination provided. Students should have perfect attendance and pass the test during the course.

C. Requirements for Industry-academia collaboration division candidates:

Candidates must fulfill one of the following requirements. Students need to put their specialist knowledge to practical use by conducting an industry-university cooperative project. The result should contain introduction to the fundamentals of the innovation, theory review, methodology, technical innovation and contribution. The project must be conducted under the direction of NKUHT. The student must be the principal investigator or his/her thesis advisor must be the co-principal investigator. The projects should be approved by all members in the Thesis Advisory Committee.

1. Three industry-university collaborative research projects and above launched by Ministry of Science and Technology.
2. Three tenders and above process in the government and price quotations (NT\$900,000 and above).
3. At least two industry-university collaborative research projects and two and above private sector tenders. Quotation pricing NT\$900,000 and above for each project.
4. Tender awarding value exceeds NT\$3.6 million.

D. Thesis Presentation:

1. Conference Paper Presentation:

Attend at least two international academic conferences with screening system before applying for the Ph. D. Degree Examination and give a presentation in a foreign language. The certificate of presentation is required. The conference papers used to substitute the requirements of entrepreneur trainee program should not be included as part of the conference papers required for graduation.

2. Journal Paper Publication:

The requirements for research-oriented, **English-taught Program, International students,** and industry-academia collaboration division are as follows:

- a. After finishing thesis dissertation, research-oriented division, **English-taught Program and International** candidates shall have at least one **overseas indexed journal** paper (SCI,SSCI, **SCIE, and EI**) and one **TSSCI-indexed** journal paper published. Candidates should only apply for the degree examination after receiving the approval of thesis advisor.
- b. Industry-academia collaboration division candidates shall have at least two journal papers published. Candidates should only apply for the degree examination after receiving the approval of thesis advisor.

The articles should be published under the NKUHT applicants and be approved by all members in the Thesis Advisory Committee. The candidate should have thesis advisor listed on academic conferences and journal paper publication. The candidate or the thesis advisor must be the first author or the corresponding author. The papers used to substitute the Ph. D. qualifying examinations should not be included as part of the Journal papers required for graduation.

- E. **In order to encourage a greater participation in multidisciplinary research project and social design, the candidate and thesis advisor can present together and the student acts as a principal investigator (PI) or co-principal investigator (CO-PI). The proposal should be approved by the institute affairs meeting. A project closeout report is required and student can apply for exemption from entrepreneur trainee program or conference paper presentation.**
- F. **Ethical Approval of Research Programs (Applicable to Students Who Registered after Academic Year 2018)**

Students must complete the academic ethics course according to Chapter 3, Article 68 of NKUHT Academic Regulations. The implementation for courses in academic ethics course are applied in accordance with the university's Guidelines Governing the Academic Ethics Course.

VIII. Any matters regarding master's degree not listed shall be implemented in accordance with relevant regulations of Ministry of Education and relevant regulations of NKUHT.

IX. The regulations will be implemented after approval after the meeting of academic affairs, and the same for modification.