

**Degree Exam Related Provisions of the International Master
Program in Asia-Pacific Affairs, College of Social Sciences, National
Sun Yat-sen University**

Applicable to Freshmen Admitted in the 2013 Academic Year

Approved by the 2nd Program Affairs Meeting for the Academic year 2012 on December 18, 2012
Amended and Approved by the 2nd College Council Meeting for the Academic year 2012 on March 12, 2013
Approved by the President on March 21, 2013

Approved by the 1st Program Affairs Meeting for the Academic year 2013 on October 1, 2013
Amended and Approved by the 1st College Council Meeting for the Academic year 2013 on November 21, 2013
Approved by the President on December 2, 2013

Amended and Approved by the 4th Program Affairs Meeting for the Academic Year 2013 on February 26, 2014.

Amended and Approved by the 2nd College Council Meeting for the Academic Year 2013 on March 4, 2014

Approved by the President on March 13, 2014

1. This Provision is formulated in accordance with the “Degree Conferral Law” and its enforcement rules of the Ministry of Education as well as the “School Regulation” and “Graduate Degree Exam Enforcement Rules” of this school.
2. Related matters during the study period:
 - (A) Studying period: 1-4 years (excluding the student status retainment and leave of absence periods).
 - (B) Credit system and course requirements:
 - i. A student is required to complete 36 credits (including 3 credits for Master’s thesis), submit the Master’s research thesis in English, and pass the oral defense in order to graduate.
 - ii. For each semester, the upper credit limit for the courses selected is 15 (including courses outside of the program), and the lower credit limit is 9 (limited to the program courses). Credits earned from courses taken in a department or an institute outside of the program may be included in the graduation credits, but the total should not exceed 9 graduation credits.
 - (C) Select an advising professor for research thesis:
 - i. Graduate students shall select their thesis advising professor and submit the “Research Thesis Advising Professor Application Form” during the second semester (before July 31 for those admitted in the fall semester, and before January 31 for those admitted in the spring semester).
 - ii. Graduate thesis advising professor shall be a faculty member of this college. Non-faculty or out-of-school professor may serve as a co-advisor with a faculty professor.
 - iii. Should a graduate student decide to change the advising professor or thesis topic for any reason, the said student shall submit a “Thesis

Topic and Advisor Change Application Form” and such form shall be submitted to and adopted by a Program Affairs Meeting before effectuation. Those who apply to change their advising professor after they have passed their “Thesis Proposal” shall reprocess their “Thesis Proposal” for review.

3. Thesis proposal related provisions:

Definition of semester: The first semester is between August 1 and January 31 of each year, and the second semester is between February 1 and July 31 of the year.

- (A) Graduates students may apply for the Master’s thesis oral defense 3 months after their “Thesis Proposal” has been approved.
- (B) Thesis proposal shall at least include the thesis topic, literature review, research method, thesis structure, and references.
- (C) A student’s thesis proposal must be reviewed by the advisor and approved by the program director before the student can apply for the Master’s thesis oral defense.

4. Degree Examination

- (A) The degree examination includes “thesis examination” and “thesis review.”
- (B) The degree examination is held once every semester and should be held before the last day of a specific semester in accordance with the academic calendar (hereinafter referred to as the last day of the semester), during which a graduate student applies for the examination.
- (C) The “Master’s Thesis Oral Defense Application Form” shall be submitted no later than two weeks prior to the oral defense.
- (D) The thesis exam committee shall comprise at least 3 members; the advising professor shall be a committee member, and at least 1 member shall be a professor outside of the program. The advising professor shall make recommendation for an oral defense committee member, and the director shall designate one member as the convener. The advisor shall not serve as the convener.
- (E) The grade for the thesis examination is based on the combined assessment of the contents of the thesis and the oral defense (as well as other forms of examination). A B⁻ grade is required to pass and receive the Master’s degree in Asia-Pacific Affairs.
- (F) The thesis review will not be graded. A student whose thesis passes review should submit the thesis approval sheet with signatures of all members of the exam committee affixed to it. The grade for the thesis

examination is the grade for the degree examination.

(G) Those who failed the degree exam and whose term of study has not yet expired may take a re-exam in the following semester or school year. Re-exam shall be taken only once, and those who failed the re-exam shall be discontinued in accordance with the provisions provided by the school.

(H) A graduate student who fails to have his/her thesis approved before the registration day in the following semester, and the maximum period of his/her study has not been reached, should complete his/her registration in the following semester. If he/she still cannot have his/her thesis approved before the last day of the semester, the examination is invalid.

(I) After a degree examination has been held, the examination will become invalid if a graduate student fails to complete his/her required courses and credits or to meet the approval criteria for the program before the registration day in the following semester.

5. Graduation: Those who comply with the provisions above may apply for graduation.
6. This Provision and its amendments shall be approved by a Program Affairs Meeting, a College Council Meeting, and the president prior to implementation.