

Regulations for the PhD Program

Department of Water Resources and Environmental Engineering, Tamkang University

- 98.12.15 – Drafted and approved at the 3rd Departmental Affairs Meeting of the 1st Semester of the 98th Academic Year
- 99.01.11 – Revised and approved at the 4th Departmental Affairs Meeting of the 1st Semester of the 98th Academic Year
- 99.03.15 – Revised and approved at the 1st Departmental Affairs Meeting of the 2nd Semester of the 98th Academic Year
- 99.03.17 – Revised and approved at the 2nd Departmental Curriculum Committee Meeting of the 2nd Semester of the 98th Academic Year
- 100.01.11 – Revised and approved at the 4th Departmental Affairs Meeting of the 1st Semester of the 99th Academic Year
- 104.09.15 – Revised and approved at the 1st Departmental Affairs Meeting of the 1st Semester of the 104th Academic Year
- 106.04.11 – Revised and approved at the 3rd Departmental Affairs Meeting of the 2nd Semester of the 105th Academic Year
- 106.05.17 – Revised and approved at the 3rd Departmental Curriculum Committee Meeting of the 2nd Semester of the 105th Academic Year

I. Advisory Committee

1. Each PhD student shall have an Advisory Committee consisting of three to five members, including the primary advisor and, where applicable, co-advisors. At least one member shall be a full-time faculty member of the Department. The primary advisor shall serve as the convener of the Advisory Committee; co-advisors shall be appointed when necessary.
2. The Advisory Committee members shall be jointly recommended by the student and the advisor(s) and approved by the Department Chair.
3. Before the end of the first academic year of enrollment, the student must confirm the primary advisor and Advisory Committee members and submit the “Application Form for Appointment of Advisor and Advisory Committee Members” to the Department for record.
4. The Advisory Committee shall assist the student with course selection, research direction, thesis proposal, and related academic counseling.

II. Course Requirements

1. PhD students must complete at least 24 course credits, including required and elective courses, in accordance with the Department’s program regulations. Credits from master’s programs may not be counted toward the PhD course requirements, except as otherwise provided by relevant regulations (e.g., for direct-entry PhD students).
2. PhD students must complete at least 6 credits of “Doctoral Dissertation Research” (or equivalent titled courses) under the guidance of their advisor(s).

3. Direct-entry PhD students (those admitted directly after a bachelor's degree) must complete at least 42 course credits in total, in accordance with the University's and Department's regulations.
4. Course selection shall, in principle, follow the recommendations of the Advisory Committee. Any changes to course selection should be discussed with the advisor(s).
5. PhD students must complete the academic ethics course (or equivalent course/workshop recognized by the University) in accordance with University regulations.
6. PhD students are encouraged to take interdisciplinary courses related to their research topic, subject to approval by their advisor(s).
7. Students who fail a required course must retake and pass it; students who fail an elective course may choose either to retake the same course or to take another elective approved by the advisor(s).
8. Other matters related to course selection and credit recognition shall be handled in accordance with University and College regulations.

III. PhD Candidacy Qualification Examination

1. PhD students must pass the PhD Candidacy Qualification Examination (hereinafter "Qualifying Examination") before applying for the doctoral degree examination.
2. The Qualifying Examination shall be conducted in accordance with standards set by the Department and may include written exams, oral exams, or other forms of assessment approved by the Department.
3. The Qualifying Examination shall assess whether the student possesses sufficient foundational knowledge, research capability, and specialized competence in the field of water resources and environmental engineering.
4. Eligibility, examination subjects, evaluation standards, and passing criteria for the Qualifying Examination shall be stipulated separately by the Department and announced after approval by the Departmental Affairs Meeting.
5. Students who fail the Qualifying Examination may retake it once within the time limit specified by the Department. Those who fail a second time shall be handled in accordance with University regulations (which may include disqualification from the PhD program).
6. Upon passing the Qualifying Examination, the student is recognized as a PhD candidate and may proceed to conduct full-scale dissertation research under the guidance of the Advisory Committee.

IV. Doctoral Dissertation Examination

1. After passing the Qualifying Examination and completing all required coursework (including dissertation research credits), the PhD candidate may apply for the doctoral degree (dissertation) examination in accordance with University regulations.
2. Before applying for the dissertation examination, the candidate shall, in principle, have published (or had accepted for publication) research results related to the

- dissertation in scholarly journals or conferences that meet the standards set by the Department. Detailed publication requirements shall be specified separately and approved by the Departmental Affairs Meeting.
3. The composition and qualifications of the members of the Doctoral Dissertation Examination Committee shall be handled in accordance with Ministry of Education and University regulations.
 4. The dissertation manuscript must be reviewed and approved by the advisor(s) before the candidate may apply for the dissertation examination.
 5. The dissertation examination shall be conducted by oral defense. The candidate must explain the research content, methodology, and results and respond to questions from the Examination Committee.
 6. A candidate who passes the dissertation examination shall, in accordance with the University's regulations, submit the finalized dissertation and complete all required administrative procedures to be conferred the Doctor of Philosophy degree in Water Resources and Environmental Engineering.

V. Length of Study

The length of study for the PhD program shall be handled in accordance with the "Tamkang University Academic Regulations" and related provisions.

VI. Supplementary Provisions

These regulations shall be implemented after being passed by the Departmental Affairs Meeting and the Departmental Curriculum Committee and submitted for approval in accordance with University procedures. The same shall apply to any future amendments.

These regulations shall apply starting from the 106th Academic Year PhD student cohort.