

NATIONAL SUN YAT-SEN UNIVERSITY
Institute of Political Science
Regulations for Dissertation Proposal Oral Examinations

Approved by the 1st Institute General Meeting on August 23, 1999, 1st Semester of School Year 88.
Amended and approved by the 3rd Institute General Meeting on October 17, 2001, 2st Semester of School Year 90.
Amended and approved by the 3rd Institute General Meeting on March 27, 2002, 2nd Semester of School Year 90.
Amended and approved by the 10th Institute General Meeting on March 12, 2010, School Year 96.
Amended and approved by the 10th Institute General Meeting on April 8, 2010, School Year 98.
Amended and approved by the 8th Institute General Meeting on May 28, 2013, School Year 101.
Amended and approved by the 1st Institute General Meeting on September 18, 2013, School Year 102.
Amended and approved by the 7th Institute General Meeting on March 11, 2015, School Year 103.
Amended and approved by the 4th Institute General Meeting on January 17, 2018, School Year 106

- Article I. The present regulations are specifically issued to assist graduate students in completing their dissertation. To improve the quality of students' dissertation, faculty members shall participate in discussions on the dissertation and provide suggestion for research emphasis, writing structure, or research methods. Students not yet begun their dissertation may also gain relevant knowledge through participation and observation of the dissertation preparation process.
- Article II. To apply for the dissertation oral exam in the master program, students must pass the dissertation proposal oral examination, at the latest, in the same semester the dissertation oral exam is planned to be held.
- To apply for the dissertation oral exam in the doctoral degree program, students must pass the dissertation proposal oral examination, at the latest, in the semester previous to the one in which the dissertation oral exam is planned to be held.
- Article III. The dissertation proposal oral exam for the master program is conducted by an oral exam committee of at least three faculty members as invited by the research supervisor. The dissertation/research supervisor is an ex officio member but may not be the convener of the committee. Over half of the committee must be members who are not the research supervisor. The committee must include one full-time faculty member of the Institute of Political Science (hereafter referred to as "the Institute") and one faculty member from outside of the Institute.
- The dissertation proposal oral exam for the doctoral degree program is conducted by an oral exam committee of five to nine assistant professors (assistant researchers) or faculty members with higher academic ranks invited by the research supervisor. The dissertation research supervisor is an ex officio member but may not be the convener of the committee. Over half of the committee must be members who are not the research supervisor. The committee must include one full-time faculty member of the Institute and one faculty member from outside of this institute.
- Article IV. The Institute will not provide travel or living subsidies for dissertation proposal oral exam committee members. Committee members who are unable to physically attend the review may participate through video conference or written evaluation.
- Article V. Members of the dissertation proposal oral exam committee are automatically members of the dissertation oral exam committee.
- Article VI. Doctoral degree students shall provide the Institute General Meeting the following information for review prior to applying for the dissertation proposal oral exam: dissertation topic, dissertation research supervisor, and list of oral exam committee members. Students needing to make changes must receive approval from the Institute General Meeting before doing so.

- Article VII. Students needing to change their research supervisor for any reason must fill out the “Application Form Dissertation/Research Supervisor Variation” and receive approval from the Institute General Meeting before doing so. Students who apply for research supervisor variation after the dissertation proposal oral exam must re-process the exam.
- Article VIII. After completing the dissertation proposal plan, graduate students may apply for the dissertation proposal oral exam with approval from the research supervisor. The examination time shall be held in the weeks of mid-term and final-term examinations. Copies of the dissertation in oral exam format (one copy for each committee member) must be submitted two weeks prior to the exam. The exam may not proceed as planned if the dissertation proposal is not submitted on-time.
- Article IX. The dissertation proposal oral exam results are “pass,” “pass after modification,” and “fail.” Students who fail the exam may retake the exam on another date.
- Article X. The dissertation proposal oral exam is open for auditing and observation. Graduate students who applied for the dissertation proposal oral exam in the same semester are obligated to attend.
- Article XI. In general, the dissertation proposal oral exam shall take place at National Sun Yat-sen University Kaohsiung campus.
- Article XII. The present regulations shall be implemented starting from School Year 2017, following approval of the Institute General Meetings. The same procedure shall be carried out when amendments are to be made.

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