

Regulation of Ph.D program of GIASS, Tamkang University

103.05.14

1. The duration of your study must be from 2 to 7 years. The minimum required credits for graduation: 32 credits (thesis excluded). You should take 3 courses of 1 major (International Relations or Strategic Studies), 2 courses each for 2 sub-majors (International Relations, Strategic Studies, National Security and National Defence, PRC Military and Cross-Strait Relations, and Regional Research)
2. The maximum credits for each term is up to 12. Compulsory Courses: International Relations Theories, Disquisition on Strategic Theories, Social Science Research Methods.
3. You can select up to 6 credits from outside the department/institute and 6 credits from the master program of the department/institute (Executive Master Program and College of International Studies not included) .
4. You cannot have more than 1/3 of your total credits from other schools in each term. (ex. maximum taken credits for each term is 12, that means you can only take 4 from other schools). This institute only recognises 6 credits for graduation.
5. If you already study more than 24 credits, you can apply for taking the Ph.D Qualification Exam. The subjects include 1 major and 1 sub-major.
 - a. The application period is twice a year: October and March. Based on when you apply, the exam will be in either December or May.
 - b. Grade: 70 (out of 100) is required. If you fail it, you can redo the exam a year later for one time only, but you cannot change your exam fields.
 - c. Once you decide the fields, the professors who have taught you will set exam papers. Each of them will prepare 2 questions, and you will pick from those questions they have given. The professors are allowed to give you book list to study for the exam.
 - d. Major and sub-major exam will be taken separately, each of them will take 3 hours. You can either answer it on papers or on a computer. Open-books, Internet resources, or laptops are forbidden to use.
6. How to become a Ph.D candidate and how to offer your thesis proposal
 - a. Candidacy: Have enough credits and pass the qualification exam.
 - b. You will be able to select your advisor and hand in your thesis proposal once you get the candidacy. The thesis proposal should be published and approved by at least 3 members of the advisory committee. Members of the advisory committee are put forward by your advisor, and they will also join the oral defence. You are eligible to apply for an oral defence when the thesis proposal has been passed for one term.

7. How to apply for an oral defence:
 - a. Your thesis proposal is passed
 - b. English Proficiency Test Certificate is sent to the institute
 - c. The related pages or the acceptance of your journal from an academic journal
8. Ph.D student has to publish 2 theses in academic journal(s) with an anonymous review system inside/outside Taiwan, or to publish 1 thesis in an academic journal with an anonymous review system in/outside Taiwan plus to present 1 thesis at a symposium in/outside Taiwan. Then you can apply for the oral defence.
9. Ph.D student should participate in 2 symposia every term in/outside Taiwan. You have to join 6 symposia in order to graduate.
10. For more details, please refer to 「淡江大學研究生學位考試辦法」

Flow Chart of preparation for graduation

Procedure	Prerequisite (1)		Graduation Process (2)		Graduation Process (3)	
Contents	Get 32 Credits	Qualification Exam	Select the advisor Get the candidacy	Review thesis proposal	Apply for oral defence	Oral defence
Time	First and Second Year	The third term	The beginning of 5th term	6th term	7th term	7th term
Materials needed		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application form for Qualification Exam • One Copy of your transcript 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your application form and transcript of the Qualification Exam • Application form for selecting an advisor 	Oral defence committee member recommendation list	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Topic application form • Exam application form • Oral defence statement • Chinese Ph.D degree Conferment form 	
Notes	You can publish articles, take English Proficiency Test, and join symposia		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finish 32 Credits • The proof of the pass of Qualification Exam 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thesis Proposal/Outline Oral Defense Application Form. • Recommended List of Oral Defense Committee Members for the Thesis Outline 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Related pages or acceptance for your thesis of a academic journal • English Proficiency Test Certificate 	