

The policy relating to studying of the Ph.D. students of the Department of
Tropical Agriculture and International Cooperation of National Pingtung
University of Science and Technology

Passed by ITA faculty meeting dated on May 2, 2001;

Modified on October 17, 2006;

Passed by Office of Academic Affairs dated on November 08, 2004;

Re-modified by ITA faculty meeting dated on March 02, 2004;

Submitted as reference for Office of Academic Affairs on March 07, 2007 and April 25, 2008

Submitted as reference for Office of Academic Affairs on November 03, 2010

Submitted as reference for Office of Academic Affairs on June 29, 2012

Submitted as reference for Office of Academic Affairs on October 16, 2012

I. Enrollment

Students who have received the Master Degree and successfully passed the Ph.D. entrance exam are allowed to enroll at the Department.

II. The evaluation committee

- i. After enrollment at the Institute, the students must elect an academic advisor. The academic advisor would invite three to five, including the academic advisor, faculty members with the qualifications of associate professor or above as members, within or outside of the campus to form a qualifying exam committee, to assist the graduate students to establish the academic curriculum and the timetable for the academic studies. The students must establish the curriculum plan to meet the requirements and schedule, and be approved by the qualifying exam committee and then deposited at the Department for reference by the end of the first academic year.
- ii. Scheduled evaluation of the academic performance of the Ph.D. students will be conducted orally at least **once** before the qualifying exam committee. After the oral exam, the committee members votes to determine whether the student has passed (2/3 of the vote) or not. A written record of the evaluation, comments and suggestions made by the members will be filed, as a record and the reference of checking the courses that need to be taken and the directions of the dissertations. (see Attached files 1 and 2) These records will be used as a reference of evaluation when the students apply for dissertation defense.

III. The qualification exam

- i. After the Ph.D. students have successfully passed the scheduled evaluation, the academic advisors would invite five to seven qualified members (associated

professors or above, including the academic advisor) to make up the qualifying exam committee.

- ii. The qualifying exam for Ph.D. students will be implemented as defined in “The procedure for Ph.D. qualifying exam at the Department of Tropical Agriculture and International Cooperation.”

IV. The Ph.D. degree dissertation exam

The Ph.D. degree dissertation exam will be proceeded according to policy for evaluating the Ph.D. degree established by the Department of Tropical Agriculture and International Cooperation.

V. These policies are in effect in the academic year of 2012.

VI. These procedures are approved by the Institute’s faculty meeting and submitted to the university for reference and promulgation. A similar procedure will be followed when revision is needed.

**The procedure for Ph.D. Qualifying Exam at the Department of Tropical
Agriculture and International Cooperation (DTAIC)**

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- I. “The policy of candidate of the Ph.D. students qualification exam at DTAIC” is established according to “The policy of Ph.D. degree exam of National Pingtung University of Science and Technology”
- II. **The qualifying exams committee must consist of research adviser.** Qualifying exams may include the oral and or written exam to be decided by the adviser. The student becomes the Ph.D. candidate after passing the qualifying exam. If the candidate fails the first qualifying exam, application for the second qualifying exam can only be submitted six months after the first exam. Reapplication for qualifying exams is limited to one time only.
- III. The qualifying exam must be completed within four years after initial enrollment. If the Ph.D. student failed to reach the deadline requirement, the students shall be dismissed from the university after request made by the Department.
- IV. These policies are in effect in the academic year of 2012.
- V. These procedures are approved by the Department’s faculty meeting and submitted to the university for reference and promulgation. The same procedure will be followed when a revision is needed.

Procedures for evaluation of the Ph.D. degree at the Department of Tropical
Agriculture and International Cooperation (DTAIC)

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Submitted as reference for Office of Academic Affairs on April 25, 2008;
Re-modified by DTAIC faculty meeting dated on December 10, 2008;
Submitted as reference for Office of Academic Affairs on December 18, 2008;
Re-modified by DTAIC faculty meeting dated on June 3, 2010; and
Submitted as reference for Office of Academic Affairs on July 19, 2010
Re-modified by DTAIC faculty meeting dated on October 19, 2010; and
Submitted as reference for Office of Academic Affairs on November 03, 2010
Submitted as reference for Office of Academic Affairs on June 29, 2012

These procedures are established in accordance with “The policies of academic study for the Ph.D. students at the DTAIC, NPUST.

I. The Ph.D. dissertation exam

1. Procedure for application

The Ph.D. student who has successfully passed the qualifying exam can be a candidate for the Ph.D. degree. The candidates after successfully passing all related academic courses can apply for Ph.D. dissertation exam based on the regulations of the university.

2. Publication

Academic publications should follow in accordance of the “Policy on the publication of Ph.D. dissertation of DTAIC.”

3. Language ability exam

- i. The candidate must pass and obtain the following TOEFL tests scores: PBT (Paper-based TOEFL) **550**; iBT (New Internet-based TOEFL) **73**; CBT (Computer-based TOEFL) **200**, **IELTS 6** or TOEIC 750, before the dissertation exam; the standards of the score as mentioned above (except for foreign students from English speaking countries).
- ii. If the students could not meet the standards mentioned above, an additional full research paper published in SCI journals (or the same grade) as a substitute should be provided, or **three English journal papers**.

4. The procedures for the dissertation exam

- i. The candidate must fill out the dissertation exam application form approved by his/her academic advisor and then submit to the university within the time limit established by NPUST. The dissertation exam will be arranged by the academic advisor.
- ii. The Ph.D. candidate will present the research results orally, evaluated and

Enrolled from 2012 academic year

examined (oral) by the dissertation exam committee. The committee members will vote after the oral exam. The student must receive approval votes of more than two-thirds of the oral exam committee members in order to be considered having successfully passed the oral exam.

- iii. If the Ph.D. student fail to pass the dissertation exam, resubmission for the exam would be accepted after six months after the first exam. Only one resubmission for the dissertation exam will be allowed.
- iv. The Ph.D. dissertation exam must be completed seven years from the time of first enrollment. If he/she fails to complete within the time limit, the Department can dismiss the student after the situation has been reported to the NPUST. Those students with on-the-job training status can be allowed to extend their time of studying for one to two more years.

Policy on the publication of Ph.D. dissertation at the Department of Tropical Agriculture and International Cooperation (DTAIC)

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I . Each student must submit at least one thesis-related J-A journal and other publications totaling a minimum of 4 credits before the Ph.D. dissertation exam. The module is as:

Journals' Attribution	Journals' Attribution	Credits
SCI, SSCI, A&HCI	J_A	3
EI, TSSCI, TSCI, ABI	J_B	2
English publication	J_C	1.5
Peer Reviewed Domestic publication	J_D	1
Monopoly, Textbook (book), and so on should be examined respectively		Maximum 2

II . The students who apply for the Ph.D. Dissertation exam must be the first author of the publication and or corresponding author.

III . The contents of the publications must be part of his/her research completed within the academic study of the Ph.D. student in order to be deemed acceptable. The dissertation must be written in English.

IV . This policy is applicable to all Ph.D. students enrolled from the academic year 2012.