National Chiao Tung University (NCTU)
EECS International Graduate Program
Academic Regulations for the Doctoral Program

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1. Admission Requirements
   In accordance with the Ministry of Education Regulations Regarding International Students Undertaking Studies in Taiwan and the NCTU Regulations for Admission of International Students to Degree Programs and Credit Course Selection, international students who are expecting or who hold a master's degree or above from a domestic or foreign institution may apply for the doctoral degree program at the Institute.

2. Study Period
   (1) The term of study for full-time students is 2 to 7 years. Part-time students may extend this period to 8 years.
   (2) Students who apply to suspend their studies must receive the approval of their advisor and the program director. The study may be suspended by 1 semester or 1 academic year at a time, up to the total of 4 semesters (2 years).

3. Credit Structure and Course Requirements
   (1) Complete and fulfill the following course requirements:
      - Complete 12 credits (minimum) of technical courses from the Colleges of Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE) or Computer Science (CS) and other 6 credits of technical courses.
      - Students get direct admission into doctoral program should complete 30 credits (including the credits obtained from master program) of technical courses which should contain at least 18 credits of technical courses from the Colleges of Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE) or Computer Science (CS).
      - Complete 2 courses or at least 4 credits of Mandarin Chinese courses. Students who pass Chinese proficiency tests or obtain the master degree from EECS International Graduate Program may waive up to 2 courses or 4 credits.
      - Doctoral students in their first and second years of study must take Seminar courses every semester (the credits do not count toward graduation requirements). Students must take and pass 4 Seminars (minimum) before graduation.
   (2) Before registering for courses, students in their first and second years of study must ask their advisor or the program director to approve their course selection.
   (3) Before the end of the first semester after enrollment, a student must submit an Advisor Agreement Form with three selected qualifying subjects approved by the thesis advisor.
   (4) Students who take technical course(s) outside the ECE and CS Colleges must get approval from their thesis advisors or the program director. Credit taken outside the ECE and CS Colleges must submit.
   (5) Transfer students from other departments in the ECE and CS Colleges or other university of
UST (University System of Taiwan) may apply for credit exemption with the approval of their advisor and the program director.

(6) Every student must complete the “Academic Research Ethics Education course” in the platform from “Center for Taiwan Academic Research Ethics Education”. This course requires students to take an exam after completing it. This exam must be passed before the end of the first semester of their first study year. Students who fail to do so will not be able to apply for the Master Degree Examination.

4. Qualifying

(1) Students must, with the approval of their thesis advisors, select four courses from ECE and CS Colleges as their qualifying subjects, and pass at least three.

(2) Students are considered to pass the qualifying subjects if their grades are at or above 50th percentile of the students who pass the subjects (if there is less than five students registered the course, the course instructor shall provide recommendations for the student’s overall performance. The committee of EECS International Graduate Program will then conclude whether the student shall pass that subject area of the qualifying examination upon the recommendations of the course instructor).

(3) Students must pass at least 3 subjects within 3 years after enrolling in the doctoral program. Any student who fails to meet this requirement will be dismissed from NCTU.

(4) Transfer students from other departments in the ECE and CS Colleges may, with the approval of their advisor and the program director, apply for exam exemption using exams that they have already passed. The PhD transfer student is exempt from one subject area of the qualifying examination when the student has not taken the qualifying examination at his/her previous major but has completed the subject areas related to the qualifying examination assigned by his/her research advisor, receiving a score in the 50th percentile of those passed the course.

(5) Students get direct admission into doctoral program, with the approval of their advisors and the program director, may be exempt from one qualifying subject which they completed in their master program, receiving a score in the 50th percentile of those passed the course.

5. Dissertation

(1) Within the first semester of enrolling in the doctoral program, students must decide on an advisor who will provide guidance on matters related to study and research.

(2) The advisor must be a full-time assistant professor or above at the ECE or CS College and who has published papers in internationally renowned journals.

(3) To change the advisor, a student must obtain consent from both the current advisor and the new advisor, as well as submit the Application for Changing Advisors. The application must be made at least 1 year before graduation.

(4) A student must pass the dissertation proposal oral defense within 4 years after enrolling the doctoral program. Any student who fails to meet this requirement will be dismissed from NCTU.

6. Graduation

A Ph.D. student may apply for dissertation oral defense with the advisor’s recommendation after he/she has completed the required course credits, passed the qualification subjects, and fulfilled the publication requirements set by his/her thesis advisor. A Ph.D. degree will be conferred after he/she passes the oral defense.