

National Central University (NCU)
Doctoral Program Regulations for the Institute of Network Learning
Technology (Version 11)

Chapter 1 General Provisions

Article 1 This set of regulations is established in accordance with the 'Regulations for Degree Examinations of Doctoral and Master's Program Graduate Students' of our university.

Chapter 2 Study Requirements

Article 2 Within one month after enrollment, students must select a thesis advisor, who must be a full-time faculty member of the institute.

Article 3 Students must obtain the consent of their thesis advisor for course selection and leaving the campus. If the thesis advisor is not yet determined, the responsibility falls to the director of the institute.

Article 4 During the progress of the thesis, students may not arbitrarily change their thesis advisor. If the change is truly necessary due to unforeseen circumstances, a written application must be submitted to the institute. Within one month of receiving the student's application, the institute director must convene the Academic Committee for discussion and review. Upon approval by the Academic Committee, the student may then seek a new thesis advisor. If the change of thesis advisor is successful, the student is not allowed to carry forward the research progress and outcomes conducted under the previous

advisor. Research and the thesis undertaken after changing the advisor must commence anew. If there are no other professors willing to take on the role as a new advisor, the director of the institute may need to negotiate.

- Article 5 During the period of study, students are required to take part in the "Seminar" (0 credits) for two semesters, and complete a minimum of four semesters of "Special Topics in Learning Technology" (0 credits). (This provision applies retroactively) Additionally, students must complete courses from the following three categories:
- 一、Emerging Digital Technology Category: Complete one course from the Department of Computer Science and Information Engineering.
 - 二、Digital Learning Assessment and Cognitive Neuroscience Category: Take a course from the Learning and Instruction Department or the Cognitive Neuroscience Department.
 - 三、Digital Learning Design Category: Take three or more courses from our department.

In case of difficulty in course selection, suitable courses will be designated by the Curriculum Committee.

- Article 6: Minimum Credits for Graduation: Doctoral students must complete a minimum of 24 credits, and master's students pursuing a direct path to a doctoral degree must complete a minimum of 36 credits; graduation theses are counted separately.

- Article 7: During their period of study, students are required to participate in an English proficiency examination and achieve

the following standards: (This article applies to students admitted from the 112 academic year onwards.)

English Proficiency Examination	Score
TOEFL	iBT79-80、PBT550 or CBT213
IELTS	5.0
GEPT	Passed the Intermediate-Advanced Level Reexamination
TOEIC	750

For those who have already obtained the above-mentioned English proficiency examination certificates before admission, foreign students from English-speaking countries whose native language is English, and individuals who have obtained degrees from universities or institutes in English-speaking countries, you may apply to the Academic Committee to be exempted from the English proficiency examination. After reviewing and getting the approval by the Academic Committee, the exemption can be granted.

Chapter 3 Qualification examination

Article 8: The doctoral program qualification examination consists of two categories: required and elective. There is no specific order for the required and elective sections, but both must be successfully completed through the department's qualification examination oral review. The required component is an oral examination on research literature in the field of digital learning, with the literature content announced at the beginning of each semester. The elective component involves selecting one of the following three options:

一、Oral Examination on Research Literature in Digital

Learning, with literature content announced at the beginning of each semester.

二、 Publishing high-quality journal papers or full-length papers in international conferences. Except for the advisor, the student must be the first author, and these papers cannot be used as a substitute for the graduation thesis.

三、 Conducting applied research projects and participating in oral defense presentations of the project's contents.

Article 9: Students can apply for the qualification examination upon enrollment. They must participate in the qualification examination at least once before the end of the third semester. Within the first six semesters, students are required to pass both the required and elective components. If a student does not pass the doctoral program qualification examination within six semesters, they should follow the relevant regulations in the university's academic policies to request withdrawal from the program.

Article 10: The qualification examination is held once per semester, and each student is limited to a maximum of three attempts for both the required and elective components of the examination.

Chapter 4 Degree examination

I. Applicants applying through thesis publication

Article 11: Passing the doctoral proposal oral examination in this department

一、 The student's proposal oral examination is convened by

the student's advisor and composed of at least two associate professors or higher-ranking members. Its purpose is to assess the feasibility of the doctoral thesis proposal.

- 二、 If the first doctoral program proposal oral examination is not successful, the student should apply for the second proposal oral examination within one year after the initial attempt. Upon approval of the proposal, the student becomes a doctoral candidate.
- 三、 After passing the doctoral program proposal oral examination, there must be a gap of at least one semester before applying for the next stage of the graduation qualification review process.

Article 12: Passing the academic committee's review of publications in this department

- 一、 The student's authored papers must include at least one full publication accepted by a top-tier international academic journal. Additionally, the paper must be published under the full affiliation of the Institute of Online Learning Technology during the student's enrollment in the institute. Apart from the advisor, the student must be the first author of this paper. Only then will the institute recognize their research achievements during their period of study.
- 二、 The student's doctoral thesis and published works will be submitted for review by the academic committee. The scope of the review includes assessing whether the course work is appropriate and whether the required

credits have been completed. If necessary, additional coursework may be requested.

Article 13: Passing the preliminary defense of the graduation thesis in this department

The preliminary defense of the graduation thesis is convened by the student's advisor and composed of at least four associate professors or higher-ranking members. Its purpose is to assess whether the thesis content meets the criteria of integrity and coherence.

Article 14: Passing the degree examination

The degree examination is conducted in accordance with the "Regulations for Doctoral and Master's Degree Examinations for Graduate Students" of this university. The composition of the degree examination committee must include more than half of the members being full professors.

Article 15: Each student may apply for the degree examination once per semester. Students who have applied for the degree examination and are unable to complete it within that semester due to unforeseen circumstances should request cancellation of the degree examination application before the end-of-semester deadline specified in the university's academic calendar. Failure to cancel the application within the deadline or not taking the examination will result in a single failed attempt.

II. Applicants applying through industry-academia collaboration

To promote industry-research collaboration, doctoral students in this institute engage in collaborative research with industrial or research

partners upon enrollment. They can apply for graduation through the "industry-academia collaboration" pathway. The procedure is as follows:

Article 16: Completing an applied research project conducted by this institute and participating in an oral defense to present the project's content.

Article 17: The student's proposal oral examination is convened by the student's advisor and composed of at least one assistant professor or higher-ranking member from the university and at least one research and development personnel from the collaborating organization. Its purpose is to assess the feasibility of the doctoral thesis proposal. Upon approval of the proposal, the student becomes a doctoral candidate.

Article 18: Passing the academic committee's review of publications in this institute.

- 一、 Graduation requires presenting research-related papers at international conferences. These papers must be published in reputable international conference proceedings, and the student must be the first author apart from the advisor. The conference papers should undergo a full review process. The published papers must bear the full affiliation of the Institute of Online Learning Technology during the student's enrollment to be recognized by the institute as research achievements during the study period.
- 二、 Complete the doctoral thesis and have their individual contributions recognized by both the thesis advisor and the company involved in the industry-academia collaboration through a letter of recommendation

provided by the thesis advisor.

- 三、 The student's doctoral thesis and published works will be submitted for review by the academic committee. The scope of the review includes assessing whether the course work is appropriate and whether the required credits have been completed. If necessary, additional coursework may be required.

Article 19: Passing the preliminary defense of the graduation thesis in this institute.

The preliminary defense of the graduation thesis is convened by the student's advisor and composed of at least one research and development personnel from the collaborating organization and three associate professors or higher-ranking members. Its purpose is to assess whether the thesis content meets the criteria of integrity and coherence.

Article 20: Passing the degree examination

The degree examination is conducted in accordance with the "Regulations for Doctoral and Master's Degree Examinations for Graduate Students" of this university. The composition of the degree examination committee must include more than half of the members being full professors.

Article 21: For any other matters not covered herein, reference can be made to the implementation of the degree examination as outlined in 1 of Chapter 4.

Chapter 5 Graduation and Departure from the University

Article 22: Before graduation, students are required to prepare their theses according to the prescribed format and submit them

prior to graduation.

Article 23: Before leaving the university, students should clean the spaces and equipment used in their research and laboratories, return any borrowed equipment and items, and complete the departure application form. The form needs to be signed and confirmed by the advisor, department office, and department head before proceeding with the university's departure procedures.

Chapter 6 Supplementary Provisions

Article 24: Any matters not covered by these regulations shall be handled in accordance with the relevant regulations of the Ministry of Education and this university.

Article 25: These regulations have been approved by the Institute Affairs Meeting and will be implemented upon approval by the Academic Affairs Meeting. The same process applies for any future amendments.