

Regulations Governing the Master's Program
The Department of Sociology
National Sun Yat-sen University

(碩士班研究生修業辦法)

Applicable to the 2024 prospective students

Amended and approved by the 8th Department Meeting, June 3, 2016

Amended and approved by the 3rd College Meeting, June 14, 2016

Sanctioned by the Senior Vice President, June 24, 2016

Amended and approved by the 7th Department Meeting, March 28, 2018

Amended and approved May 23, 2018 by the 4th College Meeting, May 23, 2018

Sanctioned by the Senior Vice President, June 22, 2018

Article 1. The Regulations is set forth pursuant to *Degree Conferral Act* (學位授予法) and its enactment regulations, the *Academic Regulations* (學則), and *Implementations Bylaws for PhD and Mater Degree Examination of the University* (研究生學位考試施行細則).

Article 2. The master program has a duration of one to four years. Students are required to earn at least nine credits in each semester in the first year. In the second year, at least three credits are required for the autumn and spring semesters respectively (exceptions are made for those who have to retake a failed core course or make up for the credit deficiency). Students cannot take more than 15 credits per semester in total. However, this excludes special cases approved by the department meeting.

Article 3: Students in our master's program have to meet the following study requirements in order to earn the master's degree:

- 1) Students have to take two required courses: Sociological Classics and Sociology Research Methods.
- 2) Students have to take two years of Issues of Sociology of the South
- 3) Students have to take at least 18 credits of elective courses. Elective courses from other departments or extramural courses who has signed mutual credit recognition with our university, approved by the supervisor or the department meeting should not exceed 6 credits.
- 4) Students have to complete the masters's thesis and pass the oral defense within the program duration.
- 5) Students have to present at least one paper at a scholarly conference held domestically or abroad within the program duration. However, a student who gets

a paper published in a peer-review academic journal does not have to present papers at conferences.

If the conference is held after the degree examination date, students can submit the conference paper acceptance letter in order to start the graduation process and have to submit documents to prove conference participation within a month of paper presentation. Failing that, the degree will be revoked and will be remarked on record as having been forced to withdraw from the university.

6) Students must complete the Academic Research Ethics Education Training Course (relevant regulations see Implementation Guidelines Governing National Sun Yat-sen University Academic Research Ethics Education Training Course).

Article 4. Students who have earned the required credits for graduation (including the credits taking during the current semester) and passed the master's degree thesis proposal oral defense (the regulations of which is drawn otherwise) can start to apply for the master's degree oral defense. The proposal and the degree oral defenses should be held at least two months apart.

Article 5: In principle, the thesis advisor must be a member of full-time faculty of the department. In the case of a lack of specialists in the given field of the thesis, the student can ask for someone outside of the department or an adjunct professor to co-supervise alongside a full-time professor within the department.

Article 6: The graduate students must submit the course supervision agreement form in the first week of the spring semester in the first year. The students should decide on their thesis advisor before June in the spring semester in the first year; sign the supervisor agreement form and file it at the department office for future reference. If one should change the thesis advisor, the student should submit an application form for changing thesis advisor and then initiate the process.

Article 7: The Master's Degree Examination Committee is comprised of 3 to 5 members (the thesis advisor included) with at least 1 member invited from another department (institute). At least one has to be a panel member from outside of the department or institute. The thesis is graded on the thesis content and oral defense result together. Master students must achieve a grade of B (or, 70 with the maximum score of 100) or higher. Grade A+ (the equivalent of score 100) is the highest mark. The thesis is graded as one single grade by the attending committee members, and graded one time only. Should one fails the oral defense within the program duration, they student can retake the oral defense in the following semester or in the following year. Examination retake is limited to one time. Failing the retake examination, the student has to withdraw from the degree program.

Article 8: The names of Master Thesis Oral Examination Committee should be provide by the thesis advisor; the committee members are invited by the chair of the department.

Article 9: These Regulations were approved by the department meeting and the college meeting, sanctioned by the university president prior to implementation. Modifications shall follow the same procedure.