

# Regulations for Master Students

(Effective since the academic year of 2013)

## Institute of Economics National Sun Yat-Sen University

- I. This set of regulations is issued in accordance with the Ministry of the Education Degree Conferral Law and its enforcement rules, "Academic Regulations," "Enforcement Rules of Postgraduate Students Degree Examinations" of National Sun Yat-sen University (NSYSU), and "Principles for Selection and Appointment of Thesis Supervisors of NSYSU."
- II. **Length of study.** Based on the regulations of the Ministry of Education, the minimum length to complete a master degree is one year, and the maximum length of study is four years (excluding the period for taking a leave of absence from study). The maximum length allowed for accumulative leave of absence from study is two years.
- III. **Credit Requirement.** The Master's degree requires a minimum of 36 credit hours, 18 of which must be selected from the core courses, 6 of which are credit hours for the Master's thesis (Independent Study), and 2 of which are seminar attendance and participation (Seminars in Economics) .
  - A. The core courses consist of three mandatory courses and five other courses, described as follows.

### **Three mandatory core courses:**

1. Microeconomics I (3 credit hours)
2. Econometrics I (3 credit hours)
3. Macroeconomics (3 credit hours).

*Student must take all the above three courses in the first semester of year one.*

### **The other five core courses:** Students must take at least three of the following five courses.

1. Mathematical economics (3 credit hours), taken in the spring semester of year one. *This course starts one week prior to the beginning of the fall semester. Students must attend the two sessions—9:10am to noon on Monday and Thursday—during the first week of the course.*
2. Econometrics II (3 credit hours), taken in the spring semester of year one.
3. Microeconomics II (3 credit hours), taken in the spring semester of year one.
4. Macroeconomics II (3 credit hours), taken in the spring semester of year one.
5. Mechanism Design (3 credit hours), taken in the fall semester of year two.

- B. Students must complete a Master's thesis, which requires registering for the course of Independent Study (3 credit hours per semester) with a student's thesis advisor for both semesters in year two.
- C. Students must register for Seminar in Economics (1 credit hour per semester) in the spring semester of year one and the fall semester of year two.
- IV. **Thesis Advising.** A thesis advisor should generally be one of the full-time faculty in the Institute. A student may choose an out-of-institute professor as a thesis advisor if he or she has taken a course instructed by that professor in a course offered in the Institute. *Students often approach potential advisors toward the end of the spring semester of year one.* In general, a faculty member cannot advise more than five students in a class.
- V. **Thesis Defence.** Upon approval by a student's thesis advisor, a student is eligible to apply for the thesis defence. A student who fails the thesis defence the first time can retake the defence the second time. A student who fails the thesis defence the second time cannot receive the master degree and must discontinue the study.
- VI. **Course Overload.** Students generally cannot take more than four 3-credit hour courses (thus excluding Seminars in Economics, Economic Growth, and International Economics) in a semester. A first-year (second-year) student registering for more than four 3-credit hour courses must obtain course-overload authorization from Director of the Institute (the thesis advisor). Students intend to take more than 15 credit hours must obtain authorization from the thesis advisor, Director, and from the University.
- VII. **Course Taking Outside the Institute.** Students are allowed to take up to 6 credit hours of courses outside of the Institute or the University. Courses taken outside of the Institute must be related to economics, and are subject to the approval of Director (the thesis advisor) for the first (second) year students.
- VIII. **Graduation.** Students who meet all requirements described above are eligible to apply for graduations.

Amended and approved by the 1<sup>st</sup> Institute General Meeting on September 9, 2003, 1<sup>st</sup> semester of academic year 2003.

Amended and approved by the 1<sup>st</sup> College General Meeting on October 22, 2003, academic year 2003.  
Authorized by the President on October 30, 2003.

Amended and approved by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Institute General Meeting on November 22, 2007, academic year 2007.  
Amended and approved by the 2<sup>nd</sup> College General Meeting on December 27, 2007, academic year 2007.  
Authorized by the President on January 10, 2008.

Amended and approved by the 8<sup>th</sup> Institute General Meeting on February 26, 2013, academic year 2012.  
Amended and approved by the 2<sup>nd</sup> College General Meeting on March 12, 2013, academic year 2012.  
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Amended and approved by the 11<sup>th</sup> Institute General Meeting on June 11, 2013, academic year 2012.  
Amended and approved by the 4<sup>th</sup> College General Meeting on June 18, 2013, academic year 2012.  
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Amended and approved by the 5<sup>th</sup> Institute General Meeting on April 8, 2014, academic year 2013.  
Amended and approved by the 3<sup>th</sup> College General Meeting on April 22, 2014, academic year 2013.  
Authorized by the President on May 7, 2014.