# (Translation)

# Chulalongkorn University Regulations on Graduate Studies, 2018

As it has been deemed appropriate to amend the Chulalongkorn University Regulations on Graduate Studies in order to promote academic excellence and ensure that graduate education at the University continues to maintain internationally-recognized standards;

By virtue of Article 21 (2) of Chulalongkorn University Act (2008), the University Council at its meeting (number 817) of 26 July 2018, approved these regulations as follows:

- **Article 1.** These regulations are hereafter known as the "Chulalongkorn University Regulations on Graduate Studies, 2018."
  - Article 2. These regulations shall be effective from Academic Year 2018 onwards.
- **Article 3**. The Chulalongkorn University Regulations on Graduate Studies, 2008 and the Chulalongkorn University Regulations on Graduate Studies (Version 2), 2015 are hereby terminated.

All other rules, regulations, or announcements subsumed in the aforementioned regulations or which either contradict or conflict with these regulations shall be replaced by these regulations unless otherwise stipulated.

These regulations shall not apply to any graduate program which were approved special exemption by the University Council.

Article 4. As used in these regulations: -

"University" means Chulalongkorn University (CU).

- "Graduate School" means the Graduate School of Chulalongkorn University.
- "Graduate School administrative board" means the Graduate School Board of Chulalongkorn University.
- "Faculty" means a faculty, school, college, or common institutes with equivalent status to a faculty which oversees graduate programs.
- "Dean" means the dean of the faculty, school, or college which oversees a graduate program.
- "Faculty administrative board" means the administrative board of a faculty, school, college, or common institutes with equivalent status to a faculty;
- "Program Board" means a program committee within a faculty, school, college, or common institutes with equivalent status to a faculty responsible for program supervision and development;



"Head of Department" means the head of a department with which a program is affiliated, the director of a non-affiliated program with a department, and the director of an interdisciplinary program;

"University Staff" means University personnel, government officers, government employees who work at the University, and University employees;

"External Scholar" means a scholar from outside Chulalongkorn University.

"External Specialist" means an external specialist endorsed by Chulalongkorn University with knowledge of a specialized field and qualifications in compliance with criteria set by the Academic Policy Committee;

"Full-time Lecturer" means CU staff with academic ranks of lecturer, assistant professor, associate professor, professor, or internal special lecturer at the University responsible for teaching or research; this shall also include an individual from an external organization contracted to Chulalongkorn University to teach or conduct research, the outside organization subject to the criteria set by the University Council;

"Internal Special Lecturer" means a university staff who is not a full-time lecturer but possess a knowledge of a specialized field and qualifications in compliance with criteria set by the Academic Policy Committee approved by the University Council;

"Full-time Program Lecturer" means a full-time lecturer qualified in or associated with the subject area of an existing program, who is responsible for teaching and research in this field; this individual may hold the post of Full-time Program Lecturer in more than one program simultaneously;

"External Special lecturer" means an individual from outside Chulalongkorn University who is appointed by the President on the Dean's recommendation and assign to teach and responsible for a particular course in his/her area of academic expertise for each academic year.

"Program" means a graduate-level program in a particular field approved by the University Council and of which the Board of the Higher Education Commission has been informed;

"Continued Master's-Doctoral Program" means Master's and Doctoral degree which share the same title, the same Program Board, and most of the requirements for degree courses, and rely on the continuing administrative systems.

"Interdisciplinary program" means a program conducted in cooperation with at least two faculties administered by the Graduate School or a program conducted with at least two departments or equivalents, or a program conducted with at least two faculties and administered by one of the participating faculties;

"Student" means either a full-time or part-time student at Chulalongkorn University unless otherwise specified.

**Article 5.** For academic beneficial purposes, the University President may set specific criteria or conditions for individual programs differ from those stipulated in these regulations.

These criteria or conditions will be issued as University announcements and are subject to the prior approval of the Academic Policy Board.

The criteria or conditions aforementioned must be equal to or higher than the standard as stated in these regulations.

Article 6. The University President is in charge of the enactment of these regulations.

Should any disagreement or uncertainty arise over the execution of these regulations, the University President's decision shall be final.

The University President, with the approval of the Administrative Board of the Graduate School, shall be authorized to issue University regulations or announcements necessary for graduate studies and comply with these regulations.

# Chapter 1

### **General Provisions**

**Article 7**. University staff, external special lecturers, and external scholars who are responsible for graduate- level instruction under these regulations must fully satisfy the qualifications laid down in the University regulations and the conditions issued by the Academic Policy Board.

**Article 8.** In order to ensure complete and efficient administration, the Dean of the Graduate School may issue any Graduate School announcement that complies with these regulations.

In order to ensure complete and efficient administration for use specifically within the faculty, the Dean of the Graduate School may issue any faculty announcement to comply with these regulations that neither contradict nor conflict with the terms of these regulations.



# Chapter 2

### Instruction

### Section 1

### **Education System**

**Article 9.** The Graduate-level study shall operate under a credit system based on an academic term of semester, trimester, or another basis as determined by the University Council.

Article 10. An academic year may take one of two forms as follows:

- (1) The semester academic year shall be divided into two regular terms: the first semester and the second semester. A summer session may follow after the conclusion of the second semester.
- (2) The trimester academic year shall be divided into three regular terms: the first term, the second term, and the third term.

For the programs operating under the semester system, each semester must take at least 15 weeks, and any summer session must take 6 to 8 weeks. The total number of teaching hours for each course during the summer session must be equal to the regular semester duration.

For the programs operating under the trimester system, each trimester must take at least 12 weeks and the number of teaching hours for each course must comply with the criteria in Article 11 to ensure that the total number of teaching hours in a trimester is equal to the number of teaching hours in a semester and that one credit in the trimester system is equal to one credit in the semester system.

Article 11. A "course credit" is a recognition for having taken a course, used as a measurement to represent studying hours for a particular course, and is subject to the criteria below:

- (1) A lecture-based course with lecture or discussion shall contain at least 15 hours per academic term which shall be assigned one credit.
- (2) A laboratory-based course with practice or experiment shall contain at least 30 hours per academic term which shall be assigned one credit.
- (3) A training or fieldwork course shall contain at least 45 hours per academic term which shall be assigned one credit.
- (4) An independent study or thesis/dissertation course requiring at least 45 hours of research per academic term which shall be assigned one credit.

Programs under a different proposed academic system must have clear information and detailed criteria for calculating credit hours so that the proposed semester system is enabled to

compare with the regular semester, and these criteria must be mentioned in the official document of the Program.

**Article 12**. "Non-Credit Courses" means the courses in which students in a program are required to pass with a grade of "S", but no credit will count toward the completion of the program given.

Students who receive a grade of "U" in a "Non-Credit Course" as explained above must retake this course.

**Article 13.** Course credits means the number of credits for which a student registers, of which there are three types:

- (1) "Credit Attempted" means the total number of credits for all courses for which a student registers in a given term and for which grades of A, B+, B, C+, C, D+, D, and F are assigned.
- (2) "Cumulative Credit Attempted" means the total number of credits for all courses for which a student has registered in all academic terms, and for which grades of A, B+, B, C+, C, D+, D, and F are given. This also includes the courses for which a student has reregistered.
- (3) "Cumulative Credit Granted" means the total number of credits for which a student has received grades of A, B+, B, C+, C, and S. In the event that a student passes a course more than one time or completes a course designated as equivalent to another course for which he/she has already received credits, only those credits that the student earns in the first course shall be counted unless the course content differs from that which the student has already studied, and the Program Board has given its approval for the student to re-register for the course.

#### Section 2

### **Period of Study**

Article 14. "Period of study" means the total length of time a student takes to complete all academic requirements for the program in which he/she is enrolled. This includes coursework, research, writing of the thesis/dissertation or independent study, and publication or dissemination of the student's academic work.

The period of study as above shall commence as of the first term in which the student registers and conclude as of the term in which the student completes all requirements for his/her program.

**Article 15**. The period of study for a graduate diploma or advanced graduate degree must not exceed that specified in the program and approved by the University Council.

**Article 16.** The maximum period of study for students in a Master's degree program is 4 academic years.

Article 17. The maximum period of study for students in a doctoral degree program is as follows:

- (1) 6 academic years for students entering the program having already completed a Master's degree;
- (2) 8 academic years for students entering the program having already completed a Bachelor's degree.

Article 18. Part-time students must complete their program within a period equal to 1.5 times the period of study prescribed in Articles 15, 16, or 17, as the case may be.

### Section 3

# Language of Instruction

Article 19. Graduate-level instruction may be delivered in Thai or in a foreign language.

The language in which a thesis/dissertation or independent study report is to be written shall be determined by the Faculty administrative board.

The language requirements above must be acknowledged to candidates before the application period.

Chapter 3

**Graduate Programs** 

Section 1

**Available Programs** 

**Article 20**. The following graduate programs are available:

(1) The Graduate Diploma Programs, aimed at promoting or developing professional expertise, offer to candidates having completed a Bachelor's degree or equivalent;

- (2) The Master's Degree Programs, aimed at promoting academic and research development in a variety of fields at a level superior to the Bachelor's degree, offer to candidates having completed a Bachelor's degree or equivalent;
- (3) The Advanced Graduate Diploma Programs, aimed at further developing professional expertise and competency, offer to candidates having completed a six-year Bachelor's degree program or a Master's degree or equivalent. In case of specialized professional programs, the program may accept candidates who have completed a graduate diploma program.
- (4) The Doctoral Degree Programs, aimed at developing academic and research expertise and excellence at a level superior to the Master's degree.

### Section 2

# **Program Structure**

- **Article 21.** Graduate diploma and advanced diploma programs require completion of a minimum of 24 credits throughout the entire duration of the program.
- **Article 22**. A Master's degree program requires completion of a minimum of 36 credits throughout the entire duration of the program, which are divided into two plans as follows:
  - (1) Plan A focuses on research and requires a thesis;
  - (2) Plan B focuses on coursework and does not require a thesis.

Programs offering a Plan B Master's degree program must also offer students a Plan A program as well. On the other hand, programs offering a Plan A program may or may not offer a Plan B program, depending on the criteria set by the Academic Policy Board.

- **Article 23**. Plan A-type Master's degree programs as mentioned in Article 22 (1) above are divided into two subcategories as follows:
  - (1) "Plan A1" consists of not less than 36 thesis credits.
  - (2) "Plan A2" consists of not less than 12 thesis credits and not less than 12 coursework credits, but the total thesis and coursework credits must not be less than 36 credits.
- Article 24. Plan B-type Master's degree programs as mentioned in Article 22 (2) above in the fields of sciences must include 6 credits for independent study, but in other fields of study, the independent study must account for a minimum of 3 credits and a maximum of 6 credits.
- **Article 25.** Doctoral degree programs are rigorous, research-oriented programs aimed at the development of new knowledge are divided into two types:
  - (1) "Type 1" leads to the writing of a dissertation and consists of the following two options:
    - (a) "Option 1.1": Students entering with a Master's degree produce a dissertation with a minimum of 48 credits;

- (b) "Option 1.2": Students entering with a Bachelor's degree produce a dissertation with a minimum of 72 credits.
- (2) "Type 2" comprises of both coursework and a dissertation, consists of the following two options:
  - (a) "Option 2.1": Students entering the Ph.D. program with a Master's degree must complete coursework not less than 12 credits and produce a dissertation not less than 36 credits;
  - (b) "Option 2.2": Students entering a Ph.D. Program with a Bachelor's degree must complete coursework worth not less than 24 credits and produce a dissertation not less than 48 credits.
- **Article 26**. Continuing programs at the doctoral degree level must offer Option 1.1, Option 1.2, Option 2.1, and Option 2.2 programs, while Master's degree level programs need to offer only Plan A1 and Plan A2 programs.
- Article 27. The Faculty Program Board may require students to register for any course or participate in any academic activity as part of their program on a non-credit basis.

# Chapter 4

### Admissions

#### Section 1

### Qualifications for Admission

Article 28. Applicants for each graduate program must have satisfactorily completed a course of study accredited by the Ministry of Education; in addition, they must also meet all additional criteria set by the Program Board.

All admissions criteria in addition to those in paragraph 1 above must be approved and set annually by the Faculty Administrative Board.

- **Article 29.** Students entering a graduate diploma program must have previously completed a Bachelor's degree or equivalent.
- Article 30. Students entering an advanced diploma program must have previously completed a six-year Bachelor's degree program or a Master's degree program or equivalent except in the case of a specialized professional program in which case, students who have completed a diploma program may be admitted.
- Article 31. Students entering a Master's degree program must have previously completed a Bachelor's degree program or equivalent.

Students entering a Plan A1 Master's degree program must have completed a Bachelor's degree in the same field in which they intend to enter the Master's degree or in another field agreed and notify to interested applicants prior to the application period by the Program Board; except when the Program Board exempts this requirement on an individual basis.

- **Article 32**. Under Articles 66 and 97, students entering a doctoral degree program must have previously completed one of the following educational levels:
  - (1) Master's degree or equivalent;
  - (2) Bachelor's degree or equivalent in the same field as the intended doctoral program or in another field determined by the Program Board, and applicants must have graduated with honors.

For admission into a continuing program at the Master's or Ph.D. level, applicants must satisfy the admissions criteria stipulated above or in Article 31 and must achieve a passing mark on the foreign language proficiency examination set by the Academic Policy Board.

Article 33. Applicants with the retired student status because they have failed to completed their program within the period of study or because their cumulative grade point average has fallen below the required minimum may not reapply for admission to the same program unless given approval to do so by the Program Board.

### Section 2

### **Admissions Criteria and Procedures**

**Article 34.** Admissions may be determined by means of an entrance examination, screening process, or any other method deemed appropriate by the Program Board.

The Program Board may choose any applicant to enroll in a higher or lower-level program in the same field of study than the program for which he or she has applied if it is determined that the applicant has more or less knowledge than is required for admission into his/her intended program.

The conditions described above are subject to the approval of the Faculty Administrative Board.

Article 35. Students entering a doctoral degree or Master's degree program must satisfy the English language proficiency requirement set by the University or by the Program Board and approved by the Faculty Administrative Board.

The Program Board, with the approval of the Faculty Administrative Board, may set a higher English language proficiency standard than is required by the University.

- Article 36. In the case of applicants are awaiting the final results from their Bachelor's or Master's degree program, admission process can only be completed once proof of graduation has been received by the Office of the Registrar within the given deadline.
- **Article 37**. Students enrolled in a graduate program must not register-simultaneously for more than one program.
- **Article 38.** Admission of any individual into a graduate program must be approved by the Faculty Administrative Board.

#### Section 2

### **Student Classifications**

- **Article 39**. Students admitted to a graduate diploma or any graduate degree program shall have the status of "student," which is classified as either of the following categories:
  - (1) Conditional student;
  - (2) Regular student.

Faculty Administrative Board may admit an individual with a conditional student status except in the case of Plan A1 programs or Type 1-doctoral degree programs.

- Article 40. Students entering a continuing program are to be categorized as either Master or Ph.D. students on the day of admission in accordance with the student qualifications mentioned in Chapter 4 Section 1. In this regard, students may submit a request for admission into a Doctoral or Master's degree program in line with the qualifications laid down in Chapter 8 Section 1.
- Article 41. Individuals admitted into the University program with non-degree/diploma request are classified into one of three categories:
  - (1) Visitors in certain subjects;
  - (2) Research students;
  - (3) Inter-university students.

All decisions to admit individuals under the three categories above must be approved by the Faculty Administrative Board.

- Article 42. A Program Board may admit non-student as visitors in certain subjects; however, these visitors shall register for not more than six credits per academic term, and registration must be completed within the deadline announced by the Office of the Registrar.
- Article 43. A Program Board may admit a graduate student from another university or academic institution, either in Thailand or abroad, for the purpose of conducting research on a specific topic on a term basis or for an appropriate period of time.

The Program Board may recommend that either research student or student status be revoked if it is determined that he/she has not made adequate progress or found guilty of misconduct or any other reason which the Program Board deems appropriate.

All actions taken in line with paragraphs 1 and 2 above must be registered with the Graduate School, and if in the case of foreign students, the Graduate School must inform the Office of International Affairs and Global Network as well.

Article 44. A Program Board may accept a graduate student currently enrolled at another university or academic institution either in Thailand or abroad as an inter-university student for the purpose of transferring credits or grades earned at Chulalongkorn University to the program with which he or she is affiliated. In such cases, the student must register for courses within the deadline announced by the Office of the Registrar.

# Chapter 5

Registration

### Section 1

# Initial Registration

Article 45. Applicants who are admitted to the university as students must complete initial registration by submitting all documents required by the Office of the Registrar. At this time, students will also register for courses and pay tuition and special fees (if any)

#### Section 2

### **Registration for Classes**

Article 46. Class registration consists of two types:

- (1) Regular registration, which is done prior to the beginning of each academic term;
- (2) Late registration, which is done within the first two weeks of the academic term or within the first week of the summer session.

The registration schedule, place, and procedures shall be determined by the Office of the Registrar.

Should special circumstances prevent a student from registering within the given deadline, the Director of the Office of the Registrar may grant special permission on a case-by-case basis.

# Article 47. Regular students may register as either:

- (1) Full- time students, who must register for not more than 15 coursework or thesis/dissertation credits per academic term;
- (2) Part- time students, who must register for not more than 6 coursework or thesis/dissertation credits per academic term.

Students registering for the summer session must register for not more than 6 coursework or thesis/dissertation credits.

Any registration not in accordance with the terms described above must be approved by the Director of the Office of the Registrar.

Undergraduate courses must only be taken on an S/U basis.

In cases where a student must register for an undergraduate or graduate course for remedial purposes and this course is assessed on an S/U basis, that student must also register for a minimum of 3 credits of required courses in his or her chosen program unless he/she has tested out of the required courses or is under a plan that requires only a thesis or dissertation.

In cases where a Ph.D. student has registered for all seminar courses required by his or her program and has still not graduated, that student must register for Doctoral Dissertation Seminar each term until he or she graduates as well.

# Article 48. Conditional students may register either as:

- (1) A full-time conditional student. In the first term, such students must register for not less than 6 credits of required coursework in their graduate program.
- (2) A part-time conditional student. In the first term, such students must register for not less than 3 credits of required coursework in their graduate program.

The courses required of conditional students in their first academic term are determined by the Program Board and grades for these courses are included in the cumulative grade point average.

At the conclusion of the first academic term, a conditional student with a grade point average of not less than 3.00 and a grade of S in any non-credit course shall be able to change the status from a conditional student to the regular students.

Article 49. Students who wish to register for the courses in certain subjects must obtain prior approval from instructors and the Program Board first. If the courses are with a limited number of registers, the students in certain subjects shall be later considered.

Article 50. Students may register for Thesis/Dissertation courses from the first term in which they are enrolled, In case of students who have completed the required number of thesis/dissertation credits for their program but have not yet completed their thesis/dissertation,

they must continue to register for thesis/dissertation without receiving credits and must pay full tuition and special fees (if any).

Article 51. Students may register for the courses required by the program at another educational institution and transfer credits for these courses up to but not exceeding one-third of the total required coursework credits by approval from the Program Board and the Faculty Administrative Board. In cases where a program has been specifically organized, registration shall comply with the criteria determined by the program.

### Section 3

### **Course Exemptions**

Article 52. Students may be exempted from certain courses in their program of study if they have previously passed a graduate course having similar content provided that they received a grade of S or a grade not lower than B or equivalent.

Students may request to exempt the graduate course which they have previously taken from undergraduate study or as a part of a non-formal education or equivalent program of Chulalongkorn University. In the case of the course taken from undergraduate study, the exempted course must be extra credits from the fulfillment of the requirement of the undergraduate program and must be approved by the Faculty Administrative Board.

Exempted courses mentioned in paragraph 1 must have been taken within a period of not more than 5 years starting from the following term in which the student received a grade for the course taken.

Total exempted courses must be made for not more than one-third of the total required coursework credits but excluding thesis/dissertation credits. Any fraction over the one-third permitted shall be disregarded. Except in the following cases where the number of credits for exemptions is unlimited:

- (1) The student changes his/her field of study as in Article 102;
- (2) The student enters a continuing Bachelor's to Master's degree program or enters a continuing Bachelor's through Doctoral degree;
- (3) The student has previously been enrolled in Chulalongkorn University for a graduate program or graduate courses in a non-formal education program or university-equivalent program.

Course exemption request must be made in the first academic term in which the student is enrolled and must be approved by the Program Board and the Faculty Administrative Board, and in such cases, the Program Board may arrange for the student to be tested to determine eligibility.

Article 53. In cases where an exemption has been given, once a student has taken all other courses required by his/her program of study, that student shall be considered as having completed

all required coursework and obtained the required number of credits for his/her program, unless the program stipulates that additional courses must be taken.

#### Section 4

# Adding, Dropping and Withdrawing from Courses

Article 54. Adding, dropping, and withdrawing from courses must be done within the deadlines prescribed by the Office of the Registrar.

Students wishing to drop or withdraw from courses must remain registered for not less than one other course.

### Section 5

# Course re-registration

Article 55. Course re-registration must comply with the following stipulations:

- (1) Students who have received a grade of D+, D, F, U, or W in a compulsory course must reregister for the course until they receive a grade of A, B+, B, C+, C, or S, otherwise will be unable to graduate.
- (2) Students who receive a grade of D+, D, F, U, or W in an elective course may register for another course instead.
- (3) In cases other than (1) and (2) above, students may re-register for a course in which they have received a grade of C+ or C.
- (4) Students may re-register for a course they have already taken provided that the course content is no longer the same as when they previously registered with the approval of the Program Board.
- (5) Students who register for a course as per Article 47 paragraph 6 or for a course required by the Graduate School.

# Chapter 6

### Instruction and Examination

#### Section 1

#### Instruction

**Article 56**. Instruction, course scheduling, and assignment of teaching staff for program courses shall be as prescribed by the Program Board.

Qualifications of teaching staff shall be in accordance with University regulations.

**Article 57**. Instructors are responsible for providing educational activities and assessments for the program courses to which they are assigned, whether they are full-time lecturers, special lecturers, or specialists.

Article 58. Students working on a thesis or dissertation shall be assigned a supervisor who is a full-time program, or in some cases, for academic reasons, the student may be assigned not more than two additional co-supervisors.

Qualifications and workload of thesis/dissertation supervisors and independent study readers/supervisors shall comply with University rules and regulations.

#### Section 2

#### **Course Examinations**

Article 59. Course examinations are administered with the purpose to determine if students possess knowledge of the subject. Examinations may be written or assessments or some other means. In all cases, students must be informed of course examinations by the formal announcement from the program at the beginning of the academic term or the summer session.

Students must take an examination in each of the subjects for which they have registered unless they are registered as visitors or have formally withdrawn from a course or the student has been given permission to take a leave of absence from the university.

- **Article 60.** Students must attend for not less than 80 percent of total class hours to be eligible to take the final examination unless otherwise permitted to take the examination by the course instructor.
- **Article 61**. Examination schedules are in accordance with the Faculty or University announcement, which is issued in advance.

Examinations given during the academic term are at the discretion of the course instructor or the Faculty.

#### Section 3

# **Comprehensive Examinations**

Article 62. The comprehensive examination for the Master's degree is a written or oral examination in the student's major and other relevant subject areas, intended to assess the student's ability to integrate the knowledge gained over the course of the program.

Criteria and procedures for administering the Comprehensive Examination shall comply with University regulations.

Article 63. Students may take the comprehensive examination provided when they:

- (1) Have successfully completed all compulsory coursework prior to taking the comprehensive examination;
- (2) Have registered for the comprehensive examination in the academic term in which they plan to take the examination;
- (3) Meet all other criteria set by the program.

#### Section 4

# **Qualifying Examination**

Article 64. The qualifying examination is an assessment of a doctoral degree candidate's foundational knowledge, analytical skills, potential, and readiness for conducting independent research as part of a doctoral degree program.

Criteria and procedures for administering the qualifying examination shall comply with university regulations.

Article 65. Students may take the qualifying examination provided when they:

- (1) Have received the approval of the Program Board;
- (2) Have registered for the qualifying examination in the term in which they intend to take the examination; however, students entering a doctoral degree program with a Master's degree or Bachelor's degree with honors may register to take the qualifying examination as of their first academic term in the program.

Under the above, students entering a Continuing Program with a non-honor Bachelor's degree may take the qualifying examination if subject to these provisions:

- (1) Students in a Plan A1 program must register for classes for not less than one academic term and have demonstrated progress on their thesis/dissertation in line with the guidelines set by the Program Board;
- (2) Students in a Plan A2 program must have registered for not less than 9-course credits in their program and obtained a Cumulative Grade Point Average not less than 3.25.
- **Article 66.** Students in a Ph.D. program must receive a grade of S on the Qualifying Examination within the deadlines below as of their first academic term:
  - (1) For students entering the program with a Master's degree must receive a grade of S within 4 terms (for programs under the semester system) or 6 terms (for programs under the trimester system);
  - (2) For students entering the program with a Bachelor's degree must receive a grade of S within 5 terms (for programs under the semester system) or 7 terms (for programs under the trimester system).

For programs requiring more than 30 coursework credits, the deadlines above may be extended by one additional term as mentioned above, in which case the Faculty shall forward the letter of the extension request to the Office of the Registrar.

Students who receive a grade of U on the qualifying examination may register to retake the examination but this must be done within the deadlines specified above.

A period of time during the leave of absence as in Article 107 (1) (2) and (5) shall not be counted as part of the time conditions specified above.

The Program Board may, subject to the approval of the Faculty Administrative Board, require students to take the qualifying examination earlier than the time periods specified above, but this must be issued by the Faculty Announcement prior to the student admissions.

#### Section 5

# Thesis/Dissertation Proposal Examination

Article 67. The thesis/dissertation proposal examination is intended to assess a student's knowledge and understanding of major issues, research methodologies, techniques, and approaches in solving possible problems relating to their research.

The dissertation proposal examination for doctoral-degree candidates must include a test of both basic and in-depth knowledge essential for undertaking a dissertation in order to ensure that students have the knowledge necessary to conduct research.

Article 68. Students must submit a thesis/dissertation proposal to the Program Board in accordance with the criteria and timeframes appeared in the faculty announcement approved by the Faculty Administrative Board.

The student's thesis/dissertation proposal, as well as the names of his/her thesis/dissertation supervisor and examiners, must be approved first by the Program Board and subsequently by the Faculty Administrative Board in accordance with the criteria and timeframe set by the Faculty Administrative Board.

The criteria and timeframes specified above must appear in the Faculty Announcement.

Article 69. A student's thesis/dissertation proposal must be approved within the period of time set by the Faculty Administrative Board and in accordance with the following criteria:

- (1) For Master's degree programs, within two years of the student's first academic term;
- (2) For Ph.D. programs, within three years of the student's first academic term;
- (3) For Continuing Programs, students in a doctoral degree program may take the dissertation proposal examination at any time, subject to the conditions in Article 72 (2).

The Program Board with the approval of the Faculty Administrative Board may require students to take the thesis/dissertation proposal examination and receive approval for their proposal before the time periods specified above; however, this must be issued by the Faculty Announcement prior to student admissions.

Students whose thesis/dissertation proposal is not approved within the deadline above shall forfeit their student status unless the Faculty Administrative Board determines that special circumstances warrant extending the deadline by an additional term, in which case the faculty shall forward the letter of the extension request to the Office of the Registrar.

Article 70. After a thesis/dissertation proposal has been approved, the Thesis/Dissertation Examination Committee must make an announcement which includes the thesis/dissertation title, the student name, and the names of the thesis/dissertation supervisors and examiners, which is then submitted to the Graduate School for further acknowledgment.

Changes of thesis/dissertation supervisors or examiners may be made only in essential cases. Any change must be approved by the Faculty Administrative Board and submitted to the Graduate School for further acknowledgment.

### Section 6

# Thesis/Dissertation/Independent Study Examination

Article 71. The Thesis/Dissertation/Independent Study Examination is an assessment of the student's knowledge and understanding of major issues, research methodologies, and techniques needed to solve research-related problems.

The Dissertation Examination in a doctoral-degree program must test the student's both basic and in-depth knowledge necessary to write a dissertation and ensure that the student has the enough knowledge needed to conduct research.

In line with University rules, the Thesis/Dissertation Examination is evaluated by the Thesis/Dissertation Examination Committee, while the Independent Study Examination is evaluated by the Independent Study Examination Committee.

**Article 72.** A student shall take the Thesis/Dissertation Examination when they have fulfilled the following criteria:

- (1) The student has registered for all courses required by the Program:
- (2) The student's thesis/ dissertation proposal has been approved by the Faculty Administrative Board not less than 60 days prior to the scheduled date of the Thesis/ Dissertation Examination. However, if the proposal is not required any significant revisions, the Faculty Administrative Board may allow the student to take the Thesis/Dissertation Examination prior to the time period above, with these 60 days period since the date of thesis/dissertation approval of the Program Board;
- (3) The student provides evidence that part of his/her thesis/dissertation has been submitted to an academic journal for publication, or has been accepted to be presented at an academic conference, in accordance with the rules and regulations or announcements of the University.
- (4) The student has met the English or foreign language proficiency standard set by the University or the Program Board;
- (5) The student has satisfied all other criteria set by the Faculty Administrative Board.

Students intending to take the thesis/dissertation examination must comply with the procedures and deadlines set by the Program Board and the Faculty Board.

**Article 73.** The thesis/dissertation examination shall be conducted openly to outside observers unless it is deemed necessary to preserve the confidentiality of some of the data in the thesis/dissertation, in which case the Chairperson of the Thesis/ Dissertation Examination Committee or the Thesis/Dissertation Supervisor may arrange for the examination to be conducted otherwise.

Article 74. The format of the thesis/dissertation and independent study report shall comply with the requirements set by the Graduate School.

Students must submit copies of their completed thesis/dissertation or independent study report in the number, manner, and time period announced by the Graduate School.

Under Chapter 2 Section 2 (Period of Study), students who submit their completed thesis/dissertation after the deadline stipulated above shall not graduate in that academic term, but shall be required to register for Thesis/Dissertation as stipulated in Article 50 in the following academic term.

Article 75. Intellectual property arising from a thesis/dissertation or independent study report is the property of the individual student who produces it, except when a study, experiment, or research was done as part of a thesis/dissertation or independent study, whether entirely or some part, makes use of any equipment, tools, materials, laboratory or other facilities belonging to the Faculty or the University, or if the student has received funding for his/her studies or research from the University or his/her thesis/dissertation supervisor either directly or indirectly, in which cases, the copyright is the property of the University.

**Article 76**. Students' academic work must be published or accepted for publication or distribution in accordance with the rules and regulations of the University.

Article 77. Publication or acceptance for publication of a student's work as in Article 76 is a requirement for graduation and must be completed within the period of time stipulated in Chapter 7 Section 2 of these regulations.

#### Section 7

# Student Infractions of Academic Rules and Regulations

**Article 78.** Students who violate academic rules and regulations shall be penalized subject to Article 15 of the Chulalongkorn University Regulations pertaining to Undergraduate Education B.E.2556 (2013) and amendments and revisions *mutatis mutandis*.

# Chapter 7

### Assessment

# Section 1

# **Assessment Levels**

Article 79. A thesis/dissertation examination shall be assessed according to the following criteria:

- (1) Very good
- (2) Good
- (3) Pass
- (4) Fail

Article 80. Individual courses shall be assessed using the following grading scale and corresponding grade points.

Grade	Meaning	Score
A	Excellent	4.0
B+	Very Good	3.5
В	Good	3.0
C+	Fairly Good	2.5
C	Fair	2.0
D+	Poor	1.5
D	Very Poor	1.0
F	Fail	0.0
I	Incomplete	
P	In Progress	
S	Satisfactory	
U	Unsatisfactory	
V	Visitor	
W	Withdrawn	
M	Missing	



#### Section 2

# **Grading Criteria**

**Article 81.** Course assessment takes place at the end of each academic term or at the end of the summer session in accordance with the criteria below.

A petition to change an assessment must be submitted within the next academic term and must be approved by the Faculty Administrative Board.

**Article 82**. Letter grades of A, B+, B, C+, C, D+, D, S, and F or U may be given only in the following circumstances:

- (1) A student is assessed in a course by an examination or other requirement;
- (2) When an assessment takes place within the first two weeks of the subsequent term, resulting in a change from I (Incomplete) to another letter grade;
- (3) When there is a change from an M (Missing), P (In Progress), or X (No Report).

**Article 83**. Other than those cases stipulated in Article 82 above, a grade of F (Fail) or U (Unsatisfactory) may be given in the following circumstances:

- (1) A course in which the instructor does not permit the student to take the examination;
- (2) A student is found cheating in an examination or in violation of examination rules, regulations, or orders issued by the University, Faculty, Department, or Program, and the Faculty Administrative Board deems that the violation is serious enough to warrant the grade of F (Fail);
- (3) When an assessment has not taken place within the first two weeks of the subsequent term in which a student registers, resulting in the change from I (Incomplete) to F (Fail);
- (4) When a student is unable to produce sufficient evidence to justify his/her absence from an examination within the first two weeks of the subsequent academic term, resulting in the change from M (Missing) to F (Fail).

Article 84. A letter grade of I (Incomplete) may be given only in the following cases:

- (1) A student becomes ill before the end of the term and remains ill up until the examination period and is thus unable to take the examination in some or all courses, and upon receiving a petition and consulting with the course instructors and the Department Head (if any), the Dean determines that the student's absence from the examination represents only a small portion of the course requirements.
- (2) A student has attended classes up through the end of the term and then becomes ill during the examination period, and is thus unable to take some or all of his/her

- examinations, and the Dean of the Faculty approves the student's petition to receive the letter I (Incomplete);
- (3) A student misses an examination due to extreme circumstances as defined by the University Announcement on Approval in the Event of Extreme Circumstances for Undergraduates (*mutatis mutandis*) and the Board of the Faculty to which the student is affiliated agrees to issue an I (Incomplete).
- (4) A student is unable to complete work that is a partial requirement of the course, and the instructor, with the approval of the Department Head, approves a postponement of the final assessment while notifying the Office of the Registrar of such when submitting assessments of other students enrolled in the course.

When an I (Incomplete) is changed as in (1) and (2) above, the student may be given a grade no higher than a B, or he/she may be given the actual grade he/she has earned based on guidelines contained in the Chulalongkorn University announcement on assigning grades to students at the undergraduate level who miss an examination due to illness (*mutatis mutandis*).

Article 85. When a case as in Article 84 (1) or (2) occurs, the student shall submit a petition to the Dean of his/her Faculty within one week of the date on which the student first becomes ill or of the date that the student is no longer seriously ill and is able to submit a petition together with a medical certificate from the Chulalongkorn University Health Services Center or from a government hospital, state enterprise hospital, or private hospital accredited by the Ministry of Public Health.

**Article 86.** An assessment of P (In Progress) may be issued at the end of the first academic term for which a student is registered for coursework or other requirements for not more than two consecutive academic terms.

**Article 87.** An assessment of S (Satisfactory), indicating that a student's results have been satisfactory, may be issued only in the following circumstances:

- (1) In subjects designated by the program as non-letter or non-credit courses;
- (2) A student's thesis/dissertation supervisor determines that the student's progress on his/her thesis/dissertation has been satisfactory in each academic term;
- (3) In the Comprehensive Examination Committee's assessment of a student's results on the Comprehensive Examination;
- (4) In the Qualifying Examination Committee's assessment of a student's results on the Qualifying Examination;

**Article 88**. An assessment of U (Unsatisfactory) may be issued in the four instances above when a student's results are determined to be unsatisfactory.

**Article 89.** An assessment of a thesis/dissertation as in Article 87 and 88 above shall comply with the criteria and procedures set by the Faculty Board and issued in advance in the form of a Faculty Announcement.

Article 90. An assessment of V (Visitor) may be issued only in certain courses for which a student has registered as a visitor and the instructor determines that the student has shown sufficient interest.

Article 91. An assessment of W (Withdrawn) may be given in a course for which a student has registered at the end of the sixth week of the term or at the end of the second week of the summer session under these circumstances:

- (1) The student has withdrawn from the course;
- (2) The student becomes ill before the end of the academic term and remains ill through the examination period, preventing him/her from attending examinations in some or all of his/her courses, in which case the student shall comply with the conditions in Article 84 *mutatis mutandis*.
- (3) The student has officially requested a leave of absence.
- (4) The student is suspended during the academic term for reasons other than a violation of the rules, regulations, announcements, or orders pertaining to examinations set down by the Program, Department, Faculty, and University.
- (5) The Dean approves a change of I (Incomplete) under Article 84 (1) (2) or (3) if it appears that the student's illness or unexpected circumstances have not ended within the first four weeks of the academic term following the term for which the student registered;
- (6) In a subject for which the student has registered as a visitor (V), the instructor feels that the student has not paid sufficient attention;
- (7) In a subject for which a student has registered in violation of Program regulations, conditions, or requirements.
- Article 92. An M (Missing) may be given only when a student has missed the final examination but has not yet provided adequate evidence explaining his/her absence.
- Article 93. An X (No Report) may be given only when the Office of Registrar has not received an assessment in a course as required.

#### Section 3

# **Computing Grade Point Average**

Article 94. Each student's grade point average is to be calculated at the end of each academic term.

**Article 95.** There are two types of grade point average, computed as follows:

(1) To calculate the semester grade point average, the number of credits assigned to each course is multiplied by the point value for the letter grade earned in

- that course. Then the grade points of all courses for the semester are totaled and divided by the number of credit hours attempted.
- (2) To calculate the cumulate grade point average, the credit hours and grade points from all semesters in which the student is registered are totaled. Then the total grade points are divided by total credit hours.

Assessments earned in the summer session are combined with the assessments in the following academic term in which the student registers for courses taken for grades to determine his/her academic status, except in the case of the final summer session for students who have already completed their program.

# Chapter 8

# **Change of Education Status**

### Section 1

# **Continuing Programs**

**Article 96.** A Master's degree program student may change his/her education level to a Ph.D. program as of his/her second academic term subject to these conditions:

- (1) A student in a Plan A Type A2 program wishing to become a Type 2.2 Ph.D. student must be registered for Program coursework totaling not less than 9 credits for which he/she receives a grade not lower than B, and his/her cumulative grade point average must not be lower than 3.25;
  - A student in a Plan A Type A1 program wishing to become a Type 1.2 Ph.D. student must have made sufficient progress in his/her thesis/dissertation as required by the Program Board.
- (2) The student has satisfied the English or another foreign language proficiency standard for doctoral-degree candidates set by the Academic Policy Board;
- (3) The student's request to enter the Ph.D. program is approved by the Program Board.

In this regard, the Program Board may set additional criteria subject to the approval of the Faculty Board.

**Article 97**. Students in a doctoral degree program wishing to change to a Master's degree program must receive approval from the Program Board, subject to one of the following provisions:

(1) The student submits a request to change his/her program from the Ph.D. to the Master's level;

- (2) The student has not passed the Qualifying Examination within the given deadline and makes a request to change levels;
- (3) The student receives a grade of U on the Qualifying Examination two times.

Article 98. When a student changes his/her level, all courses which he/she has already completed and the grades which he/she has received for these courses shall be transferred to the new level, and these previous assessments shall figure in the student's grade point average throughout the remainder of his/her program.

**Article 99**. In determining a student's length of study, the length of study shall start with his/her first term as a student at the University regardless of having changed his/her level of study.

Article 100. Students who have been admitted to a doctoral degree program but who do not pass the Dissertation Proposal Examination or the Dissertation Defense Examination and therefore no longer have status as doctoral degree candidates may request to reenter a Master's degree program provided that they submit a request and application to do so in the academic term subsequent to the term in which they lose their Ph.D. student status.

In such cases, the student's length of study begins again as of his/her first term in the new program.

All courses which the student previously completed and the assessments he/she received for these courses shall be transferred to the Master's degree program in which he/she has requested to enter and the grades for these courses shall figure into his/her cumulative grade point average throughout the remainder of the program.

**Article 101**. The Program Board shall consider all program admissions, changes in program level, and requests for re-admission, after that the Program Board shall forward its recommendations to the Faculty Board for approval. The Faculty Board then is responsible for notifying the Office of the Registrar of all decisions within two weeks of its approval.

#### Section 2

# Change in Area of Study

Article 102. A student may request to change his/her area of study at the University in accordance with the following criteria and with the approval of the Program Board and the Faculty Board with which the student's current and proposed new area of study are affiliated:

- (1) He/she has been a student at the University for not less than one academic term and not more than one academic year;
- (2) He/she has a cumulative grade point average, not below 3.00.

Article 103. A student who changes his/her area of study may be exempted from certain required courses, subject to the approval of the Faculty Board.

#### Section 3

# Change in Study Plan

Article 104. A student who enters as a Plan A program may not change to Plan B, but a student who has chosen a Plan B program may change to Plan A, subject to the approval of the Program Board, in which the Graduate School must be notified.

### Chapter 9

### Leave of Absence

Article 105. A student wishing to take a temporary leave of absence from his/her studies must submit a request together with all other necessary documentation to the Dean after having first received approval from the Program Board, except when a student wishes to take leave while writing the thesis/dissertation, in which case he/she must receive approval from the Faculty Board.

Temporary leave request submission as above must be made within the last day of classes of the academic term as designated in the Academic Calendar.

Temporary leave request approval may be given for no more than two consecutive academic terms at a time. Should a longer leave of absence be required, the student must make another request.

A temporary leave of absence may not be taken during an approved extension of a student's period of study due to circumstances beyond the student's control as in Article 112.

Article 106. Once a student's request to take temporary leave has been approved, he/she must continue to pay fees to retain his/her student status for each term he/she is on leave unless the student has already paid other tuition and fees during that academic term.

The student is not permitted to make use of any educational equipment or facilities belonging to the University and may not take part in any educational activities while on temporary leave.

**Article 107**. A student may take a temporary leave of absence only after he/she has been registered for classes for at least one academic term, except in any of the following circumstances:

- (1) The student is conscripted or called up for military service;
- (2) The student undertakes research abroad as part of his/her program of study;
- (3) The student is ill and must be hospitalized for a period exceeding three consecutive weeks;

- (4) Doctor's orders require the student to take leave for a period exceeding three consecutive weeks;
- (5) The student receives funding to participate in an exchange program abroad or other funding indirectly related to his/her program of study;
- (6) Circumstances are beyond the student's control or other emergency circumstances prevent him/her from pursuing studies during that academic term, in which case documentary evidence must be provided.

To be granted a leave of absence as in (3) and (4), a student must provide a medical certificate from the Chulalongkorn University Health Services Center or from a government or state enterprise medical facility accredited by the Ministry of Public Health, and in (3) above, the student must submit a receipt specifying the cost of the hospital room.

Article 108. A student's leave of absence shall be counted as part of his/her period of study except when the leave of absence is of the type specified in Article 107 (1) (2) (3) or (5) above.

A leave of absence of the type in Article 107 (2) above may be excluded from his/her period of study for only one academic term, after which any further leave shall be counted toward his/her period of study.

A leave of absence of the type in Article 107 (5) above may be excluded from his/her period of study for only one academic year, after which any further leave shall be counted toward his/her period of study.

A leave of absence of the type in Article 107 (4) and (6) may not be counted toward a student's period of study, if it is subject to the approval of the Graduate School.

In the case of a leave of absence of the types specified in Article 107 (2) (4) (5) and (6), the Faculty shall notify the Office of the Registrar when it is decided that the leave period shall not be counted toward a student's total period of study.

### Chapter 10

#### Termination and Reinstatement of Graduate Student Status

Article 109. Student status shall be terminated in the following circumstances:

- (1) Death;
- (2) Withdrawal from studies;
- (3) Completion of the program of study and students are approved to receive their diploma or degree;
- (4) At the end of the second week of the academic term, the student has not yet registered for courses or retained his/her student status and has not paid tuition, fees, and special fees (if any);

- (5) At the end of the first academic term, a conditional student receives a grade point average less than 3.00 or has received a grade of U in a non-credit course or has not met the conditional criteria set by the Program Board and approved by the Faculty Board;
- (6) A regular student has a cumulative grade point average below 2.50 or a grade point average below 2.50 in his/her first academic term;
- (7) A regular student has a cumulative grade point average, not below 2.50 but less than 3.00, referred to as "on probation," for two consecutive academic terms;
- (8) Receives a grade of U two times on the comprehensive examination;
- (9) Receives a grade of U two times or does not receive a grade of S within the deadline set in Article 66 on the Qualifying Examination unless the student is enrolled in a Continuing program and is given permission by the Program Board to change to a Master's degree program;
- (10) The student fails to pass the Dissertation Proposal Examination within the deadline;
- (11) When the dissertation proposal is not approved by the Faculty Board within the deadline;
- (12) The student receives a grade of U in Thesis/Dissertation courses for two consecutive academic terms; if the student takes leave between academic terms, a student receiving two grades of U shall be counted as having received grade U in two consecutive terms;
- (13) The student receives a "Fail" on his/her dissertation examination;
- (14) The student has registered for classes for the full time period stipulated in Chapter 2 Section 2 but has not yet completed his/her program of study;
- (15) When the University orders that a student's status be rescinded because he/she does not satisfy the program qualifications or is in violation of the rules, regulations, announcements or orders pertaining to examinations or student behavior set by the Faculty or the University.

To withdraw from his/her program as in (2) a student must submit a request to the Faculty Registrar and receive approval from the Dean;

In the case of (7), all academic terms shall be counted unless the student has taken leave; then the assessment for the summer session shall be included in the assessment for the next academic term for which the student registers.

Article 110. A student who forfeits his/her student status because he/she has not registered for courses or maintained his/her student status and has not paid tuition and fees within the deadline set in Article 109 (4) may request to have his/her student status reinstated within the term in which he/she forfeits his/her status subject to approval from the Faculty Board and the University President.

Article 111. A student has submitted his/her completed thesis/dissertation to the Graduate School but has not yet satisfied all the requirements for graduation shall observe the following:

(1) The student should retain his/her student status provided that his/her permitted period of study has not been completed;

(2) If the permitted period of study has been completed, the student may request an extension and may retain his/her student status for the academic term in which the extension is granted, subject to compliance with the terms of the University announcement.

Article 112. In the event that, due to extraordinary circumstances beyond his/her control, a student is unable to graduate within the deadline stipulated in Article 16 or Article 17, the student should submit a petition to the Program Board and the Faculty Board, which may recommend that an extension of the deadline be approved, in which case, the student shall forward the matter to the Graduate School Board together with the dissertation assessments for each academic term and request approval from the University President.

# Chapter 12.

#### Graduation

Article 113. To be eligible to graduate with a diploma or degree under the conditions set down in this Chapter, students must satisfy the following qualifications and have proceeded as follows:

- (1) Have registered for coursework, earned the number of credits required by the Program, and maintained a cumulative grade point average not below 3.00;
- (2) Not exceed the period of study stipulated by the Program and Article 2 Section 2 of these regulations;
- (3) Published or have accepted for publication or disseminated part of his/her dissertation or independent study in accordance with Article 36;

Article 114. Students in a Master's degree program shall be eligible to graduate when:

- (1) Students in Plan A program have passed all required courses in their program of study, passed the Thesis Proposal Examination, passed the Thesis Examination, and met all other requirements set by the Program, the Faculty and the University;
- (2) Students in Plan B program have passed all coursework, completed independent study, passed the Comprehensive Examination, and met all other requirements set by the Program, the Faculty and the University.

Article 115. Students in a doctoral degree program shall be eligible to graduate when they have completed all required coursework, passed the Qualifying Examination entitling them to submit a dissertation proposal, passed the Dissertation Proposal Examination, passed the Dissertation Examination, and met all other requirements stipulated by the Program, the Faculty, and the University.

Article 116. Students who have satisfied all the requirements set down in this Chapter must inform the Office of the Registrar of their intention to receive their diploma or certificate within the given deadline; otherwise, they are subject to a fine as stipulated by University announcement,

and their names may not be forwarded to the University Council for approval to receive their diploma or certificate in that academic term.

Those students approved by the Faculty to graduate within the last day of the academic year as determined by the University, and have been approved by the University Council, deserves the right to receive their diploma in that academic year.

# **Temporary Provisions**

Article 117. Students who entered a graduate program prior to academic year 2018 shall be subject to the Chulalongkorn University Regulations on Graduate Studies B.E.2542 (1999) and amendments, as well as to the Chulalongkorn University Regulations on Graduate Studies B.E.2551 (2008) and amendments, as well as all other Faculty and University announcements and orders in force at the time they entered the university, and these shall remain in force until such time as the students no longer have student status.

Article 118. In the event that a Program has not been revised or revisions were not implemented prior to academic year 2561 (2018), the Chulalongkorn University Regulations on Graduate Studies B. E. 2551 (2008) and amendments as well as all other Faculty and University announcements and orders shall remain in force until such time as the revisions are approved by the University Council.

Announced on 31 July B.E.2561 (2018)
(Signed)

Pirom Kamonratanakul

(Professor Emeritus Pirom Kamolratanakul, M.D.)
President of the University Council

In the event of any conflict between the English and original Thai version, shall comply with the original Thai version.

Translation Version on 16 July B.E. 2564, (2021)

(Associate Professor Thumnoon Nhujak, Ph.D.) Dean of Graduate School