

National Taiwan University Foreign Language Study Guidelines For Graduate Students

Approved by the 2nd Academic Affairs meeting on the 2nd semester of 1995 academic year on May 15, 1996

- I. Concerning the study of foreign languages for Ph.D. and Master program students, each graduate institute must decide whether to consider it as a requirement or as an elective course; in either case, each graduate institute shall report its decision to the Academic Affairs Division for the administration of course grades.

- II. There are three main languages that can be selected by graduate students; they are German, French and Japanese. Each graduate institute may assign either one as a requirement, or allow students to select the language of their choice. However, if there is a need for the study of another language, this can be done with the approval of the Director of Graduate Institute and Dean of College and the Dean of Academic Affairs.
Foreign graduate students may not select their native language to fulfill the foreign language study requirement. However, if the course subject of the student's research is closely related to the student's native language, upon approval of the Director of Graduate Institute and Dean of College and the Dean of Academic Affairs, the above restriction may be waived.

- III. To take foreign language studies, graduate students must take the courses offered in the undergraduate program and complete all four courses, one in each semester for two academic years. Those who have completed all four courses with an average grade of above 70 shall be considered as having fulfilled the foreign language requirement. Students who have been tested by the Department Foreign Languages and Literatures or the Department of Japanese language and Literature to be at an advanced level in their foreign language abilities shall not be under the above restriction of four courses.

- IV. If a graduate institute decides to select a different foreign language as a requirement or deems it necessary to strengthen the study of another foreign language, it may do so by offering such subject courses. The grades of the courses shall be administered in the same manner as described in the above section.

- V. If graduate students have previously taken or have studied on their own the language that is considered a requirement in graduate institute, they can request an

exemption or a waiver examination of the course in accordance with the following rules:

If graduate students have taken such language courses in the undergraduate department or in the graduate institute and have proof of the course grade, they may request exemption according to *Student's Credit Exemption Guidelines* of the university.

Graduate students who have studied on their own and consider themselves to have a certain ability level may complete the *Foreign Language Waiver Examination Application Form* and present it to the Dean of the Graduate Institute to be sent to the Academic Affairs Division for participation in the waiver examination. Students who score over 70 points in the waiver examination shall be exempted from taking the language requirement.

- VI. The mode of the waiver examination shall be decided by each graduate institute. The three types of examination are "General Foreign Language" examination, "Special Foreign Language" examination, or both; each institute can select one type from the three. Each examination shall be of 100 minutes, and the full score is 100 points. If both examinations are taken, the total score shall consist of 30% from the General Foreign Language portion and 70% from the Special Foreign Language portion.
- VII. Graduate students who have applied to take the waiver examination, but fail in the first examination may take the examination a second time in the subsequent academic year; for the same foreign language the waiver examination may be taken no more than twice.
- VIII. The foreign language waiver examination for graduate students shall be offered by the Academic Affairs Division once every academic year. The design and the grading of the examination shall be determined by the Dean of Academic Affairs in conjunction with the Directors of related Graduate Institutes and the Director of Graduate Institute of Foreign Languages and Literatures.
- IX. Funding for the waiver examination shall be covered from the university's teaching funds.
- X. These guidelines shall be implemented after being approved by the Academic Affairs meeting.