

Graduate requirements for M.S. degree in molecular biology, Department of Biomedical Sciences, National Chung Cheng University

1. At least twenty four credits of courses (credits of M.S. thesis not included) are required for graduation.
2. Required courses include advanced molecular biology (3 credits), **advanced biochemistry**(3 credits), advanced cell biology (3 credits), and seminars in molecular biology (4 credits).
3. Credit remitting and courses:
 - (1) If courses with identical titles to the required courses listed above are taken before admission, the courses and the credits can be remitted through formal confirmation by the department.
 - (2) At least six credits of courses must be taken in the first semester of admission.
 - (3) **Flexible Course Selection for International Students: International students can take the mandatory courses from the fully English-taught courses offered by the Molecular Biology PhD Program. They could also take elective courses from the fully English-taught courses offered by the College of Science's interdisciplinary International Doctoral Program (STEM) with the consent of their advisor.**
4. Thesis advisor
 - (1) Students are to select a thesis advisor among the faculty within three months of admission. The form of "Agreement of thesis advising" signed by the department chair is to **be submitted** to the department office.
 - (2) If a student needs to change their thesis advisor, the student's current advisor could submit a "Declaration of Termination of Thesis Advising" form signed by the department chair to the department office beforehand. Once the new advisor has been selected, another form, the "Agreement of Thesis Advising," should be submitted to the department office. On the other hand, a student may also submit a "Request for Changing Thesis Advisor" form (as in Appendix III), which should be signed by both the current and new thesis advisors and then submitted to the department office. If a new advisor has not yet been confirmed, the department chair may coordinate and, if necessary, convene a temporary group of 3-5 faculty members to assist the student in smoothly changing their thesis advisor.
 - (3)The courses to be taken by the students must be concurred by their thesis advisors.
5. Thesis progress report:

A progress report is held in the second year after admission (the Fall semester: the first Friday after class begins; the Spring semester: the seminar course). Thesis advisors can elect to form a thesis advisory committee to supervise the progress of thesis.
6. According to the "Main points of implementation of academic ethics education for the graduate students of National Chung Cheng University," it is mandatory for the first year graduate students to take classes from the Academic Research Ethics Education Online Program at National Chung Cheng University before the end of the first semester. Only the students who pass all the classes will be issued a certificate, and the students need to present the certificate when they apply for their master's degree examination.

7. The graduate student's dissertation must be relevant to the field of Biomedical Sciences. Before applying for the degree examination, the graduate student must have his (or her) dissertation verified to fit the criteria and submit a signed checklist for the professional field of the dissertation.
8. The M.S. thesis examination is to be completed within the time period set forth by the university (consulting the university calendar). The examination, however, can not be held later than the end of July.
9. **Guidelines for examining plagiarism in a dissertation:** The similarity checks for plagiarism shall exclude the published article written by the author of the dissertation. The dissertation content used for the similarity check shall exclude the "experimental materials and methods" and "references" sections. A comparison report must be submitted if the similarity exceeds 25%, and the supervisor must sign and confirm that there is no doubt of plagiarism before the application for thesis defense can be approved.
10. This regulation is implemented after passing the department committee and applied to the newly-enrolled students in the calendar year. A similar implementation is also applied to the changes made to this regulation.