

Program

Requirements for the Master of Science (M.S.) Program Requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Program

Requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy Program

A. Advisor(s)

The advisor or one of the co-advisors of the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) thesis must be a full-time faculty in the Institute of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology (IEEB hereafter) or an adjunct faculty affiliated with the Department of Life Science of NTU or the Academic Sinica.

B. Graduating Credits

Students are required to take at least 18 credits to graduate, of which 14 are from the mandatory courses, and 4 from the elected courses. Students transfer from the IEEB Master program are required to take at least 30 credits to graduate, of which 18 are from the mandatory courses, and 12 from the elected courses.

- **Mandatory Courses:** Students are required to take at least 14 credits (18 Credits for transferring students) from the following courses (credits shown are for each semester):
 - **LS 3023 Ecology.** 0 credit. Students of the IEEB must take at least 3 credits of Ecology to fulfill the requirements of the Doctoral program. Students who had taken similar courses before entering the IEEB Doctoral Program can apply for exemption. However, exemption is valid only with the approval of the IEEB Course Committee.
 - **B44 D0010 (EEB 8999) - Thesis (Ph.D.).** 0 credit. This course is taken in each semester after the students have passed the Doctoral Degree Qualification Examination, and become Ph. D. candidates. Students must apply for and pass the Thesis Defense to fulfill the requirements of this course. After passing the Thesis Defense, students are required to present an institutional seminar and a poster, and have the poster displayed on the IEEB website.
 - **B44 D0020 (EEB 8001) - Seminar (Ph.D.).** 6 credits. This course is offered every semester by the IEEB. Students are required to present and discuss topics relevant to current trends in ecology and evolutionary biology. Students must take the course 6 times, thus earning a total of 6 credits, to fulfill the requirements of the Doctoral Program. However, two of the 6 credits can be substituted for by taking graduate seminars offered by the IEEB faculty.
 - **B44 D0030 (EEB 8002) - Research Training.** 6 credits. The format of this course is determined by the faculty offering the course. Students must take the course 6 times, thus earning a total of 6 credits, to fulfill the requirements of Doctoral Program.
 - **B21 U0400(LS 5069) Teaching Practice of General Botany Lab. and B21 U0300(LS 5068)Teaching Practice of General Zoology Lab..** 3 credits. The IEEB offers practical training for biology teaching. Students taking Biology Teaching will go through the process of learning, preparing, and teaching laboratory exercises to undergraduate students in zoology or botany laboratories. One of the 3-credits is earned from learning the laboratory exercises, and the other from the actual teaching performance. This course is not a requirement for professional students or foreign

students. However, students who are exempted from this requirement are required to take 2 extra credits from the elected courses.

- **Elected Courses.** Students must earn at least 4 credits (12 credits for transferring students) from a list of 40 or so elected courses relevant to the spectrum of ecology and evolutionary biology. Please consult the IEEB staff for the list of elected courses.

D. Credit Transfer and Exemption

Students who had taken graduate courses similar to any of the elected courses before entering the IEEB Doctoral Program can apply for credit transfer and exemption of no more than 2 credits. However, credit transfer and exemption is valid only with the approval of the IEEB Course Committee.

E. Doctoral Degree Qualification Examination

1. Graduate students in the Doctoral Program are required to apply for the Doctoral Degree Qualification Examination by the end of the 2nd year of the program. The application should be submitted within the first month of the 2nd semester of a school year, and the examination be completed by the end of the semester. The written part of the examination contains three subjects: Ecology, Evolutionary Biology, and a third subject appointed by the advisor of the examinee. The oral part of the examination is taken only after the examinee has passed the written part, and contains the defense of the examinee's doctoral thesis proposal.
2. A Doctoral Degree Qualification Examination Committee is assembled for the oral examination, and is composed of a Chair (the advisor of the examinee), and three or more scholars in the area of examinee's research.
3. Students must notify the IEEB office as soon as the date of the oral examination is determined to allow time for the preparation for the venue of examination and invitation letters sent to members of the examination committee. Students must pick up relevant materials for the examination from the IEEB office at least 1- 2 days prior to the examination.
4. Those students who fail either the oral or written part of the examination must schedule a second examination before the end of the 3rd year of the program. Students will not be allowed to continue the Doctor of Philosophy program if they fail the second examination.
5. For further information and details of the IEEB policy regarding the Doctoral Degree Qualification Examination, please consult the IEEB office.

F. Scholarship

Please consult the IEEB staff for details of available scholarships.

G. Thesis Defense

1. Students who have fulfilled the following requirements may apply for the Thesis Defense
 1. The applicant has earned 18 graduating credits from mandatory and elected courses.
 2. The applicant has passed the Doctoral Degree Qualification Examination.
 3. The applicant has published in (or been accepted to) peer-reviewed journals and earned at least 3 points (2 points are earned for each research article published in SCI journals).
 4. The applicant must be the first author of the above mentioned articles, and the affiliation of the first author is the IEEB.
2. Application for thesis defense is due on November 30th (first semester) or April 30th (second semester). Students must send a copy of application form, transcripts, a grade

- evaluation form, a draft of thesis report, reprints of publications, and names of 5-9 thesis defense committee members to the IEEB office.
3. The defense must be held before the end of the semester. Students must notify the IEEB office as soon as the date of the defense is determined to allow time for the preparation for the venue of defense and invitation letters sent to members of the thesis defense committee. Students must pick up relevant materials for the defense from the IEEB office at least 1- 2 days prior to the defense.
 4. For acceptable reasons, students may withdraw the application for a thesis defense. Forfeiting a defense without an official withdrawal before the end of the semester is equivalent to failing the defense.
 5. Students may have two chances to pass the defense.
 6. Students must deposit a copy of the final version of thesis report before January 31st (first semester) or July 31st (second semester) to the IEEB office. Failing to do so will result in a delay of graduation. Students will need to register for the following semester to deposit the thesis and graduate.

H. The requirements listed above are complemented by the National Taiwan University policies regarding graduate study. Please consult the IEEB office for further information.

I. The above listed requirements are in effect immediately after the approval of the IEEB faculty. Modification of the requirements must be approved by the IEEB faculty before it becomes effective.

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