

Guidelines for the Acquisition of a BA and MA degree in 5 years

Approved by the first session of the Academic Affairs Committee in the Academic Year 2008/2009 on September 25, 2008

Approved by the seventh session of the Dean Committee in the second semester of the Academic Year 2011/2012 on May 7, 2012

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Article 1 These guidelines have been formulated to encourage outstanding undergraduate students to register for graduate-level courses at an earlier date in order to achieve the goals of intensive study and shorter program durations.

Article 2 Undergraduate students (including transfer students) may apply for early registration for graduate-level courses of MA programs offered by related departments and degree programs starting in the second semester of their junior year. Quotas, selection criteria, and selection procedures are determined by colleges, departments, and degree programs and implemented upon ratification by the Department Affairs Committee and College-level meetings and submission to the Office of Academic Affairs for future reference.

Article 3 Each department and degree program should establish a review team which determines a list of admitted students in a fair and just manner. This list is submitted to the Registration Section upon approval by meetings convened by departments and degree programs.

Article 4 Students who have been allowed to register for a Master’s program at an earlier date (below referred to as quasi graduate students) have to comply with the regulations of the respective department or degree program in the selection of courses.

Article 5 Quasi graduate students have to acquire their Bachelor’s degree by the eighth semester and pass the MA program entrance screening test, exam or admission channels for international students and overseas Chinese students before they gain full MA candidate status. The regulations for reporting to the university, registration procedures, and deferral of enrollment are identical to those for newly admitted students to the MA program. The degree regulations upon admission are based on the rules and regulations of individual departments and degree programs.

Article 6 The university allocates a quota of five quasi graduate students to each graduate program, institute, and MA degree program every year. The tuition and miscellaneous fees for these students who are in their senior years are discounted by 50%. They are however required to pay their tuition in full and are eligible to apply for a refund in the first year of their graduate program upon passing the entrance screening test or exam. The admission criteria and lists are based on Article 2 and 3 of these guidelines.

Individual colleges are authorized to adjust the quotas of quasi graduate students allocated to each graduate program, institute, and MA degree program based on their total quotas. The number of quasi graduate students may not exceed 50% of the recruitment quota for individual programs.

Article 7 Quasi graduate students may apply for the transfer of graduate-level courses if they earned scores of B- (70) or above. Applications have to be submitted before the course addition and withdrawal period in the semester of admission to the program (specific dates will be set by the Registration Section). Only one application for credit transfer may be submitted. A maximum of 100% of all required may be transferred (the 50% limit does not apply). Only credits which haven’t been applied toward the graduation credit requirements of undergraduate programs may be transferred. Scores earned in graduate-level courses are included in the semester GPA. Quasi graduate students have to be enrolled in MA programs for a minimum of one year.

Article 8 Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees are only awarded if said students meet the criteria for undergraduate programs of their original home departments and degree programs and MA programs they registered for at an earlier date.

Article 9 These guidelines and all amendments are implemented upon ratification by the Academic Affairs Committee and approval by the President.

Notes:

1. No credit fees are charged for graduate-level courses selected during the first four years of undergraduate programs.

2. A maximum of 100% of all selected graduate-level credits may be transferred (minimum score of B- or above; credit transfer limits are determined by individual departments and degree programs)

3. According to the University Act and these guidelines, undergraduate and graduate students are eligible for graduation after three years and one year, respectively.

4. Graduate programs and institutes and MA degree programs may prepare waiting lists for quasi graduate students and formulate special procedures for quasi graduate students who fail to comply with the regulations for course selection (such as the revocation of the special student status)

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