

Requirements to obtain a Master or Ph.D. degree from the Department of Plant Pathology, National Chung Hsing University

Enacted in the Department Affairs Meeting on Oct. 22th, 2019
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The purpose of this information is to set criteria for students who are studying to earn a master or Ph.D. degree from the Department of Plant Pathology. All requirements stated below are adapted from the conclusions of departmental committees.

I. Requirements for Master Degree of Plant Pathology

1. Plant Pathology Core Curriculum—Elective

All students who wish to earn a master degree must take “Seminar I and II” and “Thesis”. In addition, students must elect “**Advances in Plant Pathology**” and “**Plant Disease Clinics**” in order to obtain the degree.

2. Thesis committee must comprise at least two qualified members (usually recommended by the advisor), in addition to the advisor, to supervise and provide counseling to students. Evaluation of student performance must be completed before the first day of the second school year by the committee and a record shall be submitted to the departmental office after completion.
3. All students who wish to earn a master degree must make an oral presentation in a departmental seminar.
4. To obtain a master degree in Plant Pathology, students must fulfil one of the followings:
 - (1) Publish at least one article directly related to thesis in one of domestic journals (At least, a letter of acceptance from the journal is required before thesis defense.).
 - (2) Make at least one oral presentation in a domestic meeting of an academic society or one poster presentation in an international conference in the field of plant pathology or related disciplines (determined by major advisor).

II. Requirements for Ph.D. Degree of Plant Pathology

1. Plant Pathology Core Curriculum—Elective

All students who wish to earn a Ph.D. degree must take “Seminar III and IV” and “Dissertation”. Other courses can be determined by the advisor based on student’s research topics

※Students who never took “**Advances in Plant Pathology**” and “**Plant Disease Clinics**” in the past must take these two courses.(To apply for exemption, students must obtain an approval from committee members and submit to the departmental office soon after the first evaluation.)

2. Ph.D. students must make **four** oral presentations related to thesis in the departmental seminar before graduation. After two registered years, students must attend seminar at least four times every semester until graduate. The attendance must be certified by the seminar coordinator.
3. Ph.D. students must have a committee before the end of the first year of the study. Annual evaluation must be documented and submitted to the departmental office before the date of next school year.
4. Ph.D. students must make at least two oral presentations in the domestic conference in the field of plant pathology or related disciplines (determined by major advisor).
5. Ph.D. students must serve at least one semester as a teaching assistant one of the classes offering in the department.
6. To obtain a Ph.D. degree in Plant Pathology, students must publish at least one article directly related to Dissertation in one of international journals with Scientific Citation Index (SCI). (At least, a letter of acceptance from the journal is required before thesis defense.)
7. Ph.D. students who complete all required courses after two years (minimum) and wish to become a Ph.D. candidate can propose to take the qualifying examination. The qualifying exam must be completed no later than the third year of enrollment. A student is allowed to repeat the qualifying examination only once. Make-up qualifying examination shall not be held in the same semester, however. A student who fails twice in the qualifying examination will be forced to drop out.