

# **Rules of Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine on Education and Training for International Doctoral Students (Trial)**

For the purpose of standardizing the education and training for international Doctoral students, the *Rules of Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine on Education and Training for International Doctoral students* (hereinafter referred to as the Rules) are hereby formulated in accordance with the *Administrative Measures for the Admission and Education of International Students*, the *Regulations of the People's Republic of China on Academic Degrees*, the *Interim Measures for the Implementation of Regulations of the People's Republic of China on Academic Degrees*, the *Notice of the National Education Commission on Improving and Strengthening Graduate Education* as well as the *Trial Measures of the State Council Academic Degrees Committee for Conferring Chinese Degrees to International Students in Higher Educational Institutions* in consideration of the specific situation of the university.

## **I Education and Training Objectives**

1. The students improve their knowledge, ability, and quality in an all-round way, abide by Chinese laws and regulations and university discipline, and understand and adapt to Chinese culture and environment.

2. The students possess a solid basic theory, systematic and profound professional knowledge and skills, as well as strong analytical and thinking abilities. The students are familiar with the domestic and international development trends related to the discipline, have the ability to independently engage in discipline-related research by using modern scientific and technological means, and have innovations in the basic or clinical research of the discipline. The students gain proficiency in basic Chinese language skills. The university trains and develops senior talents with high academic levels, professional abilities, and scientific research capabilities.

3. The students have a healthy physique and good psychological quality.

## **II Program Length and Training Schedule**

1 The program typically spans three years; for those opting for a flexible study plan, it can be extended up to five years.

(1) In principle, the time for intensive study is one semester. From the second semester to the sixth semester, the students have to go to the related schools (institutions or centers) for course study, practical ability training and scientific research ability training under the guidance of supervisors.

(2) If the student fails to complete the courses, research tasks or participate in the doctoral dissertation presentation and oral defense on time due to special reasons, the student can submit an application for an extension of the period of study half a year in advance, and such application is subject to opinions and signature by his/her supervisor and approval by the relevant school and should be reported to International Education College (IEC) for review. For the extension of study, the student has to go through the relevant procedures according to the regulations.

## 2. Education and training program

The education and training programs for international Doctoral students are developed in accordance with the *Regulations of Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine on Education and Training for Master and Doctoral students* and the *Graduate Education and Training Program of Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine (2022 Revision)*, with reference to the *Trial Measures of the State Council Academic Degrees Committee for Conferring Chinese Degrees to International Students in Higher Educational Institutions*.

### **III Supervisor and Student Personal Training Plan**

1. International Doctoral students can choose their supervisors (mutual selection between supervisors and students) during the interview or within one month after admission. The routine education and training for the international Doctoral students will be carried out in a way that the supervisor takes the main responsibility while working collaboratively with the supervising team to provide comprehensive training.

2. Supervisors are responsible for the daily training and education of postgraduate students. If a supervisor cannot fulfill his/her duties for any reason, the procedure for changing the supervisor should follow the relevant university regulations.

3. The supervisors should guide the international Doctoral students to determine the courses for study within one week after enrollment (or after determining the supervisor), and to formulate a practical personal training plan within 3 months after enrollment in accordance with the Rules and the discipline training program, in combination with the personal situation of the students. The supervisors should specify the requirements for the research project and the publication of academic papers during schooling, and organize the members of the supervising team to formulate clinical and teaching work requirements. The personal training plan should be submitted to International Education College for recording. Before the dissertation proposal, the personal training plan shall be reviewed and signed in triplicate by the supervisor and then submitted to the Graduate School, the Graduate Academic Affairs Office of the secondary school (department), and International Education College for archiving.

### **IV Course Offerings and Requirements**

1. A credit system is adopted for international Doctoral students. The courses are divided into compulsory courses and optional courses, and the compulsory courses include degree courses and non-degree courses. Both compulsory courses and optional courses are included in the training plan. For regulations on taking degree courses, please refer to the *Regulations of Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine on Graduate Course Study and Assessment Management*.

2. The total credits for a Doctoral student for graduation should be not less than 15 credits which must be gained before the research project is proposed.

3. Basic requirements for course offerings

(1) Offering of courses taught in Chinese for Doctoral students

Category	Course Title	Credits	Compulsory or Optional	Note
General Course	Overview of China	2.0	Compulsory	Degree Course
	Chinese Language	2.0	Compulsory	Degree Course
	Research Integrity and Academic Ethics	1.0	Compulsory	Online
Basic Major Course	Academic Norms and Guidelines for Writing Dissertation	2.0	Compulsory	Online + Lecture
	Literature Reading and Book Report Writing*	5.0	Compulsory	Under supervising
	Lecture	3.0	Compulsory	At least 15 sessions
Major course	Select courses according to the research field		Optional	

\*Literature Reading and Book Report Writing:

Before writing the project proposal report, the graduate students are required to read a certain amount of professional literature (the supervisor will list the literature and books related to the major in the training plan form), and make a book report or academic discussion (3 times for master students) in the discipline supervisor team or in the school. Assessment method: The supervisor (or the discipline supervisor team) will rate regarding the completion of the book report.

(2) Offering of courses taught in English for Doctoral students

Category	Course name	Credits	Compulsory or optional	Note
General course	Overview of China	2.0	Compulsory	Degree course
	Chinese Language	2.0	Compulsory	Degree course
Basic Major Course	Course designated by the supervisor	3.0	Compulsory	1-2, degree courses
Major course	To be completed under supervising	3.0	Compulsory	1-2, degree courses
Optional course	To be decided jointly by the student and the supervisor according to the training goal of the major	2.0	Optional	2-3 courses
Lecture	At least 15 sessions	3.0	Compulsory	

3. The Doctoral students can take courses related to their research projects in other institutes under the guidance of their supervisors. This should be included in the personal training plan after the consent of the supervisor and should be reported to International Education College for approval. The expenditure incurred thereby shall be borne by the supervisor or the student.

4. For credits of graduate students with no traditional Chinese medicine education background who choose undergraduate courses, refer to the *List of Standards for Credit Entry and Transfer for Regular Courses of Traditional Chinese Medicine*.

5. In case the student has taken the course in IEC and has passed the exam of that course before admission, if the course meets the requirements of the training program of the discipline, the student can apply for an exemption from that course, or apply for certification according to the certification process of the "Credit Bank". The application for exemption from the course may be submitted within two weeks after the start of the course teaching semester (attach the original transcript of the sit-in course, and the score is valid for 2 years). After approval by the supervisor and the course lecturer, the application should be submitted to International Education College for approval and filing.

6. All course exams are required to be scored on a hundred-mark system, with a full score of 100. A score above or equal to 60 is considered a 'pass', and a score below 60 is considered a 'fail'. Students who fail to pass the exam can retake the course, and if the student passes the re-exam, the score will be registered as 60 points. There is only one chance to retake the degree course.

7. Students should select the courses in the management system according to the course selection process within one week after enrollment. If they have not selected courses, they cannot take the exam. If they do not take the exam for no reason at the appointed time, they will be treated as absent.

8. The 15 sessions of lectures will focus on medical statistics and medical thesis writing guidance, and the lecture notes will be taken as the basis for assessment.

## **V Training of Practical Ability**

1. Training of practical ability should be strengthened for graduate students majoring in traditional Chinese medicine or integrative clinical medicine (except the Doctoral students with no traditional Chinese medicine education background who are taught in English). The specific requirements are as follows:

(1) The clinical practice from the second semester to the sixth semester will combine major-related practice course study, clinical practice with the supervisor, clinical rotations, and scientific project research. Students will take part in clinical practices, scientific research and other practice under the guidance of their supervisors or supervising teams, and the duration of clinical rotations should not be less than 6 months.

(2) All students taking part in clinical rotations need to take the monthly department rotation assessment after the clinical rotation is completed and should master the basic clinical skills and professional skills proficiently.

2. The training and assessment of clinical practice ability should also be strengthened for graduate students of foundational majors. In specific, clinical practice can be guided by supervisors or by the cooperative platform of the school and the hospital.

3. During the period of study, graduate students should actively participate in various forms of social practices based on the characteristics of the major, enhance their understanding of society, and cultivate the concept of better serving the society.

## **VI Research Work and Dissertation**

1. Project proposal report: International graduate students should, under the guidance of their supervisors, familiarize themselves with the domestic and international research trends in their professional field through consulting and collecting professional literature, investigation and research, participating in scientific research, etc., determine the research project, and write literature reviews and project proposal report. According to the research progress of the graduate student, the supervisor should arrange for the graduate student to complete the project proposal report and listen to expert opinions before the first month of the third semester. After the project proposal report is approved, periodic work reports should be made at regular intervals according to the plan of the research project. The dissertation proposal shall conform to the requirements of the *Regulations of Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine on Project Proposal Reports for Graduate Dissertations*.

2. Mid-term evaluation: In order to standardize and strengthen the process management of international Doctoral students, and to ensure and improve the education and training quality of graduate students, a mid-term evaluation will be carried out. The contents of the mid-term evaluation will be formulated and supervised by the Graduate School, and each secondary training institute is responsible for organizing an evaluation team to carry out the evaluation. The mid-term evaluation should be completed before the end of the first month of the fifth semester, with a focus on the assessment of the comprehensive quality and ability of international Doctoral students. It includes the assessment of professional quality, innovation quality, and physical and mental quality. Relevant requirements for the mid-term evaluation are provided in the *Regulations of Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine on Mid-term Evaluation of Graduate Students*.

3 International Doctoral students should complete their graduation dissertations independently under the guidance of their supervisors, and make a detailed elaboration on the research results. The dissertations should be scientific, advanced, practical and innovative, integrating theory with practice and featuring clear arguments, sufficient evidence, new discoveries and innovations. Clinical research, literature research and experimental research related to the major should be carried out, and interdisciplinary research related to traditional Chinese medicine may also be conducted.

4. After the dissertation is finished, it will be reviewed by the supervisor and the supervising team for approval. Only after a pre-defense in the corresponding department or the teaching department can a final oral defense be recommended. Review of dissertations, presentation and oral defense, and review and approval of degree conferral will be carried out according to the relevant regulations.

5. International Doctoral students who are taught in English are permitted to use English for dissertation writing, dissertation proposal, mid-term evaluation, and presentation and oral defense. In this case, the student should submit comprehensive abstract of the dissertation in Chinese at the same time, with a word count of not less than 6,000 Chinese characters.

**VII** The education and training for international Doctoral students should strictly follow the *Regulations of the People's Republic of China on Academic Degrees*, the *Interim Measures for the Implementation of Regulations of the People's Republic of China on Academic Degrees*, the *Regulations of Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine on Education and Training for Master and Doctoral students*, the *Regulations of Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine on Project Proposal Reports for Master's Dissertations*, the *Regulations of Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine on Mid-term Evaluation of Graduate Students*, as well as

*the Regulations of Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine on the Review of Graduate Dissertations.*

**VIII** Matters not covered above shall be subject to the relevant regulations of Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine. The Rules shall be implemented on a trial basis for one year as of the date of release.

Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine  
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