

Tzu Chi University of Science and Technology

Regulations for Overseas Students Studying General Education Courses

Formulated in the semester-start Academic Affairs Meeting on February 16, 2016

Revised in the semester-start Academic Affairs Meeting on September 5, 2018

Revised in the semester-end Academic Affairs Meeting on June 24, 2019

Revised in the semester-start Academic Affairs Meeting on September 4, 2019

Article I. These Regulations have been enacted to help overseas students of the University take general education courses.

Article II. Upon admission to the University, overseas students (excluding those from Chinese-speaking countries) must take the University's Chinese proficiency test.

Article III. Based on the levels of Chinese proficiency classified by the Steering Committee for the Test of Proficiency-Huayu (SC-TOP), overseas students who reach advanced level (equivalent to level B2 of CEFR/upper-intermediate level) and above on their Chinese proficiency test (including the University's Chinese proficiency test, TOCFL, or other internationally recognized Chinese proficiency tests) shall be deemed to have passed the Chinese language test. Their studies shall be processed in accordance with the University's Course Selection Regulations. Those who fail to reach advanced level shall be grouped into classes based on the results of their Chinese proficiency test, in the hope that adaptive instruction will help to improve their Chinese proficiency. Chinese language courses are divided into four levels, which are detailed as follows:

Level	Corresponding level of CEFR
Basic	0
Intermediate A	A1
Intermediate B	A2
Advanced	B1

Article IV. Students who are required to take Chinese language courses should take general education courses as per the following table.

Level	Study period	Course title, credits/hours	Hours of Chinese
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			language courses
Basic 0–A1	Weeks 1–9 in the first semester of the first academic year	<p>1. Chinese language courses Four-year technical college: Elementary Chinese 5/10 Two-year college: Elementary Chinese 6/12</p> <p>2. Other required and elective general education courses: Four-year technical college: English, Tzu Chi Humanities, Physical Education, Labor Education; an announcement about the elective general education courses offered shall be made. Two-year college: Required and elective specialized and general education courses as well as credit hours should comply with the credit hour table.</p>	<p>Four-year technical college: 20 hours per week; a total of 360 hours. Two-year college: 24 hours per week; a total of 432 hours. *Advanced level class A: A total of 6–9 weeks during summer and winter vacations; 20–30 hours per week.</p>
Intermediate A: A2–B1 (attending classes during summer and winter vacations required to make up credit hours)	Weeks 10–18 in the first semester of the first academic year	<p>1. Chinese language courses Four-year technical college: Intermediate Chinese 5/10 Two-year college: Intermediate Chinese 6/12</p> <p>2. Other required and elective general education courses: Four-year technical college: English, Tzu Chi Humanities, Physical Education, Labor Education; an announcement about the elective general education courses offered shall be made. Two-year college: Required and elective specialized and general education courses as well as credit hours should comply with the credit hour table.</p>	
Intermediate B: A2–B1	Weeks 1–18 in the first semester of the first academic year	<p>Two-year college: Required and elective specialized and general education courses as well as credit hours should comply with the credit hour table.</p>	

<p>Advanced: B1–B2</p>	<p>The second semester of the first academic year</p>	<p>1. Chinese language courses Four-year technical college 6/12: Cultural elements and the spirit of general education are incorporated into courses; an announcement about the courses offered shall be made.</p> <p>2. An announcement about other required and elective general education courses offered as well as credit hours for the four-year technical college and two-year college programs shall be made prior to the start of each semester.</p>	<p>Four-year technical college: 1. General education courses related to Chinese culture: a total of 216 hours. 2. Elective general education courses: 10 hours in the first semester, and another 10 hours in the second semester.</p> <p>Two-year college Required general education courses: 6 hours in the first semester, and another 6 hours in the second semester; elective general education courses: 8 hours in the first semester, and another 8 hours in the second semester.</p>
<p>Other required and elective general education courses</p>	<p>Four-year technical college: The first semester of the second academic year Two-year college: The second semester of the first academic year</p>	<p>An announcement about other required and elective general education courses offered as well as credit hours shall be made prior to the start of each semester.</p>	
<p>Notes</p>	<p>1. Students studying in different programs are grouped into mixed-ability classes. The credits taken/hours required depend on their levels. 2. Chinese language course credits/hours = 12–16 credits/ 432–828 hours (including class hours during summer and winter vacations, which comply with the number of study hours (360–960) in Taiwan specified by SC-TOP in its upper-ntermediate or advanced level courses (approximately 361–660 hours for upper-intermediate level</p>		

	courses and 661–960 hours for advanced-level courses); 2500–5000 words.
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Article V. Students studying in the four-year technical college must complete at least 28 required and elective general education course credits. Students studying in the two-year college must complete at least 26 required and elective general education course credits. Credit hours are assigned to Chinese language courses according to students' level of Chinese proficiency; credits earned through taking elective general education courses are used to make up the credits.

Article VI. Students studying in the five-year college program should take Chinese language courses in accordance with rules for taking Chinese language courses in the four-year technical college. They can use credits earned by taking Chinese language courses to transfer to those required.

Article VII. According to the Regulations, students who pass the TOCFL Advanced level during their studies may be exempt from taking Chinese language courses. Credits earned through taking elective general education courses are used to make up the credits.

Article VIII. Matters not covered by the Regulations shall be processed in accordance with the relevant regulations of the University.

Article IX. The Regulations shall become effective after being deliberated and approved in the Academic Affairs Meeting and ratified by the President. Amendments must follow the same procedure.