

NATIONAL TAIWAN UNIVERSITY

Directives for the Implementation of Specialization Program

| | |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| October 23, 2020 | Passed by the 1 st Academic Affairs Meeting, fall semester, Academic Year 2020–21 |
| March 19, 2021 | Passed by the 1 st Academic Affairs Meeting, spring semester, Academic Year 2020-21 |
| October 22, 2021 | Passed by the 1 st Academic Affairs Meeting, fall semester, Academic Year 2021–22 |
| October 14, 2022 | Passed by the 1 st Academic Affairs Meeting, fall semester, Academic Year 2022-23 |
| June 2, 2023 | Passed by the 2 nd Academic Affairs Meeting, spring semester, Academic Year 2022–23 |
| December 22, 2023 | Passed by the 2 nd Academic Affairs Meeting, fall semester, Academic Year 2023-24 |
| May 31, 2024 | Passed by the 2 nd Academic Affairs Meeting, spring semester, Academic Year 2023–24 |
| June 18, 2024 | Promulgation of amended Articles 3 |

Article 1 National Taiwan University (NTU or "the University") formulates the NTU Directives for the Implementation of Specialization Program ("the Directives") to encourage all units at the University to establish specialization programs as a means to facilitate students in guided exploration and interdisciplinary learning, and to achieve the goal of talent cultivation.

Article 2 For the purposes of the Directives, the term "units" shall primarily refer to academic departments and University-level research centers established within the University's organizational structure.

To establish a specialization program, a proposal shall be provided. For academic departments, the proposal shall be passed by department (institute, degree program) and college curriculum committees. For University-level research centers, the proposal shall be passed by the unit's meeting. The proposal shall then be submitted to the University Curriculum Committee for approval before implementation. The proposal shall clearly indicate the following items:

1. Objectives: a set of clearly defined learning objectives for the program;
2. Curricular framework: with emphasis on the attributes of each course in the program and how they are connected to one another;
3. Line of alignment: curriculum mapping, core competency mapping, future employment possibilities, or graduate programs in the same professional subject group;
4. Expected learning outcomes: how the program can help students explore the specific professional field or engage in interdisciplinary learning;
5. A work plan for the project implementation period.

In principle, each specialization program shall include 4–5 courses, with 12–15 credits in total. As from the semester of implementation, the program should, in principle, be fully offered at least once every two years.

Article 3 Certificates for the completion of specialization programs shall be issued in accordance with the following provisions:

1. Students who have completed their specialization program and passed the qualifying review shall be issued a specialization certificate upon leaving the University.
2. Students who leave NTU in or after Academic Year 2021-22 without

completing the specialization program or obtaining a specialization certificate may be issued the certificate when they re-enroll and subsequent departure from NTU. This is subject to a review of their academic records from all stages of study at NTU, confirming that they have attained passing grades and fulfilled the requirements of the specialization program. However, courses completed more than 10 years prior to completion of the specialization program shall not be recognized for the certificate.

3. Courses taken at overseas institutions may be counted toward a specialization program upon approval by the unit offering the specialization program. However, the number of credits recognized shall not exceed half of the total credits required for the specialization program.

Article 4 If modifications to an established specialization program are necessary, an application form for program modifications shall be submitted. For academic departments, the proposal shall be passed by the department (institute, degree program) and college curriculum committees. For University-level research centers, the proposal shall be passed by the unit's meeting. The proposal shall then be submitted to the University Curriculum Committee for approval.

For modifications involving the termination of courses or the termination of a specialization program, a proposal with supporting measures shall be provided. The review and approval process specified in the preceding paragraph shall be completed no later than one semester prior to the official termination announcement. The specialization program shall be phased out no sooner than two academic years following the announcement.

Certificates for terminated specialization programs shall be issued in accordance with the following provisions:

1. Students who enrolled before the semester in which the termination was announced and who have passed the qualifying review shall still be issued a specialization certificate upon leaving the University.
2. Specialization programs announced for termination in or before the first semester of Academic Year 2023-24 shall be subject to the preceding provision. However, students who complete the program requirements before the program is phased out, attain passing grades, and pass the qualifying review shall still be issued a specialization certificate upon leaving the University.

Article 5 To enhance teaching quality, all units shall, in principle, conduct a self-evaluation of the specialization program every five years, starting from the semester in which the specialization program is established. The first evaluation will be implemented from the first semester of Academic Year 2026. The schedule, evaluation items, and relevant procedures for the self-evaluation of the specialization programs shall be carried out in accordance with the announcements made by the Office of Academic Affairs.

When conducting the self-evaluation, each unit shall submit a written self-evaluation report. For academic departments, the report shall be passed by the department (institute, degree program) and the college curriculum committees. For university-level research centers, the report shall be passed by the unit's meeting. The report shall then be submitted to the University

Curriculum Committee for approval.

If the result of the University Curriculum Committee's review is non-approval, the program shall undergo improvements and be re-evaluated within one year. If the program still fails to pass the re-evaluation, it shall be terminated in accordance with the provisions of Article 4 of the Directives.

Article 6 Matters not addressed herein shall be subject to the University's *Academic Regulations* and other relevant regulations.

Article 7 The Directives shall be passed by the Academic Affairs Meeting and then implemented on the date of promulgation.