



Chulabhorn Graduate Institute

# *Student Handbook*

## *2007-2008*

## **Welcome to CGI**

Welcome to Chulabhorn Graduate Institute!

This handbook has been designed to help students throughout their courses of study at CGI. It contains some useful information, and should be retained for future reference. During the course of your graduate studies, it is crucial to follow the academic regulations as outlined in Section 3 so that all important requirements for your degree can be fulfilled in a timely fashion to meet the deadlines. It is expected that students consult the Student Handbook for important information regarding the duration of study, academic evaluations, qualifying examination, thesis writing and examination, as well as graduation requirements. It is probably best for you to consult appropriate authorities at the earliest possible if you have concerns or issues about the academic regulations.

If you have any other issues that are not covered in this handbook, please contact the Office of Academic Affairs.

Prof. Dr. Somsak Ruchirawat  
Acting Rector of Chulabhorn Graduate Institute

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# 1. General Information about CGI

## 1.1 Background

Knowledge and Knowledge Workers are important factors in advancing a country's development and competitiveness in the modern age of globalization. It is critical for a country which aspires to become self-sufficient and highly competitive to accelerate the creation of the "Knowledge Based Society" with the emphasis on the human assets, scientific research, technology development, and innovation. Chulabhorn Foundation and Chulabhorn Research Institute (CRI) have always been determined to apply advanced science and technology in order to develop the country by conducting cutting-edge research, developing new knowledge, and providing training in science and technology to the public. Achieving these goals in all aspects, including research, education, training, and academic public services, requires the production of graduates in science, technology, and other highly desirable fields. For this reason, Chulabhorn Graduate Institute (CGI) was established and subsequently accredited in 2005 in the honor of the auspicious 48<sup>th</sup> birthday of Professor Dr. Her Royal Highness Princess Chulabhorn Mahidol, the President of CRI. The objectives of CGI are as follow;

- 1.1 To provide education and training at postgraduate levels in biologically-, chemically-, and environmentally-related science and technology,
- 1.2 To facilitate innovative, multidisciplinary research to push forward the new frontiers of science and technology.
- 1.3 To provide academic services to the community, both domestically and internationally.
- 1.4 To nurture the enrichment of Thai culture and traditions.

## 2. Logo and Colors

CGI logo:



The CGI logo consists of the following components.

1. A gold coronet,
2. HRH Princess Chulabhorn Mahidol's initials “จภ” in vermilion color on a blue background surrounded by nagas (serpents), and
3. The Institute's Thai name “สถาบันบัณฑิตศึกษาจุฬาภรณ์” in dark blue on a white ribbon.

The colors of CGI are vermilion and blue.

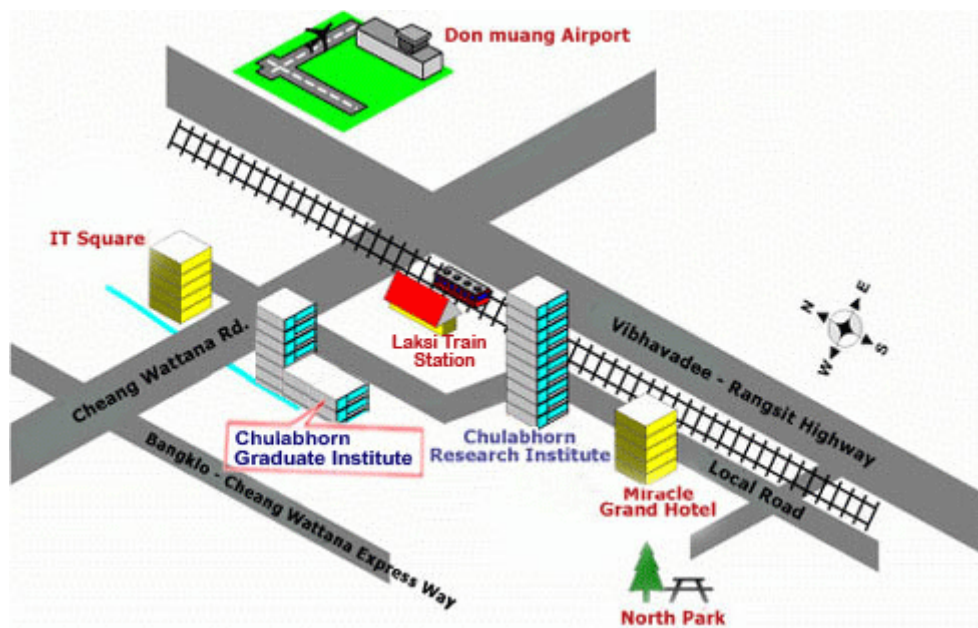
Vermilion is the color designated for Thursday on which HRH Princess Chulabhorn Mahidol's birthday fell on. Moreover, Thursday has also been dedicated for paying homage to teachers.

Blue is an infinitely bright color, representing infinite learning.

Therefore, the CGI logo symbolizes the goals of the Institute, which follow HRH Princess Chulabhorn Mahidol's wishes to promote education and create a center of excellence in science and technology for maximum benefits of human beings.

### 3. Location

CGI is located on an approximately 19,000 square meters (or 11.87 Rai) area of land, within walking-distance from the Chulabhorn Research Institute (CRI), the Chulabhorn Cancer Centre (CCC), and Laksi Intersection.



## 2. Information for New students

### 2.1 Arrival on Campus

New students are expected to arrive on campus in early April before the first day of the summer session, during which an English class and a few tutorial courses are offered to strengthen their basic knowledge before the regular courses begin in June.

### 2.2 English Proficiency Requirements

CGI is an international institute where English is used as the sole language of instruction. Admissions for graduate studies at CGI require a proof of English proficiency. All candidates must attain an official test score higher than the minimum score required for admissions in any of the following standardized examinations.

TOEFL	
Paper-based	500
Computer-based	173
Internet-based	61
IELTS	5
CU-TEP (THAILAND)	60

However, applicants from countries where English is the native language are exempted from this requirement. Additionally, applicants holding a previous degree from a university where the sole medium of instruction is English may submit a Certificate of University Medium of Instruction to fulfill this requirement.

### 2.3 Registration Guidelines

1. All students can register for only one program, and must adhere to the CGI registration schedule.
2. New students must register within the specified period, otherwise it will be assumed that the students have revoked their CGI student status and their names will be removed from the list.
3. Current students must also register within the specified period, otherwise they will not be able to register in that semester.

4. Current students who do not register in time must obtain permission for leave of absence, and must pay the appropriate fee to maintain their student status, otherwise their student status will be annulled.
5. Current Ph.D. students who have finished their coursework but not yet passed the proposal examination must also register to maintain their student status and pay all applicable fees according to the CGI regulations, otherwise their student status will be annulled.
6. Credit requirements
  - Only full-time studies are allowed. All students are required to register for a minimum of 9 credits and a maximum of 15 credits in a regular semester. Registration in a summer session must not exceed 6 credits.
  - Students who have less than the minimum number of credits left to be taken are allowed to register for only those remaining credits.
7. Course adding, dropping, and withdrawal
  - Students can add, drop, or withdraw courses within the period specified in the academic calendar only with permission from the Chairperson of the respective Program Management Committee.
  - The remaining credits must conform to the above-mentioned credit requirements.
  - Withdrawn courses will be reported on the transcripts.

## 2.4 Campus Facilities

### (1) Research Facilities

Apart from the laboratories which will be fully equipped when the new CGI building is completed, CGI students may also use the top-class research facilities available in the following laboratories of the Chulabhorn Research Institute, which collaborates with CGI.

#### ***Chemistry Research***

- Laboratory of Natural Products
- Laboratory of Medicinal Chemistry
- Laboratory of Organic Synthesis

#### ***Biomedical Research***

- Laboratory of Biochemistry
- Laboratory of Chemical Carcinogenesis

- Laboratory of Immunology
- Laboratory of Pharmacology

#### ***Environmental Toxicological Research***

- Laboratory of Environmental Toxicology

#### ***Biotechnological Research***

- Laboratory of Biotechnology

In addition, CRI has central facilities that are equipped with state-of-the-art research equipment. Moreover, CGI students are allowed to use the central research facilities at CRI under the Post-graduate Education, Training and Research Program in Environmental Science, Technology, and Management (ESTM) of which CRI is a member. Additionally, CGI students may also use the research facilities at Mahidol University (MU), which collaborates with CRI as well.

### **(2) Libraries**

While the state-of-the-art IT library is being constructed at the new CGI building, CGI students can have full access to the CRI Library, located on the third floor of the Service Building. CRI Library has journal subscriptions in all related fields with a total number of 47 journals, as well as a library of 700-800 textbooks. Students can also access other journals at Mahidol University (MU), which collaborates with CRI. Additionally, CRI Library has CD-ROMs and computers that students can use to search information on the Internet.

### **(3) Computer Service Center**

CGI has received funding to set up a computer service center at the new CGI building. It will be a modern, high technology computer center that is sufficient to provide services for teaching and research activities for both students and faculty members. In the meantime, CGI students are welcome to use the CRI Computer Service Center located on the fourth floor of the Service Building.

Currently available services include:

- Application for an email account
- Application for a local area network (LAN) access
- Application for a wireless internet usage

#### **(4) Medical Center**

The CRI Medical Center is available for all CGI students and staffs for emergency medical treatments. It is located near the CRI Library on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Service Building. For more information, please call (66-2)-574-0622 ext. 2311.

#### **(5) Accommodation**

International students are welcome to stay at the CRI Residence. The Residence features high-standard, hotel-style rooms, fully equipped with cable television, a telephone, a refrigerator, kitchenette, and laundry facilities. Visiting parents can also reserve such rooms during their stay at special rates.



## **2.5 Scholarships**

Eligible students, especially those with excellent academic records, may apply for financial supports from the CGI, either as full (tuition, fees, and stipends) or partial (tuition and fees only) scholarships. Moreover, scholarships are also available from external funding sources.

## **2.6 Student Uniform**

CGI students are encouraged to dress politely to classes. The attire for official and formal occasions is a white long-sleeved shirt, a light blue necktie with the CGI logo, and a dark blue suit.

## **2.7 Insurance**

The Institute will obtain health, accident, and life insurance for all students, using the fees collected when they register for the first semester of each academic year. However, the

coverages for international students will depend on the amount of money provided by their scholarships.

## 2.8 Visas for International Students

- After qualified candidates have submitted a letter to accept the offer of admission and, if applicable, have satisfied all the conditions indicated in the offer, CGI will issue a confirmation of admission consisting of a Certificate of Admission and an ED Visa Letter, which is required to be presented to the Royal Thai Embassy or Consulate-General in their home countries while applying for a visa to enter the Kingdom of Thailand.
- Please note that students must apply for a “Non-Immigrant” visa (category “ED”), which will initially allow them to stay in Thailand for 90 days. Please do not apply for a tourist visa. For more information about Thailand’s visas, application forms, and required documents, please visit the Ministry of Foreign Affairs web site at <http://www.mfa.go.th/web/12.php>.
- Upon arrival on campus, international students should bring their passports to the Office of Academic Affairs. A copy of their passports and visas will be kept on file so that the Office of Academic Affairs is aware of the date of visa renewal required for each student before the end of the 90-day period.
- **Extension of stay**  
Qualified persons can obtain an additional one-year stay permit, counting from the date of entry into the Kingdom of Thailand, pertaining to the Office of the Immigration Bureau's regulations on extension of stay. Before the end of the 90-day period, international students should bring the following documents to the Office of Academic Affairs so that the staffs can assist them in the process of filing their applications at the Office of Immigration Bureau located at Soi Suan Plu, off South Sathorn Road, Bangkok 10120 (Tel. (66-2)-287-3101-10; <http://www.immigration.go.th>).

  - A copy of passport
  - One 4 cm x 6 cm photograph taken within the past six months
  - Application fee of 1,900 baht

## 2.9 Important Phone Numbers

CGI & CRI Central Number	(66)-2-574-0622
CGI Office of Academic Affairs	Ext. 1506, 1523
CGI Office of Administrative Affairs	Ext. 7117-8
CRI Library	Ext. 2303
CRI Medical Center	Ext. 2311
CRI Computer Service Center	Ext. 2400

## 3. Academic Regulations

### 3.1 Duration of Study

1. Doctoral Degree Program:
  - 1) For students holding a Bachelor's degree or equivalent: a minimum of 4 semesters and a maximum of 8 academic years.
  - 2) For students holding a Master's degree or equivalent: a minimum of 4 semesters and a maximum of 6 academic years.
2. Master's Degree Program: a minimum of 3 semesters and a maximum of 5 academic years.
3. Graduate Diploma Program: a minimum of 2 semesters and a maximum of 3 academic years.

### 3.2 Academic Evaluation

1. Letter grade symbols are recorded as follow:

Letter Grades	Definitions	GPA Points
A	Excellent	4.0
B+	Very Good	3.5
B	Good	3.0
C+	Fairly Good	2.5
C	Fair	2.0
D+	Poor	1.5
D	Very Poor	1.0
F	Failed	0.0

Other designations, without credit points, are assigned for coursework taken as follow:

S	Satisfactory
U	Unsatisfactory

AU	Audit (no credit granted)
I	Incomplete
W	Withdrawal
IP	In Progress

## 2. Attendance

Students are expected to attend classes regularly. A minimum of 80 percent of class attendance is mandatory to qualify for taking the final examination, except for independent studies.

3. Students must obtain a B or higher grade in the required courses, and a C or higher grade in elective courses, otherwise they must retake the same required course or other elective courses, respectively.

### 3.3 Qualifying Examination

1. The qualifying examination may be a written and/or oral examination.
2. Eligibility requirements for the qualifying examination:
  - Doctoral students must abide by the announcements set out by the respective Program Management Committee.
  - Master's students being transferred into a doctoral degree program
    - (1) For plan A(1), students must have completed research which can be further developed into a doctoral thesis. Additionally, they must have been accepted by the respective Program Management Committee and have notified the Vice Rector for Academic Affairs.
    - (2) For plan A(2), students must have been enrolled for not less than 2 semesters and completed not less than 15 credits of coursework with a cumulative GPA (i.e., GPAX) not less than 3.50.

### 3.4 Thesis Writing and Examination

#### **Thesis Writing**

1. Students must obtain permission from their thesis advisors or the Chairperson of the respective Program Management Committee before registering for thesis research.
2. After the registration, students must write a research proposal in English and submit it

to their thesis advisors.

3. The research proposals should be submitted to the Office of Academic Affairs within 2 semesters after the initial registration for thesis research. If students cannot submit their research proposals within the specified period, they must inform the Office of Academic Affairs of the reason(s) for the delay.
4. Students must request approval of their proposal examination dates from the Chairperson of the respective Program Management Committee through their thesis advisors.
5. After students have passed the proposal examination, the respective Program Management Committee will approve their thesis titles and thesis committee.
6. To change their thesis titles or thesis committee, students must obtain both permission from their thesis advisors and approval from the Chairperson of the respective Program Management Committee.
7. The thesis must be written in English.

### **Thesis Examination**

1. Students can request a thesis examination date when they have
  - 1.1 Their thesis titles approved by the Chairperson of the respective Program Management Committee, and they have spent not less than 90 days writing their thesis.
  - 1.2 Completed all the courses required to fulfill the credit requirements with a cumulative GPA (i.e., GPAX) of at least 3.00.
  - 1.3 Passed the language proficiency test required by the Institute.
  - 1.4 Obtained approval to take the thesis examination from their thesis advisors and thesis committee.
  - 1.5 Submitted the thesis manuscript to their thesis committee at least 15 days before their oral defense examination date.
2. Assessment criteria for the thesis examination:

Upon the completion of the thesis examination, the thesis committee will provide their opinions and assessments, using the following criteria.

  - 1) “*Passed*” means that students could present their thesis research and answer all the questions to the satisfaction of the thesis committee. Students can then submit the complete thesis with any minor revisions to the Chairperson of the respective

Program Management Committee.

2) “***Passed with condition***” means that students could not entirely satisfy the thesis committee when presenting their thesis research and/or answering all the questions. Therefore, the thesis committee will advise revision of the thesis or an addition of some sections to the thesis. The revision of the thesis must be completed within 90 days after the thesis examination results have been announced.

3) “***Failed***” means that students could not present their thesis research adequately to their thesis committee and/or could not answer the questions well, indicating that the students do not understand parts of their thesis. The thesis committee will inform and advise the students to rewrite parts of their theses within a suggested period. The students must request a thesis reexamination and also reregister for thesis research at the Office of Academic Affairs.

3. If students who received a “Passed with condition” or “Failed” assessment cannot completely fulfill the required conditions and recommendations of the thesis committee within the suggested period, they must provide their reasons and request permission for an extension from the Chairperson of the respective Program Management Committee, otherwise they will receive a “Failed” assessment, and must reregister for thesis research, as well as seek approval of a new research topic.
4. Students must submit the complete theses and the thesis contents recorded on a CD to the Office of Academic Affairs not later than 21 days after the Institute has announced that the students have passed their thesis examination. For late submissions, students will be fined at the rate specified in the CGI regulations. However, students may delay their thesis submission for 90 days after the deadline.
5. Annulment of the thesis examination results:  
If the Office of Academic Affairs does not receive the complete theses and the thesis contents recorded on a CD within 90 days after the deadline, the thesis examination results will be annulled. If the students still wish to graduate, they must rewrite the thesis.

### 3.5 Benefits from Thesis Research

1. Thesis Copyrights:

The copyrights of the thesis and all resulting publications will conform to the Intellectual Property Laws and the CGI Regulations.

## 2. Patents:

All patents or commercial benefits resulting from thesis research will conform to the Intellectual Property Laws and the CGI Regulations.

## 3.6 Graduation Requirements

Students must have fulfilled the corresponding requirements before they can apply for graduation. However, if the requirements are not met due to some justifiable reasons, the Institute may exceptionally extend the period of study with the approval of the Institute's Council.

### 1. **Doctoral Degree Program**

#### *1.1 Plan 1 focuses on thesis research. Courses taken without credits are optional.*

In order to apply for graduation, students must have

- (1) Completed full-time study and the residential requirements as specified in the Duration of Study section.
- (2) Obtained a satisfactory letter grade for all the courses taken without credits.
- (3) Passed the language proficiency test required by the Institute.
- (4) Passed the qualifying examination.
- (5) Submitted the thesis manuscript, and passed the oral defense examination administered by the thesis examination committee. The date of the defense examination will be used as the graduation date.
- (6) Submitted the complete thesis conforming to the institutional standards, along with the thesis contents recorded on a CD within the specified period.
- (7) A manuscript derived from the thesis research that must have been published or at least accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed scientific journal, which is internationally recognized in the field.

#### *1.2 Plan 2 focuses on developing high-quality thesis research with additional credit-earning courses that can be applied in academic or professional contexts.*

In order to apply for graduation, students must have

- (1) Completed full-time study and the residential requirements as specified in the Duration of Study section.
- (2) Completed all the courses required to fulfill the credit requirements with a

cumulative GPA (i.e., GPAX) of at least 3.00.

(3) Passed the language proficiency test required by the Institute.

(4) Passed the qualifying examination.

(5) Submitted the thesis manuscript, and passed the oral defense examination administered by the thesis examination committee. The date of the defense examination will be used as the graduation date.

(6) Submitted the complete thesis conforming to the institutional standards, along with the thesis contents recorded on a CD within the specified period.

(7) A manuscript derived from the thesis research that must have been published or at least accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed scientific journal, which is internationally recognized in the field.

## **2. Master's Degree Program**

### *2.1 Plan A(1) focuses on thesis research. Courses taken without credit are optional.*

In order to apply for graduation, students must have

(1) Completed full time study and the residential requirements as specified in the Duration of Study section.

(2) Obtained a satisfactory letter grade for all the courses taken without credits.

(3) Passed the language proficiency test required by the Institute.

(4) Submitted the thesis manuscript, and passed the oral defense examination administered by the thesis examination committee. The date of the defense examination will be used as the graduation date.

(5) Submitted the complete thesis conforming to the institutional standards, along with the thesis contents recorded on a CD within the specified period.

(6) A manuscript derived from the thesis research that must have been published or at least accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed academic journal, or for presentation at an academic meeting for which meeting proceedings are published.

### *2.2 Plan A(2) focuses on thesis research with additional credit-earning courses.*

In order to apply for graduation, students must have

(1) Completed full-time study and the residential requirements as specified in the Duration of Study section.

- (2) Completed all the courses required to fulfill the credit requirements with a cumulative GPA (i.e., GPAX) of at least 3.00.
- (3) Passed the language proficiency test required by the Institute.
- (4) Submitted the thesis manuscript, and passed the oral defense examination administered by the thesis examination committee. The date of the defense examination will be used as the graduation date.
- (5) Submitted the complete thesis conforming to the institutional standards, along with the thesis contents recorded on a CD within the specified period.
- (6) A manuscript derived from the thesis research that must have been published or at least accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed academic journal, or for a presentation at an academic meeting for which meeting proceedings are published.

### **3. Graduate Diploma Program**

In order to apply for graduation, students must have

- (1) Completed full-time study and the residential requirements as specified in the Duration of Study section.
- (2) Completed all the courses required to fulfill the credit requirements with a cumulative GPA (i.e., GPAX) of at least 3.00.
- (3) Passed the language proficiency test required by the Institute.
- (4) Passed the comprehensive examination according to the institutional standards.
- (5) Graduation date is the date when all the conditions listed in (1) to (4) have been fulfilled.

## **3.7 Absences**

### **Sick Leave**

Sick leave may be granted to students who could not take the examinations in some or all of the courses being taken due to an illness. However, they must submit a request form for sick leave and a medical certificate written by a qualified physician to the Chairperson of the respective Program Management Committee within 1 week from the date of illness.

## Leave of Absence

1. Students may submit a request form for leave of absence to their advisors in the following cases:
  - 1.1 They have been compulsorily enrolled for military services.
  - 1.2 They have received a scholarship for an exchange program.
  - 1.3 They have been ill for more than 3 weeks and have a medical certificate.
  - 1.4 They have some justifiable personal reasons and have been enrolled for at least 1 semester with a cumulative GPA (i.e., GPAX) not lower than 3.00.
  - 1.5 They did not register within the specified period.
2. Students who need to request leave of absence while having no academic record, or having a cumulative GPA (i.e., GPAX) lower than 3.00, must submit the request form to the Office of Academic Affairs as soon as possible, and the request must be approved by the Chairperson of the respective Program Management Committee.
3. Students who have not yet registered must submit a request form for a leave of absence within the first 2 weeks of the semester. On the other hand, students who have already registered may submit the request form within 10 weeks after the semester begins.
4. Leave of absence will be granted for a maximum of 2 semesters at a time. If students have acceptable reason(s) for an extension, they must resubmit a request form. However, the total time for leave of absence may not be longer than the duration of study required for their program of study, except for 1.1 and 1.2.
5. Students who have obtained permission for leave of absence must pay the registration fee to maintain their student status in every semester during their absence, otherwise their student status will be annulled.
6. In order to return from a leave of absence earlier than expected, students must request approval from the Chairperson of the respective Program Management Committee, and notify the Office of Academic Affairs of the results at least 1 week before the intended registration date.
7. After returning from leave of absence, the student status will remain the same as before the leave.

### 3.8 Student Dismissal

Students will be dismissed if:

- They do not register and pay all applicable fees either for classes or to maintain their student status within the first 2 weeks of the semester. However, students can regain their student status in that semester with permission from the Chairperson of the respective Program Management Committee.
- Their cumulative GPA (i.e., GPAX) is lower than 3.00 in two consecutive semesters.
- Conditionally-admitted students do not perform up to the expected standards.

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