



Mahidol Announcement

Subject: Principles and procedures concerning students who commit academic fraud in theses/thematic papers

B.E.2549 (2006)

.....

The following principles, procedures and regulations shall apply when a student of Mahidol University is accused of committing academic fraud in a thesis/thematic paper.

By virtue of section 47.2 of Academic Regulations of Graduate Studies, B.E. 2549 (2006), the principles and the procedures concerning student commission of academic fraud in a thesis/thematic paper have been established as follows:

Section 1 “Mahidol Announcement, Subject – Principles and procedures concerning students who commit academic fraud in theses/thematic papers B.E.2549(2006), enacted on the 23th June B.E. 2549 (2006) is annulled.”

Section 2 In this announcement:

“University” means Mahidol University

“Faculty of Graduate Studies” means The Faculty of Graduate Studies, Mahidol University

“Faculty” means faculty, college, institute, center, or university unit which is equivalent to a faculty, attached to Mahidol University

“President” means the President of Mahidol University

“Dean” means faculty dean, or director of college, institute, center or university unit which is equivalent to a faculty

“Student” means a graduate level student enrolled at Mahidol University

“Committee” means the committee which is responsible for consideration of academic fraud in a thesis/thematic paper

“To commit academic fraud in thesis/thematic paper” means to seek to gain benefits without the sanction of any legal procedure, regulation, announcement or order of the university for oneself or others in a thesis/thematic paper by plagiarizing, infringing copyright, hiring someone or agreeing to be hired to work on a thesis/thematic paper or letting other people do the thesis/thematic paper instead of oneself, or doing anything similar to the above.

“To hire someone or agreed to be hired to work on a thesis/thematic paper” means to hire someone or agreed to be hired by someone to work on an important stage of work on a thesis/thematic paper.

“To let someone do instead” means to let other people produce an important stage of work on a thesis/thematic paper.

Section 3 Important stages of work on a thesis/thematic paper includes the following:

- (1) Review of literature and related research
- (2) Writing a thesis proposal or thematic paper proposal
- (3) Conducting an experiment or experiments (If required)
- (4) Writing a research report
- (5) Other stages as prescribed and defined by a study program

A student must do these important stages by himself or herself. If any student is unable to complete any other stage on his or her own, he or she must ask permission from the Chair of the Thesis/Thematic Paper Committee to receive help on that stage.

Section 4 If any person credibly accuses in writing a student of committing academic fraud in a thesis/thematic paper, the President of Mahidol University will appoint a Committee composed of:

- (1) Vice President (chairman)
- (2) Dean or Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies (committee member)
- (3) Dean or Deputy Dean of the faculty to which the course belongs (committee member)
- (4) at least two persons who the President deems to be suitable (committee members)

(5) a representative from the university law section (committee member)

(6) an officer from the Faculty of Graduate Studies (secretary of the committee and assistant to the secretary of the committee) (if required)

Section 5 The Committee has authority as follows:

(1) to conduct a verification, including calling on persons involved to give information orally or in writing, requesting documents from persons or departments involved, and/or gathering any other relevant evidence, and

(2) to summarize the results of the verification and propose a penalty to the President

Section 6 For verification following section 5, the Committee must give an opportunity to the student who is accused to explain the situation and present evidence in his or her own defense.

Section 7 The Committee must complete its verification within 60 days after the date that the Chairman learned of the order appointing the Committee.

In the case that the Committee cannot complete verification in that time, the Committee can ask to extend the allowed time by not more than 30 days.

Section 8 When the Committee finishes the process of verification, the Committee will propose to the University the following penalties for consideration:

(1) If the Committee finds that the student did not intend to commit academic fraud, or merely neglected to follow the approved procedure of writing the thesis/thematic paper and if the Committee finds that this does not constitute a serious case of fraud, the student will receive a grade of "fail" for the thesis/thematic paper examination and the student will have to repeat all steps of doing the thesis/thematic paper. However, in the above case, a student cannot use these circumstances to extend student status.

(2) If the Committee finds that the case is a serious commission of academic fraud, the Committee will propose that the President order that the student's enrolment be terminated in cases where the student is still enrolled. If the student has graduated already, the Committee will propose that the University Senate withdraw the degree.

(3) In cases where the Committee finds that individuals responsible for advising the student on the thesis/thematic paper have neglected their job, the Committee will also propose a disciplinary penalty on the responsible individuals.

Section 9 The Committee has to inform the student of the result of the verification in writing within 7 days of the Committee completing its verification.

Section 10 A student penalized for misconduct will be informed by the University in writing, and the University will inform the student of his/her rights, and the specific time for appeal.

When ordering any student to be penalized, the Committee has to immediately inform the father, mother or guardian of that student and his/her advisor.

Section 11 A student who has been penalized has the right to appeal within 7 days of the date that he or she learns that a penalty has been ordered.

Methods of appeal must follow Mahidol University Regulations on Student Disciplines.

Section 12 The President is the person who is responsible for seeing that the regulations in the announcement are observed. In the case of any problems or disputes about the observation of these regulations, the President has the authority to take whatever action he/she sees fit.

Announced on the 23rd June B.E.2549

(Prof. Emeritus Pornchai Matangkasombut)
President of Mahidol University