

Regulations on Undergraduate Graduation Design (Thesis)

School of Civil Engineering and Architecture, Kunming University
(2024 Revision)

Graduation design is a critical practical and teaching component in achieving the educational objectives of civil engineering and construction-related programmes. It serves as comprehensive training enabling students to apply fundamental knowledge and professional skills to real engineering problems, and constitutes an essential pathway for integrating teaching, research, and professional practice.

To strengthen the scientific and standardised management of undergraduate graduation design and improve its overall quality, these Regulations are formulated in accordance with the Regulations on Undergraduate Graduation Thesis (Design) of Kunming University (2024 Revision).

Chapter I General Provisions

I. Objectives and Fundamental Requirements

Article 1

Graduation design is a compulsory practical teaching component intended to develop students' ability to apply theoretical knowledge and professional skills independently in solving engineering or professional problems of moderate complexity. It aims to prepare students for professional practice and enhance innovation capability and practical competence.

Article 2

Graduation design shall develop the following competencies:

1. Research capability, including literature retrieval and information collection;
 2. Analytical capability, including design planning and comparative evaluation;
 3. Engineering design, calculation, and technical drawing capability;
 4. Experimental research and data analysis capability;
 5. Foreign-language reading and translation capability;
 6. Computer application capability;
 7. Technical reporting, documentation, and oral presentation capability.
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Article 3

All undergraduate graduation designs shall be managed through the official Thesis Management System and subject to plagiarism and similarity detection.

Article 4

Graduation designs must be independently completed and demonstrate originality. Academic misconduct, including plagiarism, fabrication, ghostwriting, or unauthorised AI-assisted writing, is strictly prohibited and shall be handled in accordance with institutional regulations.

II. Organisation and Implementation

Article 5

The Academic Affairs Office shall provide institutional oversight, supervision, and guidance for graduation design activities.

Article 6

The School shall establish a Graduation Design Committee responsible for leadership, supervision, and quality assurance.

Article 7

Teaching and Research Sections shall organise and implement graduation design activities and develop programme-specific syllabi and implementation guidelines.

Chapter II Selection of Graduation Design Topics

I. Principles for Topic Selection

Article 8

Graduation design topics shall align with programme educational objectives and training requirements.

Article 9

Topics shall be appropriately challenging and enable students to apply professional knowledge to solve practical engineering problems.

Article 10

Interdisciplinary topics are encouraged to broaden students' academic perspectives.

Article 11

Topics are encouraged to originate from:

- Research projects
- Industry and enterprise needs
- Practical engineering applications
- Off-campus practice bases

A dual-supervisor system involving academic and industry supervisors is encouraged.

Article 12

Topics shall be feasible, manageable, and appropriate in scope and complexity.

Article 13

Graduation design topics may include:

- Engineering design projects
 - Applied engineering projects
 - Comprehensive professional practice projects
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II. Student Topic Selection Requirements

Article 14

Each programme shall establish a Graduation Design Topic Database.

Article 15

Each student shall complete an individual graduation design project. For group projects, individual responsibilities must be clearly defined.

Article 16

Students may propose self-selected topics subject to supervisor approval.

Article 17

Topic sources may include:

- Industry projects
 - Research projects
 - Institutional projects
 - Student-proposed topics
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Chapter III Graduation Design Supervisors

I. Supervisor Qualifications

Article 18

A dual-supervisor model involving academic and industry supervisors is encouraged.

Article 19

Academic supervisors shall hold at least Lecturer rank or equivalent professional qualification.

Article 20

Industry supervisors shall possess appropriate professional qualifications and practical experience.

Article 21

Teaching and Research Sections shall maintain supervision quality through regular monitoring.

II. Supervisor Responsibilities

Article 22

Supervisors shall provide academic guidance and professional mentoring.

Article 23

Supervisors shall ensure continuity of supervision throughout the project.

Article 24

Each supervisor shall supervise no more than ten students.

Article 25

Supervisors shall ensure academic integrity.

Article 26

Supervisors shall:

1. Issue formal project assignments;
 2. Provide literature guidance;
 3. Monitor project progress;
 4. Guide thesis preparation;
 5. Conduct plagiarism verification;
 6. Evaluate student performance.
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Chapter IV Timeline and Implementation

Article 27

Graduation design timelines shall follow programme training plans.

Article 28

Topic selection and supervisor assignment shall be completed in Semester 7.

Article 29

Orientation and preparation shall be conducted prior to project commencement.

Article 30

Project proposals shall be completed within two weeks of Semester 8.

Article 31

Mid-term progress evaluations shall be conducted.

Article 32

Students shall submit final graduation designs by Week 10 of Semester 8.

Article 33

Oral defence shall be conducted in Weeks 11–12.

Article 34

Final reports shall be submitted to the Academic Affairs Office.

Article 35

Outstanding graduation designs shall be selected.

Chapter V Defence and Assessment

I. Oral Defence

Article 36

All students must participate in an oral defence.

Article 37

The School shall establish a Defence Committee.

Article 38

Each programme shall establish Defence Panels consisting of at least three members.

Article 39

Defence standards shall be unified.

Article 40

Students shall present project objectives, methodology, and results.

Article 41

Defence results shall be recorded.

Article 42

Students shall be disqualified from defence if:

- Absence exceeds one-third of project duration;
 - Project requirements are incomplete;
 - Similarity exceeds 30%;
 - Academic misconduct is detected.
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II. Assessment

Article 43

Assessment shall consider:

- Technical quality
 - Written documentation
 - Defence performance
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Article 44

Final grades shall follow a five-level grading system:

- Excellent
 - Good
 - Satisfactory
 - Pass
 - Fail
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Article 45

Excellent projects shall not exceed 10% of students.

Chapter VI Quality Assurance

Article 46

Programme reports shall be submitted.

Article 47

Programme evaluation and continuous improvement shall be conducted.

Article 48

Final thesis submission shall be completed within one week after defence.

Article 49

Plagiarism rates shall not exceed institutional thresholds.

Article 50

Programme reports shall be archived.

Article 51

Graduation design records shall be retained for five years.

Chapter VII Supplementary Provisions

Article 52

These Regulations apply to all programmes within the School.

Article 53

These Regulations shall enter into force in July 2024 and shall be interpreted by the School of Civil Engineering and Architecture.

School of Civil Engineering and Architecture

Kunming University

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