This Operating Instruction states the basis for Air University's authority to grant degrees and lists the requirements for the Doctor of Philosophy degree in the Graduate School of Engineering and Management.

SUMMARY OR REVISIONS

No changes were made to this operating instruction during its periodic review.

1. References.

ENOI 36-166

2. Authority for Granting Degrees. In accordance with Public Law 733 of the 83rd Congress, with the regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Air Force, and with accreditation by a nationally recognized accreditation association or authority, the Commander, Air University, is authorized to confer appropriate degrees. The recipients of such degrees must be recommended by the faculty of the Graduate School of Engineering and Management in accordance with certain academic standards.

3. Degree Requirements. The Doctor of Philosophy degree may be awarded for the successful completion of a curriculum that has the approval of the faculty as meriting the degree and serving the needs of the Air Force. Degree requirements, policies, and procedures, including waiver policies, are established by the AFIT Doctoral Committee and are promulgated in the Doctoral
Committee Policy Letters, in accordance with EN Operating Instruction 36-166. Degree requirements are collated and promulgated here.

3.1. Completion of the student’s approved program of study must include:

3.1.1. Three quarters of at least one contiguous four quarter period must be full time study. This requirement may be reduced or waived by the Dean of the Graduate School of Engineering and Management upon request from the student through the student's academic advisor and the Department.

3.1.2. Thirty-six quarter hours of coursework beyond the Master’s degree. Of these, 24 quarter hours must be successfully completed in the specialty area and 8 quarter hours must be successfully completed in meeting the mathematics requirement.

3.2. Admission to candidacy for the doctoral degree is required at least one year prior to receipt of the degree. Admission to candidacy is granted by the Dean of the Graduate School of Engineering and Management. The requirements for admission to candidacy are:

3.2.1. Completion of a Master’s degree in an appropriate discipline.

3.2.2. Completion of the approved program with an average of at least "B" (3.00) on all courses taken.

3.2.3. Approval by the student's research committee of a prospectus for the dissertation project.

3.2.4. Satisfactory completion of the examination in the specialty area.

3.2.5. Satisfactory completion of the mathematics requirement.

3.3. Completion and submission of an acceptable dissertation on an approved research project. This requires:

3.3.1. Satisfactory completion of at least 48 quarter hours of supervised research conducted under the direction of an approved member of the faculty of the AFIT Graduate School of Engineering and Management (the research advisor) and of an approved research committee.

3.3.2. Satisfactory completion of a final oral examination in defense of the dissertation.

3.4. All of the above requirements must be completed no later than eight years from the beginning of the first course in the approved program and no later than four years from admission to candidacy.
3.5. The award of the degree must be recommended by the academic department and the Faculty Council of the Graduate School of Engineering and Management.

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