L.N. 261 of 1998

EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)

Postgraduate Diploma in the Education of the Hearing-Impaired Course Regulations, 1998

IN exercise of the powers conferred upon him by sections 30 (5) and 31 (6) of the Education Act (Cap. 327), the Chancellor of the University of Malta has promulgated the following Regulations made by the Senate of the University of Malta by virtue of the powers conferred upon it by sections 31 and 35 of the said Act:

Citation and Interpretation

1. (1) These regulations may be cited as the Postgraduate Diploma in the Education of the Hearing-Impaired Course Regulations, 1998.

(2) In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires -

"the Board" means the Board of the Faculty of Education;

"the Board of Studies" means the Board of Studies appointed for the Course;

"the Course" means the Course leading to the Postgraduate Diploma in the Education of the Hearing-Impaired; and

"the Diploma" means the Postgraduate Diploma in the Education of the Hearing-Impaired.

Applicability

2. These regulations shall apply to courses starting in October 1998 or later.

Eligibility for the Diploma

3. To be eligible for the award of the Diploma, students must:

(a) be registered as regular students in terms of the Admission Regulations of the University;

(b) successfully complete the course of studies and pass the Final Examination as provided in these regulations; and

(c) satisfy all other requirements laid down in these regulations and in any other relevant statutes, regulations and bye-laws of the University.

Requirements for Admission

4. (1) Applicants may be registered for the Course if they are in possession either of a degree in Education or of the Postgraduate Certificate in Education or of any other qualification considered to be equivalent by the Senate.

(2) Applicants must satisfy the Board of Studies that they have the necessary aptitude towards the hearing-impaired. They may also be required to attend for an interview for this purpose.

(3) Prior to registration for the Course, applicants must either be attached to the Special Education Section of the Education Division in order to spend a reasonable time in an educational setting with hearing-impaired children or provide evidence from a head of school that they will be able to carry out the required Teaching Practice as specified in regulation 7 teaching hearing-impaired students.

Duration of Course

5. (1) The duration of the Course shall be of two years of part-time study.

(2) Students cannot sit for the Final Examination earlier than two years or later than three years from the commencement of the Course, except in special circumstances, with the approval of Senate.

Course of Studies

6. (1) The course of studies shall consist of six modules to which not less than thirty credits shall be assigned (including those assigned to the Teaching Practice and the Research Project).

(2) The six modules shall be as follows:

(a) Audiology;

(b) Communication and Hearing-Impaired Children and Young People;

(c) Hearing-Impaired Children and Young People: Behaviour and Management;

(d) The Curriculum;

(e) Teaching Practice; and

(f) a Research Project.

(3) A catalogue of study-units, indicating the credits assigned to each and which study-units are compulsory, shall be published by the Board of Studies before the commencement of the Course.

(4) The Board may grant students exemption from a number of study-units for which a total of not more than 14 credits are assigned, provided that it is satisfied that the students have satisfactorily completed courses of studies deemed to be equivalent in content and standard to those from which exemption is requested. The Board may still require such students to follow particular study-units in each module.

Teaching Practice

7. (1) All students are required to undertake Teaching Practice with hearing-impaired children as directed by the Board of Studies.

(2) Each Teaching Practice shall be assessed as indicated in paragraphs (1) and (2) of regulation 9.

(3) At the end of the Course students shall be required to sit for the Teaching Practice Examination referred to in paragraph (1) of regulation 10.

(4) Students who fail in the Teaching Practice examination shall be re-assessed after they have completed an additional Teaching Practice within a period of twelve months from the last day of the final examination, as directed by the Board of Studies.

Research Project

8. (1) All students are required to present a Research Project of such length as directed by the Board of Studies and which shall be submitted by the end of August of the final year of the Course.

(2) The subject and a brief description of the Research Project shall be submitted for the approval of the Board of Studies by not later than the end of June of the first year of the Course.

(3) Students who fail the Research Project shall be allowed to resubmit it once within a period of six months.

(4) The Research Project shall be assessed as indicated in paragraphs (1) and (2) of regulation 9.

Assessment

9. (1) Credits shall be assigned according to the following grades in descending order of merit: A+, A, B+, B, C+, C, D+ and D. F indicates Fail and I indicates Incomplete.

(2) Students who fail in the assessment of a study-unit shall be allowed one re-assessment only. If successful, the maximum grade that may be awarded shall be grade D.

(3) Students shall be considered to have satisfied the assessment criteria of the Course if they:

(a) obtain a minimum of twenty-eight credits (which must include the credits assigned to the compulsory study-units, the Teaching Practice and the Research Project); and

(b) are successful in the Final Examination.

Final Examination

10. (1) The Final Examination shall be held at the end of the Course and shall consist of three synoptic papers and a Teaching Practice examination.

(2) The Final Examination shall be assessed according to the grading scheme indicated in paragraph (1) of regulation 9.

(3) Students who fail in any of the synoptic papers of the Final Examination shall be allowed a supplementary session in the failed paper/s once only. In such a case, the maximum grade that may be awarded shall be grade D.

Final Result

11. (1) The final result shall take into account the performance of the students in all components of the Course.

(2) The components of the Course shall be weighted as follows:

30 credits assigned to the Course (including Research Project)	50%
Final Examination	25%
Teaching Practice Examination	25%

(3) The names of the students who qualify for the award of the Diploma shall be published in a list in alphabetical order classified as follows:

Pass with Distinction
Pass.