L.N. 39 of 1999

EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)

The Course leading to the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Nursing Studies (Honours) - B.Sc. (Nursing Studies Hons) - (Amendment) Regulations, 1999

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

1. These regulations may be cited as The Course leading to the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Nursing Studies (Honours) - B.Sc. (Nursing Studies Hons) - (Amendment) Regulations, 1999 and shall be read and construed as one with The Course leading to the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Nursing Studies (Honours) - B.Sc. (Nursing Studies Hons) - Regulations, 1992, hereinafter referred to as "the principal regulations".

Applicability

2. (1) Regulations 7, 9, 12, 14, 16, 17 and 20 shall be applicable from January 1994 onwards.

(2) Regulations 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 24 and 25 shall be applicable from May 1996 onwards.

Amendment of the title of the principal regulations

3. For the title of the principal regulations there shall be substituted the following:

"Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Nursing/Midwifery Studies - B.Sc. (Hons) - Degree Course Regulations, 1992"

Amendment of regulation 1 of the principal regulations

4. For regulation 1 of the principal regulations there shall be substituted the following:

"1. (1) These regulations may be cited as the Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Nursing/Midwifery Studies - B.Sc. (Hons) - Degree Course Regulations, 1992.

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

"the Course" means the Course leading to the Degree of Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Nursing/Midwifery Studies - B.Sc. (Hons); and

"the Degree" means the Degree of Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Nursing/Midwifery Studies - B.Sc. (Hons)."

Amendment of regulation 3 of the principal regulations

5. For paragraph (d) of regulation 3 of the principal regulations there shall be substituted the following:

"(d) to be in possession of a statement of good conduct as befits a person entitled to use the title "Nurse" or "Midwife", which statement must be signed by the Head of Nursing/Midwifery Studies; and"

Amendment of regulation 4 of the principal regulations

6. For paragraph (1) of regulation 4 of the principal regulations there shall be substituted the following:

"4. (1) Candidates may be registered as regular students in the Institute of Health Care if they satisfy:

(a) the general requirements for matriculation laid down in the Admission Regulations;

(b) the Institute of Health Care that they have the necessary aptitude for nursing/midwifery, for which purpose they may be required to attend an interview; and

(c) the Department of Health as to medical fitness to undertake nursing/midwifery duties."

7. After paragraph (2) of regulation 4 of the principal regulations there shall be added the following:

"(3) Candidates in possession of a Diploma in Nursing may be allowed to register in the third year of the Course,
provided that as from May 1996 this provision shall also apply to holders of a Diploma in Midwifery."

Amendment of regulation 5 of the principal regulations

8. For regulation 5 of the principal regulations there shall be substituted the following:

"5. (1) The Course shall extend over a period of four years. Candidates may not take the final comprehensive examination earlier than three years or later than five years from first admission to the Course, except with the permission of Senate,
provided that candidates admitted under paragraph (3) of regulation 4 may not take the final comprehensive examination earlier than two years or later than three years of full-time study or their equivalent in part-time study, from first admission to the Course except with the permission of Senate."

9. After paragraph (1) of regulation 5 of the principal regulations there shall be added the following:

"(2) For candidates admitted under paragraph (3) of regulation 4 the Course shall extend over a period of two years full-time, or their equivalent in part-time studies."

Amendment of regulation 6 of the principal regulations

10. For paragraph (1) of regulation 6 of the principal regulations there shall be substituted the following:

"6. (1) The Course shall consist of a number of study-units to each of which a specified number of credits shall be assigned. The total number of credits shall meet the requirements laid down by the European Commission on General Nurse/Midwife Education (see Note 1)."

Amendment of regulation 7 of the principal regulations

11. For paragraphs (1) and (4) of regulation 7 of the principal regulations there shall be substituted the following:

"7. (1) The theoretical component of the Course shall consist of study-units for which not less than 80 credits are assigned.

(4) Candidates who in any one year:

(a) fail to obtain 80% of the total number of credits assigned, or

(b) fail to obtain more than 80% of the credits in any of the following:

Nursing/Midwifery Theory
Biomedical Sciences
Behavioural Sciences

shall not be allowed to continue the Course or to take the final comprehensive examination except in special circumstances and with the permission of Senate."

12. For paragraph (2) of regulation 7 of the principal regulations there shall be substituted the following:

"(2) A credit certificate shall be issued to candidates on the successful completion of a study-unit. This certificate shall also show a grade indicating the standard attained by the candidates in the work undertaken throughout the study-unit and in a test held at the end of it. The grades shall be as follows:

A - work of exceptional quality
B - work of above average quality
C - work of average quality
D - work of below average quality
F - Fail.

No credit shall be given for an uncompleted study-unit."

Amendment of regulation 8 of the principal regulations

13. For paragraphs (1) and (4) of regulation 8 of the principal regulations there shall be substituted the following:

"8. (1) The clinical component of the Course shall consist of study-units in the form of clinical placements or guided field work. At least 40 credits shall be assigned to this component.

(4) Students shall not be allowed to sit their final comprehensive examination unless they have obtained at least 40 clinical credits in the areas of clinical practice (see Note 2) listed hereunder with the minimum number of credits for each indicated:

(a)	Nursing Clinical Practice	Minimum Credits
	General and Specialist Medicine	6
	General and Specialist Surgery	6
	Child Care and Paediatrics	3
	Maternity Care	3
	Mental Health and Psychiatry	3
	Care of the Elderly	3
	Community Nursing (Home)	2

(b)	Midwifery Clinical Practice	Minimum Credits
	Ante Natal Care	3
	Intra Natal Care	3
	Post Natal Care	3
	Community Care	3
	Care of the New Born	3
	Child Care and Paediatric Nursing	3
	Medical Nursing	3
	Surgical/Gynaecological Nursing	3
	Critical Care	3
	Mental Health	3"

14. For paragraph (7) of regulation 8 of the principal regulations there shall be substituted the following:

"(7) Students who fail to achieve a pass grade in the overall clinical assessment in any one year shall not be allowed to take the final comprehensive examination, except in special circumstances and with the permission of Senate, and shall be required to repeat that year."

Amendment of regulation 9 of the principal regulations

15. For paragraph (1) of regulation 9 of the principal regulations there shall be substituted the following:

"9. (1) To complete the Course candidates admitted under paragraph (1) of regulation 4 must obtain the following number of credits:

(a) 80 credits in Nursing/Midwifery Theory and in subjects supportive to Nursing/Midwifery; and

(b) 40 credits in Clinical Nursing/Midwifery Practice."

16. After paragraph (1) of regulation 9 of the principal regulations there shall be added the following:

"(2) To complete the Course candidates admitted under paragraph (3) of regulation 4 must obtain the following:

(a) 40 credits in Nursing Theory and subjects supportive to Nursing;

(b) 6 credits in Clinical Nursing Practice; and

(c) other theoretical or clinical practice credits as required to complete a course in accordance with European Commission directives on General Nursing Education,

provided that as from May 1996 the following shall be required:

(a) 40 credits in Nursing/Midwifery theory and practice; and

(b) 20 credits in subjects supportive to Nursing/Midwifery."

17. Paragraph (2) of regulation 9 of the principal regulations shall be re-numbered paragraph (3) and shall be substituted by the following:

"(3) The Board of the Institute of Health Care may exempt candidates from the requirement of obtaining a credit certificate for a particular study-unit if they have obtained from the University, or an institution recognised by the Senate for the purpose, a qualification the study for which is, in the opinion of

the Board, equivalent in content and standard to that required for the credit certificate concerned. Candidates may be exempted from up to one-fifth of the theoretical component. Registered nurses not in possession of a Diploma in Nursing may be exempted from up to: (a) one-third of the theoretical module; and (b) three-quarters of the credits related to clinical practice, for admission to the final comprehensive examination,
provided that as from May 1996, registered midwives not in possession of a Diploma in Midwifery may also be exempted from the above."

Deletion of regulation 10 of the principal regulations

18. Regulation 10 of the principal regulations shall be deleted.

Amendment of regulation 11 of the principal regulations

19. Regulation 11 of the principal regulations shall be re-numbered regulation 10.

20. For paragraphs (1) and (2) of regulation 10 of the principal regulations there shall be substituted the following:

"10. (1) Candidates shall be required to sit for the final comprehensive examination after obtaining at least the minimum number of credits specified in regulations 8 and 9,
provided that until April 1996 candidates shall also satisfy the requirements laid down in the previous regulation 10.

(2) (a) At the end of the Course, candidates admitted under paragraph (1) of regulation 4 shall be required to take the final comprehensive examination which shall comprise the following:

Paper I	Primary Health Care
Paper II	Nursing Theory and Practice
Paper III	Nursing Theory and Practice
Paper IV	Nursing Theory/ Research

Paper V	Professional Development
Special Project:	A dissertation of not less than 10,000 words on an approved subject

Tests in Clinical Nursing Practice,

provided that as from May 1996 the examination shall comprise:

Paper I	Primary Health Care
Paper II	Nursing/Midwifery Theory and Practice
Paper III	Nursing/Midwifery Theory and Practice
Paper IV	Nursing/Midwifery Theory/ Research
Paper V	Professional Development
Special Project:	A dissertation of not less than 10,000 words on an approved subject

Tests in Clinical Nursing/Midwifery Practice.

(b) Candidates admitted under paragraph (3) of regulation 4 shall be exempted from Papers II and III, as well as from the Tests in Clinical Nursing Practice,
provided that as from May 1996 the above provision shall also apply to the Tests in Clinical Midwifery Practice."

Amendment of regulation 12 of the principal regulations

21. Regulation 12 of the principal regulations shall be re-numbered regulation 11.

22. For paragraph (2) of regulation 11 of the principal regulations there shall be substituted the following:

"(2) A list shall also be published of candidates who, though not judged as being worthy of Honours, are considered by the examiners to be of sufficient

merit to be awarded a Pass and such candidates shall qualify for the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Nursing/Midwifery Studies - B.Sc."

23. Paragraph (3) of regulation 11 of the principal regulations shall be deleted.

24. Paragraph (4) of regulation 11 of the principal regulations shall be re-numbered paragraph (3).

Amendment of the Explanatory Notes to the principal regulations

25. For Explanatory Note (1) to the principal regulations there shall be substituted the following:

"(1) (a) European Commission Directive 77/453/EEC
(b) European Commission Directive 80/115/EEC"

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