L.N. 25 of 2006

EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)

Bye-Laws of 2006 in terms of the General Regulations for University Undergraduate Awards, 2004 for the Degrees of Bachelor of Commerce – B.Com. – and Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) – B.Com. (Honours) – under the auspices of the Faculty of Economics, Management and Accountancy

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 bye-laws made by the Board of the Faculty of Economics, Management and Accountancy in virtue of the powers conferred upon it by section 37 (1) of the said Act and which have been approved by the Senate of the University of Malta as required by section 37 (2) of the said Act:

Citation and Interpretation

1. (1) These bye-laws may be cited as the Bye-Laws of 2006 in terms of the General Regulations for University Undergraduate Awards, 2004 for the degrees of Bachelor of Commerce - B.Com. - and Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) - B.Com. (Hons) - under the auspices of the Faculty of Economics, Management and Accountancy.

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

"the Board" means the Board of the Faculty of Economics, Management and Accountancy;

"the Course" means the programme of studies leading to the degree of Bachelor of Commerce - B.Com. - or the degree of Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) - B.Com. (Hons) - as appropriate;

"the Degree" means the degree of Bachelor of Commerce - B.Com. - or the degree of Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) - B.Com. (Hons) - as appropriate; and

"the Principal Regulations" means the General Regulations for University Undergraduate Awards, 2004.

Applicability

2. These bye-laws shall be applicable for courses commencing in October 2003 or later.

Areas of Study

3. (1) The degree of Bachelor of Commerce is awarded in Commerce as a single Main Area of Study with two of the following areas of specialization:

Accountancy, Banking and Finance, Economics, Management, Public Policy, and any other area approved by Senate on the recommendation of the Board.

(2) The degree of Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) is awarded in Commerce as a Main Honours Area of Study with one of the following areas of specialization:

Banking and Finance, Economics, Management, Public Policy, Public and Private Sector Management, and any other area approved by Senate on the recommendation of the Board.

Special Course Requirements for Admission

4. To be registered as regular students in the Course, applicants shall, apart from satisfying the general requirements for admission as specified in the Admission Regulations of the University, be in possession of the following special course requirements:

(a) a pass at Intermediate Matriculation Level in Pure Mathematics; or

(b) the Certificate in Banking of the Chartered Institute of Bankers (comprising six subjects) and a pass at Intermediate Matriculation Level in Pure Mathematics, provided that such applicants may only be allowed to choose 'Banking and Finance' and either 'Economics' or 'Management' or 'Public Policy' or 'Public and Private Sector Management' as the two areas of specialization.

5. Applicants who lack only a pass at Intermediate Matriculation Level in Pure Mathematics as required by bye-law 4 shall be admitted under those conditions as the Board may impose to compensate for the missing element. If, by the end of the first year of the Course, such students do not successfully complete all the requirements to progress regularly to the second year, they shall be required to withdraw from the Course, and shall neither be entitled to repeat the year nor to progress conditionally as normally permitted under the Principal Regulations.

Progression to Year 2

6. To progress to the second year of the Course, students must satisfy the following conditions:

(a) If choosing Accountancy as an area of specialization, students must:

(i) be in possession of a pass at Grade C or better at Advanced Matriculation Level in Accounting prior to admission in the Course; and

(ii) obtain a mark of not less than 50% in the Mathematics and Accounting Theory and Practice study-units and 45% in each of the remaining compulsory study-units taken in the first year of the Course.

(b) If choosing Banking and Finance or Economics or Management or Public Policy as an area of specialization, students must obtain a mark of not less than 45% in each of the compulsory study-units taken in the first year of the Course.

Course Duration

7. (1) The course for the degree of Bachelor of Commerce shall extend over a period of three years of full-time study.

(2) The course for the degree of Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) shall extend over a period of four years of full-time study.

Course Programme

8. Students shall be required to register initially for the Bachelor of Commerce course.

9. The Course shall consist of two parts: Part One and Part Two.

10. Part One shall comprise the first three years of the Course and shall be common both to the course leading to the Bachelor of Commerce and to the course leading to the Bachelor of Commerce (Honours). Part One shall comprise:

(a) the first year, that is common for all students, consisting of compulsory study-units (including a study-unit in Mathematics and a study-unit in Accountancy), to which a total of 56 credits are assigned and optional study-units to which 4 credits are assigned;

(b) the second year, consisting of study-units in each of the two areas of specialization chosen, to which 28 credits are assigned and optional study-units to which 4 credits are assigned; and

(c) the third year, consisting of study-units in each of the two areas of specialization chosen, to which 30 credits are assigned which include a compulsory synoptic study-unit in each area of specialization to which 10 credits are assigned**.**

11. Prior to registering in the second year of the Course, students shall be required to choose two areas of specialization from the areas indicated in paragraph (1) of bye-law 3.

12. Students who successfully complete Part One of the Course by obtaining 180 credits shall be awarded the degree of Bachelor of Commerce, unless they opt to proceed to Part Two of the Course, if eligible in terms of bye-law 14, and successfully complete it.

13. Part Two of the Course comprises the fourth year leading to the degree of Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) and comprises study-units in one chosen area of specialization, to which 60 credits are assigned including a dissertation of 10,000-12,000 words.

14. Students shall be eligible to register for Part Two of the Course if they:

either

(a) have successfully completed Part One of the Course and have been placed in Category II or better in the classification for the award of the Bachelor of Commerce; and

(b) have obtained a minimum average mark of 65% in the 56 credits assigned to the second and third year study-units in the area of specialization chosen for Part Two of the Course. Students shall be eligible to register for Public and Private Sector Management as an area of specialization if they have chosen either Management or Public Policy as areas of specialization in Part One of the Course and obtained a minimum average mark of 65% in at least one of these two areas;

or with Management as the area of specialization if they:

(a) are in possession of the degree of Bachelor of Science in Business and Computing awarded with Category II or better; and

(b) have obtained an average mark of 65% in the 56 credits assigned to the second and third year study-units of the Business Area of Study.

15. Students who do not complete Part Two shall be awarded the degree of Bachelor of Commerce, classified according to the criteria indicated in paragraph (1) of bye-law 17.

16. The Board shall publish the Course programme of study and the programmes of study for each area of specialization, drawn up in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Principal Regulations, and approved by Senate. Subject to the approval of Senate, the Board may make any necessary changes to the programmes of study and to the study-units required for the Degree.

Classification of the Awards

17. (1) The Final Weighted Average Mark for the classification of the Bachelor of Commerce degree (Part One of the Course) shall be based on the results obtained in the three years of Part One of the Course which shall be weighted as follows:

First Year Average Mark	15%
Second Year Average Mark	20%
Third Year Average Mark	65%.

(2) The Final Weighted Average Mark for the classification of the Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) degree shall be based on the results obtained in the four years of the Course which shall be weighted as follows:

Part One Weighted Average Mark	35%
Fourth Year Average Mark	65%.