L.N. 196 of 1998

EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)

Bachelor of Psychology - B.Psy. - Degree 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 Bachelor of Psychology - B.Psy. - Degree 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 Degree of Bachelor of Psychology - B.Psy.; and

"the Degree" means the Degree of Bachelor of Psychology - B.Psy.

Applicability

2. These regulations shall apply to courses starting in October 1997 or later, except for regulation 4 which shall apply to courses starting in October 2000 or later.

Eligibility for the Degree

3. In order to be eligible for the award of the Degree, a student must:

(1) register as a regular student in terms of the Admission Regulations of the University;

(2) register for and successfully complete the Course as provided in these regulations;

(3) pass the final examinations; and

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

Special Course Requirements

4. Applicants shall be in possession of a pass at Intermediate Level in Biology at Grade C or better, or equivalent.

Duration of Course

5. (1) The duration of the Course shall be of three full-time academic years.

(2) Students shall be required to register before the beginning of each academic year.

(3) The Board may allow a student to complete the Course within four years, for good and sufficient reason, and under those conditions that the Board may impose.

(4) Students may not complete the Course earlier than three years or later than four years from the date of the first admission to the Course, except with the permission of the Senate.

Course Structure

6. (1) The Course shall consist of two parts:

(a) Part One shall normally extend over a period of two academic years and is common both to the Course and to the course leading to the Bachelor of Psychology (Honours) - B.Psy. (Hons).

(b) Part Two shall normally extend over a period of one academic year.

(2) The areas of study shall be the following:

(a) Psychology, which shall consist of four modules as follows:

Core Module;
Module A (clinical/counselling psychology area of specialization);
Module B (educational psychology area of specialization);
Module C (social/organizational psychology area of specialization); and

(b) one subsidiary area of study from a list approved by the Board of Studies at the beginning of the Course.

(3) Students may take one observation session in any of Modules A, B, or C. An 'observation session' consists of a series of field-based and structured observations.

(4) To complete Part One and proceed to Part Two of the Course, students must obtain a minimum of 46 credits including:

(a) 29 credits in Psychology;
(b) 15 credits in the subsidiary area of study; and
(c) 2 optional credits.

(5) Students who complete Part One of the Course, and who satisfy also all the necessary requirements for registration for Bachelor of Psychology (Honours) course, may opt to apply for the course leading to the Bachelor of Psychology (Honours) degree before the commencement of the third year of the Course.

Course of Studies

7. (1) The Course shall consist of study-units to which not less than 65 credits are assigned.

(2) In order to complete the Course, students are required to obtain the following:

(a) at least 42 credits in Psychology;
(b) 20 credits in the subsidiary area of study; and
(c) 3 optional credits.

(3) The Board of Studies may allow a student to change the subsidiary area of study before the beginning of the second semester of the Course, provided that the proposed subsidiary programme allows the student to obtain 15 credits in the new subsidiary area of study by the end of the second year.

(4) A catalogue of study-units, with the credits assigned to each, shall be approved by Senate and published by the Board of Studies before the start of each academic year.

(5) The Board of Studies may exempt a student from the requirement of obtaining a credit certificate for a particular study-unit if he obtains, from the University or an institution or other body recognised by the Senate for the purpose, a qualification which, in the opinion of the Board of Studies, is equivalent to that required for the credit concerned. A student shall not be exempted from more than ten credits of the whole Course. Exemptions shall be allowed only during Part One of the Course.

Assessment and Final Examinations

8. (1) During the Course, students shall be set assignments (including written and/or oral tests) and shall be required to pass the final examinations.

(2) The study-units shall be arranged so that the Course may be completed in two years for Part One and one year for Part Two.

(3) During Part One of the Course, students shall be required to register for a number of study-units for which a total of not less than 46 and not more than 52 credits are assigned. During Part Two of the Course, the minimum number of study-units shall be 19 and the maximum 26.

(4) Credits shall be assigned according to the University's grading scheme in descending order of merit: A+, A, B+, B, C+, C, D+, D and F, where F means a fail.

(5) Students who fail to obtain any credit shall be allowed to take a re-sit once only. The maximum grade that may be awarded shall be grade D.

(6) If students fail during the resit, they may be allowed to repeat that study-unit once during the following academic year. If successful, the maximum grade that may be awarded shall be grade D.

(7) A student who fails to obtain 22 credits during any of the first two academic years (Part One) or 18 credits during the third academic year of the Course is required to apply to the Board for permission to extend his studies by one year in terms of paragraph (3) of regulation 5.

(8) A student may be allowed to repeat only one year throughout the Course, except in special circumstances with permission of Senate.

(9) A student is required to sit for the Final Examinations in Psychology on completion of the programme of studies.

(10) Final Examinations shall be held once annually, normally in June, and shall consist of four papers in Psychology. The papers shall be marked according to the grading scheme as indicated in paragraph (4) of this regulation. A *viva voce* examination may also be held.

(11) Students shall be successful in each of the four papers in order to pass the Final Examinations.

(12) A student who fails in any of the four papers may resit the failed paper or papers in a supplementary session once only.

(13) The maximum grade that may be awarded during a supplementary session of the Final Examinations shall be grade D.

Final Results

9. (1) The overall assessment of a student shall take into account the grades obtained in the study-units required under paragraph (2) of regulation 6 and his performance in the Final Examinations.

(2) The Final Examinations shall carry 40% of the weighting for the grading of the final result. The other 60% shall be calculated on the basis of the overall average of the 65 credits referred to in paragraph (2) of regulation 7.

(3) The names of students who qualify for the award of the Degree shall be published in a list in alphabetical order divided into the following categories: I, IIA, IIB and III.