L.N. 204 of 1998

EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)

Bachelor of Psychology (Honours) - B.Psy. (Hons) - 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 (Honours) - B.Psy. (Hons) - 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 (Honours) - B.Psy. (Hons); and

"the Degree" means the Degree of Bachelor of Psychology (Honours) - B.Psy. (Hons).

Applicability

2. These regulations shall apply to courses starting in October 1999 or later.

Eligibility for the Degree

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

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

(b) pass the Final Examinations; 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 shall have:

(a) successfully completed Part One of the course leading to the degree of Bachelor of Psychology; and

(b) obtained a Grade B or better in the overall assessment of the 29 compulsory credits in Psychology during the Part One of the course leading to the degree of Bachelor of Psychology; and

(c) obtained a Grade C+ or better in the overall assessment of the 46 credits of Part One of the course leading to the degree of Bachelor of Psychology.

(2) Before being admitted to the Course, applicants shall be required to attend for an interview, which may include psychological assessment, in order to test their aptitude for pursuing the Course.

(3) Applicants shall normally be required to proceed to the Course immediately after obtaining the qualifications laid down in paragraph (1) of this regulation. They shall not, in any case, be admitted to the Course if more than two years have passed since they obtained such qualifications, except in special circumstances with the permission of Senate.

Duration of Course

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

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

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

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

Course Structure

6. (1) The Course 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).

(2) In the first year of the Course students shall be required to register for study-units chosen from Modules A, B and C laid down in paragraph (1) of this regulation.

(3) In the second year of the Course students shall be required to register for study-units chosen from two of Modules A, B and C laid down in paragraph (1) of this regulation. They shall indicate the two areas of specialization chosen when applying for admission to the Course.

(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.

Course of Studies

7. (1) The Course shall consist of study-units and a dissertation to which not less than 43 credits are assigned.

(2) In order to complete the Course and to be allowed to sit for the Final Examinations, students are required to obtain the following:

(a) at least 32 credits in Psychology (including the credits for the practical placement/s);

(b) 5 credits in the subsidiary area of study chosen in Part One of the course leading to the degree of Bachelor of Psychology;

(c) 5 credits for the dissertation; and

(d) 1 optional credit.

Assessment and Final Examinations

8. (1) During the Course, students shall be set assignments (including written and/or oral tests) and practical placements which shall be assessed. They shall also be required to complete successfully their dissertation and to pass the Final Examinations.

(2) 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.

(3) 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.

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

(5) Students who fail to obtain 23 credits during the first academic year or 18 credits during the second academic year of the Course are required to apply to the Board for permission to extend their studies by one year in terms of paragraph (3) of regulation 5.

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

(7) A student is required to sit for the Final Examinations on completion of the course of studies as indicated in paragraph (2) of regulation 7.

(8) Final Examinations shall be held once annually, normally in June, and shall consist of five papers in Psychology. The papers shall be marked according to the grading scheme as indicated in paragraph (2) of this regulation. A *viva voce* examination may also be held.

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

(10) Students who fail in any of the five papers may resit the failed paper or papers in a supplementary session once only.

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

Dissertation

9. (1) Students shall present a written dissertation, normally of not more than 18,000 words in length, on a subject proposed by them and approved by the Board of Studies.

(2) The proposed title and outline of the dissertation must be submitted for the approval of the Board of Studies by not later than the end of the first year.

(3) Students shall be required to complete their dissertation under tutorial supervision.

(4) Students whose dissertation is found unsatisfactory may be allowed by the Board of Studies, on the recommendation of the Board of Examiners, to re-submit it in a revised form within a period as directed by the Board of Studies. In such cases, the maximum grade that may be awarded is grade D.

(5) Students whose dissertation is not approved or who have not submitted the dissertation within the required time limit, shall not be allowed to sit for the Final Examinations.

Final Results

10. (1) The overall assessment of students shall take into account the grades obtained in the study-units and the dissertation required under paragraph (2) of regulation 7 and their performance in the Final Examinations.

(2) The Final Examinations shall carry 50% of the weighting for the grading of the final results. The other 50% shall be calculated on the basis of the overall average of the 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:

First Class Honours
Second Class Honours (Upper Division)
Second Class Honours (Lower Division)
Third Class Honours.

(4) The Board of Studies may award a Pass degree (without Honours) to students who successfully complete all the requirements laid down in paragraph (2) of regulation 7 but narrowly fail the dissertation and/or the Final Examinations.