L.N. 300 of 2008

EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)

International Master of Arts – M.A. – Degree Course Regulations, 2008 under the auspices of the Centre for Communication Technology

IN exercise of the powers conferred upon him by sections 74 (5) and 75 (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 75 and 79 of the said Act:

Citation and Interpretation

1. (1) These regulations may be cited as the International Master of Arts – M.A. – Degree Course Regulations, 2008, offered under the auspices of the Centre for Communication Technology.

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

"the Board" means the Board of Studies as appointed by the Centre for Communication Technology after consultation with a Partner University;

"the Centre" means the Centre for Communication Technology;

"the Course" means the course of studies leading to the degree of Master of Arts – M.A.;

"the Degree" means the degree of Master of Arts – M.A.;

"the Partner University" means a foreign university participating in the delivery of the Course and in the award in terms of an agreement approved by Senate;

"the Senate" means the Senate of the University of Malta; and

"the University" means the University of Malta.

(3) This Degree is an International Master degree of this University and this shall be taken to mean that the Course is taught at the University in collaboration with a Partner University within the framework of a double or a joint degree programme. The Degree shall only be awarded if both universities declare the student to be eligible for its award.

B4039

Applicability

2. These regulations shall apply to courses starting from 2008 onwards.

Areas of Study

3. The Board shall offer the Course in areas of study which fall under the competence of the Centre. It shall announce the areas of study and the mode of study in which they are offered before the beginning of each Course, after the approval of Senate. Applicants shall be required to indicate their choice of area and mode of study at the time of application.

Qualifications for Admission

4. The Course shall be open to applicants in possession of a first cycle degree in Communication Studies or Management or in another area of study which the Board considers as appropriate, provided that the first cycle degree is obtained with a second class honours or better classification, or an equivalent classification.

Course Duration

5. (1) The Course shall extend over a period of three semesters of full-time study.

(2) The Board may allow students to extend their studies by not more than one semester.

Registration for the Course

6. Applicants wishing to register for the Course shall apply on the prescribed form or on-line within the time specified by the Office of the Registrar.

Programme of Study

7. The programme of study shall consist of study-units to which a total of 90 ECTS credits shall be assigned, comprising taught study-units and the writing of a dissertation to which not less 30 ECTS credits shall be assigned. The programme of study shall be published by the Board not later than eight months prior to the commencement of the Course, following the approval of Senate.

B4040

Catalogue of Study-Units

8. The Board shall draw up a catalogue of study-units. The catalogue shall indicate the code, title, description, learning outcomes, the type of each study-unit, the credits assigned to each study-unit, and the methods of teaching and assessment. The catalogue shall include also guidelines on the production of the dissertation. The Board shall publish the catalogue for the Course, for each area of study, prior to its commencement, following the approval of Senate.

Assessment

9. (1) Results for the assessment of the study-units and the dissertation shall be published as a percentage mark and grade as indicated in the table below:

Mark Range	Grade
80% - 100%	A
70% - 79%	B
55% - 69%	C
45% - 54%	D
0 - 44%	F

Both the percentage mark and the grade shall be recorded in the students' academic record. However, only the percentage mark shall be used for the purpose of calculating the final classification of the award.

(2) Students who fail in any taught study-unit shall be allowed a supplementary assessment only once. A supplementary assessment of a study-unit shall be held at the next scheduled examination session (May or September) as the case may be. In supplementary assessments, the maximum mark and grade that may be awarded shall be 45% – grade D. If unsuccessful, students shall be required to withdraw from the Course.

(3) Students shall not be allowed to be re-assessed for a study-unit if they have already been awarded credit for it.

The Dissertation

10. (1) Work for the dissertation shall be undertaken during the third semester of the Course. Each student shall be assigned a supervisor who shall provide guidance and advice on a continuous basis during the period of study.

(2) The title of the dissertation and a detailed research proposal shall be approved by the Board not later than two months before the start of the third semester.

(3) The dissertation may not normally be submitted to a Board of Examiners without the approval of the supervisor.

(4) Students shall be required to have regular contact with their supervisor. A supervisor may advise the Board, in writing, on the performance of a student; such advice may recommend either (a) an extension of the study period in order to enable the student to complete the dissertation; or (b) a premature termination of studies if the supervisor deems this to be proper in the circumstances, provided that (i) the extension of the study period referred to in (a) shall be according to paragraph (2) of regulation 5; and (ii) the Board may not terminate studies prematurely according to (b) until it has first given the student a chance to be heard.

11. (1) Dissertations presented for the Degree shall:

(a) be work of an advanced or original nature performed by students during the Course and the presentation of their findings and conclusions in a document written in a scholarly manner according to specified guidelines;

(b) satisfy the Board of Examiners as regards content and presentation; and

(c) consist of not less than 20,000 words when 30 ECTS credits are awarded to the dissertation and fulfill all other requirements related to format and presentation as stipulated in the relevant guidelines.

(2) No dissertation shall be accepted which is identical in substance to a document already submitted for a degree in this or any other university or to any other published material. Students shall, however, not be precluded from incorporating such previous work as may be necessary to the presentation and fuller understanding of their exposition, provided that the nature and extent of such incorporation are clearly indicated in the dissertation itself.

(3) Students shall present three bound copies of the dissertation to the Centre, one of which shall be retained in the University library and another one at the library of the Partner University.

Examination of the Study-Units and the Dissertation

12. (1) Examiners shall be appointed for each study-unit taken by written and/or oral examination in accordance with the provisions of the University Examination Regulations.

(2) For the examination of the dissertation, the Board of Examiners shall normally include the supervisor and two other members including an external examiner who shall be appointed from an institution other than this University or the Partner University.

(3) The Board of Examiners for the dissertation may require students to defend the dissertation orally before them. The external examiner need not be present for the oral defence.

(4) Students whose dissertation is found unsatisfactory may either fail or be required by the Board of Examiners to rewrite the document in whole or in part and to re-submit it for examination. Students may re-submit the dissertation not earlier than one month and not later than four months from notification of the decision by the Board of Examiners.

Award of the Degree

13. (1) Students shall be eligible for the award of the Degree if they obtain all the credits assigned to the study-units comprising the programme of study, as indicated in regulation 7.

(2) The Board shall compute the global final result taking into account all components of the Course and shall also establish the Degree classification.

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

Passed with Distinction
Passed with Merit
Passed.

Testimonial of the Award

14. The testimonial given by the University shall include a statement to indicate that the Partner University has separately awarded a degree for successful completion of the same Course.

Ippubblikat mid-Dipartiment ta' l-Informazzjoni (doi.gov.mt) Valletta - *Published by the Department of Information - (doi.gov.mt) - Valletta*
Mitbugħ fl-Istamperija tal-Gvern - *Printed at the Government Printing Press*

Prezz/*Price*
€0.47