B 326

L.N. 53 of 1998

EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Social Administration or in Social Work - B.A. (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 Arts (Honours) in Social Administration or in Social Work - B.A. (Hons) - Degree Course Regulations, 1998.

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

"the Board" means the Board of the Institute of Social Welfare;

"the Course" means the Course leading to the Degree;

"the Degree" means the Degree of Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Social Administration or in Social Work - B.A. (Hons).

Applicability

2. These regulations shall apply to courses starting in 1993 or later.

Eligibility

3. To be eligible for the Degree with Social Administration or Social Work as the main area of study a candidate must have:

(a) registered for and successfully completed the full course of studies as provided in these regulations;

(b) passed the Final Examinations for the Degree;

(c) satisfied all the other requirements laid down in these regulations and any other relevant statutes and regulations of the University.

Registration Requirements

4. (1) A candidate may be registered for the Course if:

(a) he is eligible for admission to the University as a regular student in terms of the Admission Regulations of the University; and

(b) he satisfied an interviewing board, set up for this purpose, that he has the aptitude to follow such a Course.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (1) of this regulation, University graduates and applicants over 23 years whose qualifications are considered sufficient by the Board, may be exempted from any of the requirements for admission to the Course, except that required in sub-paragraph (b) of paragraph (1) of this regulation.

Course Structure

5. (1) The Course shall consist of two Parts.

(2) Part One shall normally extend over a period of two years. It incorporates all introductory and basic courses in the Social Sciences and Social Policy and is common to students taking up either the Social Administration option or the Social Work option in Part Two.

(3) Part Two shall normally extend over a period of two years. At the end of Part One a student shall need to choose between the Social Administration option and the Social Work option.

(4) After indicating which option a student intends to follow in Part Two, eligibility is decided by a board established for this purpose. In order to apply for the Social Work option in Part Two, a student must furnish this board with a certificate from a Social Work agency approved by the Board that he has undertaken a minimum of 50 hours of voluntary social work in that agency. A list of approved agencies shall be published every year by the Board in October.

(5) A student who has already successfully obtained the Diploma in Applied Social Studies of the University of Malta or an overseas equivalent may apply for exemption from not more than the minimum number of study-units required for the completion of the Diploma course.

(6) A student who can prove that he has completed one or more study-units that are equivalent to those that form part of the Degree programme may apply for exemption from them for a total not exceeding sixteen study-units.

(7) A student may not take the Final Examinations earlier than four years or in extraordinary circumstances approved by the Board later than five years from first admission to the course of studies, except with the permission of Senate.

Course of studies

6. (1) Part One shall consist of study-units to which not less than 44 and not more than 50 credits shall be assigned.

(2) To complete Part One a student must obtain a pass in at least 45 credits.

(3) Part Two shall consist of study-units to which not less than 40 and not more than 45 credits shall be assigned.

Catalogue of study-units

7. (1) Before the start of each Course, following its approval by Senate, a catalogue of study-units and of the credits assigned to each for Part One of the Course shall be published by the Board. The catalogue of study-units for Part Two shall similarly be published during the academic year before which Part Two is due to start.

(2) A study-unit may include, or altogether consist of, assessed practical placements in those areas of study where it is appropriate. A student taking such a study-unit may be required to submit a written report on the placement carried out.

(3) The catalogue of study-units shall also indicate the method of assessment for each study-unit, which study-units should be taken concurrently and which study-units are prerequisites or recommended.

(4) In Part Two of the Course the required number of study-units may include a dissertation equivalent to five credits.

Progress

8. (1) The study-units shall be arranged so that a course of studies can be completed in two years for Part One and two years for Part Two.

(2) In each year of the Course a student shall be required to register for a number of study-units for which a total of not less than 15 and not more than 25 credits shall be assigned.

(3) Credits shall be assigned according to the following grades in descending order of merit: A, B, C, D and F, where F indicates Fail.

(4) A student who fails to obtain a credit for a study-unit shall normally be allowed to take one resit only. If unsuccessful in the resit he shall be allowed to repeat the study-unit once. In these cases his assessment will be

graded either as a D or as a Fail. There shall be no resit when a study-unit is repeated.

(5) Study-units shall be offered at different levels. Basic units shall be given at Level 1, while more advanced units shall be given at Level 2.

(6) A student who obtains fewer than 14 credits with an overall average of C in the first year of the Course shall not be allowed to continue the Course.

(7) A student may not take a study-unit for which he does not have the prerequisites, or without taking the advised concurrent study-units, except with the permission of the Board.

(8) A credit certificate shall be issued to a student on the successful completion of a study-unit. The certificate shall also show a grade indicating the standard attained by the student in the work done throughout the study-unit and in a test or assignment set at the end of it. The method of assessment shall be indicated in the catalogue of study-units. An incomplete study-unit shall count as a Fail

Final Examinations

9. (1) On completing a course of studies a student shall be required to sit for Final Examinations, and to register for them by the end of March.

(2) Final Examinations shall be held once annually, at the end of Part Two, normally in May / June, and shall consist of eight papers. A viva voce examination may also be held.

(3) For the purpose of paragraph (1) of this regulation credits shall be awarded provisionally to a student for those study-units which end just before the Final Examinations he is taking, provided the student's performance during the study-unit is considered satisfactory.

Final Results

10. (1) The final results of each student shall take into account the performance of the student in the Final Examinations as well as the credits and grades obtained during his course of studies.

(2) The student shall not qualify for the Degree if he does not pass the Final Examinations in one session, saving the provisions of regulation 11.

(3) The Final Examinations shall carry fifty per cent of the weighting for the final result. The study-units covered during the four years of the Course shall carry the remaining fifty percent, irrespective of the number of study-units followed in excess of the minimum required.

(4) In the final results the names of students who qualify for the Degree shall be published in alphabetical order in the following categories.

First Class
Second Class (Upper Division)
Second Class (Lower Division)
Third Class
Pass

(5) Separate lists shall be published for Social Administration and for Social Work.

Resit

11. A student who fails the Final Examinations may be allowed by the Board to resit the whole Final Examinations once under such conditions as the Board may in each case determine. If successful, such students shall be placed in the Pass category in the final results.

Transitory Provision

12. Students who followed courses for the Diploma in Applied Social Studies and, concurrently, Psychology and Social Studies for the B.A. degree within the Faculty of Arts in courses that started up to October 1991 shall be allowed to transfer to this programme of studies. For this purpose all the study-units covered shall be considered as having been covered to satisfy these regulations.