B 740

L.N. 93 of 1998

EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)

Master of Arts - M.A. - in Island and Small State Studies 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 Master of Arts - M.A. - in Island and Small State Studies Degree Course Regulations, 1998.

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

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

"the Degree" means the Degree of Master of Arts - M.A. - in Island and Small State Studies;

"the Institute" means the Islands and Small States Institute at the Foundation for International Studies of the University of Malta.

Applicability

2. These regulations shall apply to courses starting in 1995 or later

Qualifications for Admission

3. (1) Candidates for admission to the Course must be holders of a Bachelor's degree with at least Second Class Honours of the University of Malta

or of a first degree recognized by Senate as equivalent to the Bachelor's degree of the University of Malta with at least Second Class Honours.

(2) The admission of candidates whose first degree is not in Economics or in Environmental Studies or in Education may be made conditional on the result of an interview during which that candidate's ability to complete the Course successfully shall be tested.

Course Duration and Structure

4. (1) The duration of the Course shall be of not less than two and not more than three academic years of full-time study.

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

(3) The Course shall consist of two parts. The First Part, lasting one academic year, shall be structured in such a way as to enable students to follow post-graduate coursework. During the Second Part, lasting not less than one academic year and not more than two academic years, the students shall write their dissertation, under the guidance of their supervisors.

First Year Coursework

5. (1) During their first year of studies students shall follow eight study-units to which not less than 24 credits shall be assigned in the following areas: Economics, Education and Environmental Studies. The eight study-units shall be offered by the Institute and designed so as to have a focus on issues related to Islands and Small States.

(2) A student shall major in one area of study by following four of the eight study-units in that area of study and at least one study-unit in the other areas of study.

(3) All students shall also attend a course on research methodology in the first year of the Course. As part of this course, students shall write the outline of their dissertation for consideration and approval by the Board of the Institute.

(4) A student shall be deemed as having successfully completed the first year of the Course if he passes the end-of-year examination consisting of a paper in each of the eight study-units and if the Board of the Institute approves the outline of the dissertation of the student.

(5) The pass grades for the end-of-year examinations shall range from A to D with A being the highest. A Failure shall be indicated by the F Grade. A student who fails in more than two study-units at the end-of-year examinations shall not be allowed to sit the supplementary examinations and shall not be allowed to continue the Course.

(6) A student who fails in not more than two study-units at the end-of-year examinations may be allowed to sit supplementary examinations in those study-units within three months of the publication of the results of the end-of-year examinations. If successful the student shall be given a grade D in the supplementary examination of each study-unit. A student who fails in any one of the supplementary examination shall not be allowed to continue the Course.

(7) The names of the successful students shall be published on the notice board of the University of Malta in alphabetical order.

Admission to the Second Part of the Course

6. (1) A student shall be allowed to proceed to the Second Part of the Course if:

(a) he successfully completes the first year of the Course, as specified in paragraph (4) of regulation 5; or

(b) if he is exempted from the first year of the Course, as specified in paragraph (2) of this regulation.

(2) With the approval of Senate, the Board of the Institute may exempt a student from following the First Part of the Course if he is in possession of a post-graduate diploma or similar qualification, with a specialisation in Island Studies and/or Small State Studies, from this or another University, provided that the Board of the Institute is satisfied that the level of such post-graduate qualification is of a sufficiently high standard. In this case the student shall submit a dissertation proposal for consideration and approval by the Board of the Institute, before being admitted to the Course.

The Dissertation

7. (1) After the approval of the dissertation proposal of the student the Board of the Institute shall assign a supervisor to the student.

(2) The student shall be required to meet his supervisor regularly for consultation during the preparation and writing of the dissertation. However, a student who is not a resident of Malta may, with the permission of the Board of the Institute, consult with his supervisor by post, telephone, electronic mail or by any other means of communication acceptable to his supervisor, provided that such student has followed the First Part of the Course at the University of Malta, or has been exempted from the First Part of the Course after having obtained a post-graduate diploma or similar qualification from the University of Malta, in accordance with paragraph (2) of regulation 6.

(3) The dissertation shall be of not less than 25,000 and not more than 40,000 words and shall deal with a subject related to Island and Small State Studies, falling within one or more of the areas of study mentioned in paragraph (1) of regulation 5.

(4) The student shall give notice of submission of the dissertation at least 3 months in advance. As soon as it receives this notice the Board shall propose to Senate a Board of examiners composed of:

The Director of the Institute or a person nominated by him, as chairman
An external examiner
The supervisor of the student
One internal examiner who has not supervised the student.

(5) The student shall submit three copies of the dissertation which must be countersigned by the supervisor, who thereby testifies that the dissertation is the student's own work and conforms to the requirements stated in paragraphs (2) and (3) of this regulation.

(6) The Board of Examiners shall be convened by its chairman to discuss the reports of the external and the internal examiners. They may require the student to appear before the Board to defend his dissertation.

(7) The Board of Examiners may approve the dissertation and recommend the award of the Degree. The board may require the student to make corrections or to re-write the dissertation within a stated time limit. The Board may reject the dissertation altogether.

(8) A student whose dissertation is rejected or whose corrections or re-writing are considered inadequate or have not been submitted within the required time limit, shall not be awarded the Degree.

Award of the Degree

8. (1) A student who is successful in the assessments in accordance with the provisions of regulation 7 and whose dissertation is approved shall be awarded the Degree.

(2) The names of students who have been awarded the Degree shall be published on the notice board of the University, in alphabetical order, classified as follows:

Passed with Distinction
Passed.

Ippubblikat mid-Dipartiment ta' l-Informazzjoni – 3, Pjazza Kastilja – *Published by the Department of Information – 3, Castille Place*
Mitbugħ fl-Istamperija tal-Gvern – *Printed at the Government Printing Press*
Prezz 10c – *Price 10c*