B 938

L.N. 121 of 1998

EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)

Certificate and Diploma in Information Technology 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 Regulations for the Certificate and Diploma Course in Information Technology, 1998.

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

"the Board" means the Board of Studies for Information Technology appointed by Senate from members of the Departments of Computer Information Systems, Computer Science and Artifical Intelligence, and Communications and Computer Engineering.

"the Certificate" means the Certificate in Information Technology.

"the Coordinating Committee" means the sub-committee appointed by the Board of Studies for Information Technology to coordinate the programme of studies.

"the Course" means the Course leading to the Diploma.

"the Diploma" means the Diploma in Information Technology.

Applicability

2. These Regulations shall be applicable to courses starting in October 1997 and later.

Eligibility for the Diploma

3. A candidate shall in order to be eligible for the Diploma:

(a) be registered as a regular student in the Course in terms of the Admissions Regulations of the University;

(b) complete the Course, qualify in the examinations, and satisfy any other requirements as prescribed in these Regulations; and

(c) satisfy any other requirements prescribed in any other relevant Statutes and Regulations of the University.

Registration and Special Course Requirements

4. (1) To be registered as a regular student in the Course a candidate must in addition to satisfying the General Entry Requirements specified in the Admissions Regulations of the University, be in possession of two passes at Advanced Matriculation level at Grade C or better in

(i) Pure Mathematics, and

(ii) Another subject preferably from the following list:

Computing
Biology
Banking
Physics
Chemistry
Accounts
Economics
Applied Mathematics
Information Technology

(2) A candidate who demonstrates in an interview with the Coordinating Committee that he already has expertise in the topics covered in the first-year of the Course, may be allowed on the advice of the Coordinating Committee to sit for a written Qualifying Examination covering

these topics. If successful the candidate shall be allowed to join the Course at second year.

(3) A candidate who has other comparable qualifications considered to be sufficient, may be exempted by the University Admissions Board, on the advice of the Coordinating Committee and the Board, from the whole or part of the Requirements as mentioned in 4 (1) and 4 (2).

Course Structure

5. (1) The Course shall normally extend over a period of two years of part-time study, and shall be divided into two parts: Part One and Part Two. Both parts of the Course comprise study-units in Informatics, Computer Science, and Computer Systems Engineering. The aim of Part One is to lay a basic foundation to Information Technology. The second year refines the spirit of the first year by exposing students to foundation topics in some detail.

(2) Part One and Part Two of the Course are structured to be self-contained: with Part Two presupposing knowledge of the material covered in Part One. Candidates who have obtained a minimum of 12 credits in Part One of the Course and opt not to proceed to Part Two shall be awarded a Certificate.

(3) The Departments of Computer Information Systems, Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence, and Communication and Computer Engineering, shall be responsible, respectively, for the Informatics, Computer Science, and Computer Systems Engineering study-units.

(4) The Course shall consist of study-units to which no less than 30 credits are assigned. The credits are divided equally between Part One and Part Two.

(5) The Coordinating Committee shall publish a catalogue of study-units for each year of the Course prior to the commencement of each academic year.

(6) The Board may exempt a candidate from the requirement of

obtaining a study-unit if he has obtained from the University, or an institution recognised by Senate for the purpose, a qualification the study of which is, in the opinion of the Board, at least comparable to that required for the study-unit concerned.

Assessment and Progress

6. (1) Students are expected in each Part of the Course to register for study-units to which no less than 15 credits are assigned.

(2) Study-units shall be tested at the end of the semester in which they are given.

(3) Study-units are assigned the following grades in descending order of merit: A+, A, B+, B, C+, C, D+, D and F where F indicates Fail. The grades may also take into account the student's performance in course-work, oral and written assignment as deemed appropriate by the Board on the advice of the respective responsible department.

(4) In Part One, a student who fails to obtain the credit or credits for a study-unit in the first sitting is allowed to be re-assessed in that study-unit only once. In the re-assessment, the grade awarded shall not exceed grade D.

(5) In Part One, supplementary written tests are held only in September.

(6) In Part One, a student who after re-assessment fails to obtain at least 12 credits and an average Grade D in Part One study-units shall not be awarded a Certificate and shall not be allowed to proceed to the next year.

(7) Part One students who according to 6 (6), are eligible, but, do not wish to proceed to Part Two shall be graded on the basis of their average performance in their study-units, in descending order of merit: Distinction, Merit and Pass. These students shall be awarded the Certificate in Information Technology.

(8) A student who wishes to join the course at Part Two shall be expected, as deemed necessary by the Board, to sit tests in the September re-

sit session which shall, in such cases, act as the Qualifying Examination according to Regulation 5 (2).

(9) In Part Two, a student who fails to obtain at least 10 credits in the first sitting shall not be awarded a Diploma. There shall not be resit session for Part Two study-units.

(10) Part Two students, who are not restricted by 6 (9) above, shall be graded on the basis of their average performance in their Part Two study-units, in descending order of merit: Distinction, Merit and Pass. Students who fail to obtain at least an average Grade D in Part Two study-units shall fail in the Diploma, but, shall be awarded a Certificate if they satisfy 6 (7) above. Those who obtain at least a Pass shall be awarded the Diploma in Information Technology.

Award of the Certificate and Diploma

7. (1) The names of all candidates who qualify for the award of the Certificate or Diploma shall be published in a list in alphabetical order in one of the classifications:

Distinction
Merit
Pass

(2) Candidates who obtain a Merit or Distinction in the Diploma shall be eligible to join the B.Sc. (Hons.) Information Technology degree programme in the second year.