VERŻJONI ELETTRONIKA

L.N. 479 of 2010

EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)

Bye-Laws of 2010 in terms of the General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2008 for the Degree of International Master of Arts in Conflict Resolution and Mediterranean Security – M.A. - under the auspices of the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies

IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred upon him by articles 74 (5) and 75 (6) of the Education Act (Cap. 327), the Chancellor of the University of Malta has promulgated the following bye-laws made by the Board of the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies in virtue of the powers conferred upon it by article 81(1) of the said Act and which have been approved by the Senate of the University of Malta as required by section 81(2) of the said Act:

Citation and Interpretation

1. (1) These bye-laws may be cited as the Bye-Laws of 2010 in terms of the General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2008 for the degree of International Master of Arts in Conflict Resolution and Mediterranean Security – M.A. – offered under the auspices of the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies.

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

"the Board" means the Board of Studies appointed by Senate on the recommendation of the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies after consultation with the Partner University;

"the Course" means the programme of study leading to the degree of International Master of Arts in Conflict Resolution and Mediterranean Security – M.A.;

"the Degree" means the double degree of Master of Arts in Conflict Resolution and Mediterranean Security – M.A. – of the University and the Master of Science in Conflict Analysis and Resolution of the Partner University;

"the Partner University" means George Mason University, USA;

"the Postgraduate Diploma" means the Postgraduate Diploma in Conflict Resolution and Mediterranean Security;

"the Principal Regulations" means the General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2008;

"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's degree of the 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 degree programme. The Degree shall only be awarded if both universities declare the student to be eligible for its award.

Applicability

2. These bye-laws shall be applicable for courses commencing in October 2010 or later.

Requirements for Admission

3. The Course shall be open to applicants in possession of a first cycle degree obtained with a second class honours or better classification, or an equivalent classification.

Course Duration

4. The Course shall extend over a period of three semesters of full-time study.

Programme of Study

5. (1) The programme of study shall comprise study-units to which a total of 90 credits are assigned, of which 60 credits are assigned to taught study-units and 30 credits are assigned to the dissertation study-unit.

(2) Students who obtain the 60 credits assigned to taught study-units with an average mark of at least 50% and do not proceed with the Course, or having proceeded do not successfully complete the Course, shall be eligible for the award of the Postgraduate Diploma.

(3) The programme of study shall be published after approval by Senate, normally not less than eight months prior to the commencement of the Course.

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Assessment and Progress

6. (1) The assessment of each taught study-unit shall be completed by the end of the semester in which the teaching of the study-unit is held.

(2) Students who in any academic year fail in the assessment of not more than five taught study-units shall be given the opportunity to re-sit the failed assessments at the next scheduled examination session (May or September).

(3) Students who fail in more than the number of study-units permitted under paragraph (2) of this bye-law, or students who after re-assessment fail to obtain credit for any study-unit, shall be deemed to have failed the Course.

Dissertation

7. (1) Students shall be required to submit an individual dissertation of not less than 25,000 words, in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Board.

(2) Work on 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 regular basis during the period of study.

(3) 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.

8. (1) Students shall be required to have regular contact with their supervisor.

(2) Supervisors shall submit to the Board progress reports for each student under their supervision. Such reports may include a recommendation to either (a) extend the period of study in order to enable the student to complete the dissertation; or (b) terminate studies prematurely 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 in accordance with the provisions of Principal Regulations; and

(ii) the Board may not terminate studies prematurely according to (b) until it has first given the student a chance to be heard.

9. (1) Each dissertation shall be examined by a Board of Examiners composed of at least four examiners representing both partner institutions.

(2) Students may be required to take a *viva voce* examination to defend their dissertation and this may also be conducted using electronic means of communication if so approved by the Board.

(3) 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 later than four months from notification of the decision by the Board of Examiners.

Classification of the Awards

10. The Final Weighted Average Mark for the purpose of the classification of the Postgraduate Diploma and the Degree shall be based on the results obtained in all the components of the programme of study, all credits being weighted equally.

Testimonial of the Award

11. 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.

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