VERŻJONI ELETTRONIKA

B 5680

L.N. 483 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 Master of Psychology in Clinical Psychology – M.Psy. (Clin.) – or in Counselling Psychology – M.Psy. (Couns.) – or in Educational Psychology – M.Psy. (Ed.) – under the auspices of the Faculty of Education

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 Faculty of Education 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 article 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 Master of Psychology in Clinical Psychology – M.Psy. (Clin.) – or in Counselling Psychology – M.Psy. (Couns.) – or in Educational Psychology – M.Psy. (Ed.) – under the auspices of the Faculty of Education.

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

"the Board" means the Board of the Faculty of Education;

"the Course" means the programme of study leading to the degree of Master of Psychology in Clinical Psychology - M.Psy. (Clin.) or in Counselling Psychology - M.Psy. (Couns.) or in Educational Psychology - M.Psy. (Ed.);

"the Degree" means the Degree of Master of Psychology in Clinical Psychology - M.Psy. (Clin.) - or in Counselling Psychology - M.Psy. (Couns.) – or in Educational Psychology - M.Psy. (Ed.);

"the Postgraduate Diploma" means the Postgraduate Diploma in Psychology; and

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

Applicability

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

Areas of Specialisation

3. The Course shall be offered in the following areas of specialisation: Clinical Psychology, Counselling Psychology and Educational Psychology.

Requirements for Admission

4. (1) The Course shall be open to applicants in possession of the following qualifications:

(a) a Bachelor degree in Psychology with at least Second Class Honours (Upper Division), or an equivalent qualification from this or another university; or

(b) a Bachelor degree in Psychology obtained with at least Category IIA or another degree in a related area obtained with at least Second Class Honours (Upper Division),
provided that all candidates applying in terms of this paragraph would have successfully completed additional study-units in Psychology as approved by the Board, which together are deemed to be comparable to the qualification indicated in paragraph (a) of this bye-law.

(2) Applicants referred to in paragraph (1) of this bye-law are also required to have a minimum of 2400 hours of experience in a clinical or counselling or educational setting. This experience should normally be obtained after applicants have been awarded the Honours degree in psychology.

(3) Senate, on the recommendation of the Board, shall determine the number of applicants that may be allowed to register in any of the three areas of specialisation indicated in bye-law 3. The Board shall announce the number of available places in each area of specialisation at the time of the call for applications.

(4) The Board shall select applicants according to the following criteria, which shall be weighted as follows:

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(a) degree type and classification - 20%;
(b) work experience in the area or a related field - 15%;
(c) professional aptitude and disposition – 55%; and
(d) references – 10%.

(5) (a) Professional aptitude and disposition shall be measured by means of exercises involving (i) role play with a client, (ii) group discussion, and (iii) personal interview.

(b) Applicants who obtain less than 60% for the professional aptitude and disposition criterion shall automatically not be admitted into the Course.

(6) If the number of applicants who satisfy the selection criteria exceeds the number of available places, applicants shall be accepted according to merit.

(7) The interviewing board appointed by the Board shall be composed of at least three members.

Course Duration

5. The Course shall extend over four semesters of full-time study or the equivalent in part-time study.

Programme of Study

6. (1) The programme of study for each area of specialisation shall comprise study-units to which a total of 120 credits are assigned, of which 90 credits are assigned to taught study-units and 30 credits assigned to the dissertation study-unit.

(2) Students who obtain 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 dissertation, shall be eligible for the award of the Postgraduate Diploma.

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

Assessment and Progress

7. (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.

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(2) Students who in any academic year fail in the assessment of not more than 20 credits, if following the full-time Course, or not more than 10 credits if following the part-time Course, shall be given the opportunity to re-sit the failed assessments during the September supplementary examination session,
provided that students who fail in a study-unit involving a placement that requires assessment over a period of time shall not have the right to a supplementary assessment and shall be required to withdraw from the Course.

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

Dissertation

8. (1) Students shall be required to submit an individual dissertation of approximately 25,000 words in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Board.

(2) Work on the dissertation shall be undertaken during the fourth 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) A provisional title of the dissertation and a detailed research proposal shall be submitted to the Board for approval by the end of the second semester.

9. (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 at the end of each semester of studies, whether the student is following the Course on a full-time or a part-time basis. 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 the 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.

Classification of the Awards

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

Special Provisions for Part-Time Courses

11. The provisions of the foregoing bye-laws shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to Courses followed on a part-time basis, and subject to such changes as may reasonably be deemed by the Board as necessary due to the part-time nature of the Course.

Repeal

12. The Regulations of 1998 for the degree of Master of Psychology in Clinical Psychology or in Counselling Psychology or in Educational Psychology, under the auspices of the Faculty of Education, published as Legal Notice 83 of 1998, shall be deemed to cease to be in force as from 1st October 2010, provided that students registered for this Course before October 2010 shall continue to be governed by the regulations that were in force at the time of their joining the course.

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