VERŻJONI ELETTRONIKA

L.N. 148 of 2011

EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)

Doctor of Sacred Theology - S.Th.D. – Course Regulations, 2011 under the auspices of the Faculty of Theology

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 regulations made by the Senate of the University of Malta by virtue of the powers conferred upon it by articles 75 and 79 of the said Act:

Citation and Interpretation

1. (1) These regulations may be cited as the Doctor of Sacred Theology - S.Th.D. – Course Regulations, 2011 under the auspices of the Faculty of Theology.

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

"the Board" means the Board of the Faculty of Theology;

"the Degree" means the degree of Doctor of Sacred Theology – S.Th.D.;

"the Faculty" means the Faculty of Theology;

"the Ph.D. Regulations" means the Doctor of Philosophy - Ph.D. - Degree Regulations, 2008; and

"the Senate" means the Senate of the University of Malta.

Applicability

2. These regulations shall be applicable as from October 2010 onwards.

Eligibility for the Award of the Degree

3. To be eligible for the award of the Degree students must:

(a) submit a thesis showing that they are capable of undertaking scientific research and containing an original contribution to theological sciences;

(b) successfully defend their thesis orally in public;

(c) publish their thesis in whole or in part; and

VERŻJONI ELETTRONIKA

(d) satisfy any other requirements prescribed in any other relevant Statutes, Regulations and Bye-Laws of the University.

Requirements for Admission

4. Applicants for the Degree shall be in possession of the degree of Licentiate in Sacred Theology – S.Th.L. - with at least Pass with Merit or a degree or other qualification considered by the Senate as its equivalent on the recommendation of the Board.

5. Applicants shall normally be required to have a thorough reading knowledge of languages of primary and secondary sources.

Areas of Study

6. The main area of study shall be an area of Theology or a related area.

Registration for the Degree

7. Applications for registration for the Degree shall be accepted by Senate, on the recommendations of the Faculty Doctoral Committee and of the Ph.D. Sub-Committee appointed by Senate, in terms of the Ph.D. Regulations, under those conditions as Senate deems fit to impose.

Duration of Studies

8. (1) The thesis shall be presented within a period of not less than three and not more than six years from the date of approval of its subject by the Senate. Such period may, in special circumstances, be extended by Senate, if, on the recommendation of the Board, Senate deems it so appropriate.

(2) On the recommendation of the Board and the Ph.D. Sub-Committee, Senate may grant students an extension of studies of up to two years in order to enable them to complete their studies, irrespective of whether they are registered on a full-time or a part-time basis.

Faculty Doctoral Committee

9. The Faculty Doctoral Committee appointed for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy of the Faculty of Theology in terms of the Ph.D. Regulations, shall consider applications for the Degree and shall make its recommendations to Senate, through the Ph.D. Sub-Committee.

VERŻJONI ELETTRONIKA

Supervision and Students' Progress

10. Senate shall, on the recommendation of the Board, after approval of the subject of the thesis, appoint a principal supervisor, who shall normally be a member of the permanent teaching staff of the Faculty, to direct and supervise the work of the student.

11. Principal supervisors shall be required to submit a written report to the Board, through the Faculty Doctoral Committee, every June for all students under their supervision.

12. Students shall only be allowed to proceed with their studies subject to satisfactory progress reports from their principal supervisor. If the report is negative, the Board shall make recommendations to Senate on the student's continuing registration for the Degree.

13. Students registered at the Faculty may be required to participate in the Faculty's research and teaching programmes.

Board of Examiners

14. A Board of Examiners, composed of a chairperson, an external examiner and two other examiners, shall be appointed by Senate, on the recommendation of the Board.

Thesis Presentation and Format

15. Students shall be required to inform the Faculty that they will be submitting their thesis for examination not less than three months before the submission deadline.

16. The Board shall approve and publish guidelines on the format and presentation of the thesis for the Degree.

17. (1) Students shall be required to submit a loose bound copy of their thesis for each member of the Board of Examiners, together with a copy in digital format. The officer in charge of the Faculty shall issue a dated receipt.

(2) On successful completion of their studies, students shall be required to submit to the Faculty three hard bound copies of the thesis and one copy in digital format within six weeks from the publication of their result. One copy of the thesis shall be kept in the Library of the department and another at the University Library. Students who do not comply with this bye-law shall not be awarded the Degree.

Classification and Publication of Results

18. The names of students whose thesis has been accepted and who have been successful in its public defence shall be published in a list in alphabetical order classified as follows:

Pass with Distinction (*Summa Cum Laude*)
Pass with Merit (*Magna Cum Laude*)
Pass (*Bene Probatus*).

19. A student who fails to satisfy the Board of Examiners in the public defence may, at the discretion of the Board of Examiners and with the permission of the Board, be re-examined orally within a period of six months. Such permission shall be granted once only.

General Provision

20. In matters not provided for by these regulations, the Board shall be guided by the provisions of the Doctor of Philosophy - Ph.D. - Degree Regulations, 2008, published as Legal Notice 293 of 2008, as applicable.

Repeal

21. The Regulations of 1994 for the degree of *Sacrae Theologiae Doctor* - S.Th.D. - under the auspices of the Faculty of Theology, published as Legal Notice 31 of 1994, shall be deemed to cease to be in force as from 1st October 2010, provided that students registered for this degree before 1st October 2010 shall continue to be governed by the regulations that were in force at the time of their registering for the degree.

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