

L.N. 69 of 1996

**EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)**

**Master of Science in Engineering – M.Sc. – Degree Course
Regulations, 1996**

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 Science in Engineering – M.Sc. – Degree Course Regulations, 1996.

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

“the Board” means the Board of the Faculty of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering;

“the Course” means the course leading to the Degree;

“the Degree” means the Degree of Master of Science in Engineering - M.Sc.;

Applicability

2. These regulations shall apply to the courses starting in 1994 or later.

General

3. (1) The Degree may be obtained in an area of study in which expert guidance and supervision is available within the faculty of mechanical and Electrical Engineering.

(2) The examination shall comprise a minimum of nine hours of written papers and a dissertation.

(3) In exceptional circumstances a full-time candidate may be exempted by senate from part or all of the written examination papers and be awarded the Degree on the result of documented continuous assessment of directed studies and on the examination of the dissertation and or oral examination in the field of research relating to the dissertation.

Qualifications for admission

4. Before being registered for the Course a candidate must be approved by the Board and shall be required to possess:

- (a) a B. Eng. (Hons.) degree with at least second Class Honours; or
- (b) a B.Sc. Degree in appropriate subjects with at least a second Category;
or
- (c) an equivalent degree qualification approved by senate on the recommendation of the Board.

Registration

5. (1) Candidate shall be required to complete the Course in not less than two and not more than three years of full-time study.

(2) A candidate may, by permission of the Board, register on a part-time basis. In this case, candidates shall be required to complete the Course in not less than three and not more than four years.

(3) A candidate, whether full-time or part-time, shall be required to re-register at the beginning of each academic year.

Coursework and examination

6. (1) The syllabus shall in each case be determined by the Board at the time of application to join the Course in the light of recommendations by the Head of the relevant department.

(2) Subject to paragraph (3) of regulation 3 a candidate shall be required to pass the written examination before presenting the dissertation.

(3) Without prejudice to paragraphs (1) and (2) of regulation 5 a candidate who fails any written examination under paragraph (2) of this regulation may be allowed by the Board, on the recommendation of the examining board, to sit for such further examinations as the Board may determine within a period of not more than twelve calendar months.

Supervision

7. (1) On registering for the Course a candidate shall submit for approval by the Board the name of a member of the academic staff of the Faculty who has accepted to act as supervisor.

(2) Before the end of the first academic year of the Course a candidate shall submit a dissertation topic for approval by the Board.

(3) The supervisor shall be required to submit regular reports on the candidate and shall refer to the Board any candidate whose work and progress is considered unsatisfactory. The supervisor must refer for the approval of the Board any substantial modification in the title or content of the projected dissertation. A dissertation may not normally be submitted to an examining board without the approval of the supervisor.

Dissertation

8. (1) Every dissertation presented for the Degree shall:

(a) be work of an original nature or an original appraisal of existing published data and knowledge in a particular area;

(b) satisfy the examining board as regards content and presentation; and

(c) fulfil the relevant guidelines as regards format and length.

(2) No dissertation shall be accepted which is identical in substance with a dissertation already submitted for a degree in this or any other University. No candidate, however, shall be precluded from incorporating such previous dissertation work as may be necessary to the presentation and fuller understanding of the exposition, provided that the nature and extent of such incorporation are clearly indicated in the dissertation itself.

(3) Each candidate shall present three copies of the dissertation, one of which shall be retained in the University Library, another one in the custody of the Department concerned, and the third returned to the candidate after the examination.

Examiners

9. (1) There shall be an examining board composed of at least three examiners one of whom shall normally be an external examiner from another institution, and another the candidate's supervisor. The examiners may require the candidate to defend the dissertation orally before them or before such other persons as the Board may appoint.

(2) The examiners for the written papers may be other than those of the dissertation.

Referrals

10. (1) A candidate who fails in any written paper may apply to the Board for a resit. No candidate shall be allowed to resit the written examination more than once.

(2) A candidate whose dissertation is found inadequate may be required by the examining board to rewrite the dissertation in whole or in part and to re-submit it for examination. In no case shall the candidate be allowed to resubmit the dissertation earlier than three months from the notification of the examining board's decision.

Results

11. The published results shall take into account all parts of the examination including the dissertation, and successful candidates shall be awarded the Degree in one of the two categories, Passed with Distinction or Passed.