VERŻJONI ELETTRONIKA

L.N. 350 of 2011

EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)

Master of Science in Orthodontics Degree Course Regulations, 2011

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 Master of Science in Orthodontics Degree Course Regulations, 2011.

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

"the Board" means the Board of the Faculty of Dental Surgery;

"the Course" means the programme of study leading to the degree of Master of Science in Orthodontics;

"the Degree" means the Master of Science in Orthodontics;

"the Joint Examination Board" means the board appointed and governed in accordance with the terms of reference of the Partner University's Academic Board;

"the Partner University" means King's College, London and its permitted successors and assigns;

"the Senate" means the Senate of the University of Malta; and

"the University" means the University of Malta.

(3) This Degree is a joint degree of this University and this shall be taken to mean that the Course is taught at the University and at the Partner University within the framework of a joint degree programme. The Degree shall only be awarded if both universities declare the student to be eligible for the award.

Applicability

2. These regulations shall apply to the Course starting in October 2010.

Qualifications for Admission

3. (1) Applicants shall be in possession of the degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery or equivalent, together with at least two years' post-qualification experience.

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(2) Applicants are to apply online at the website of the Partner University and shall be selected according to criteria agreed to and published by both universities.

Course Duration

4. The Course shall extend over three consecutive years (including two summer semesters) of full-time study.

Programme of Study

5. (1) The programme of study comprises study-units totalling 90 ECTS credits, of which 60 ECTS credits are assigned to taught and clinical study-units and 30 ECTS credits to the dissertation study-unit.

(2) The programme also comprises an additional 150 ECTS credits of supervised clinical work to be undertaken during the entire period of study.

(3) The Board of Studies shall draw up a catalogue of all study-units. The catalogue shall indicate the level, code, title, description and type of each study-unit, the credits assigned to each study-unit and the methods of teaching and assessment.

(4) The programme of study shall be published by the Board prior to the commencement of the Course, following approval by Senate.

(5) Students may be required to spend study periods at the Partner University.

Assessment and Progress

6. (1) Students must maintain a satisfactory level of performance in the study-units involving supervised clinical work in order to be allowed to enrol for the next year of the Course. The supervised clinical work shall be assessed on a Pass/Fail basis.

(2) In order to proceed to Year 3 of the Course, students must obtain the 30 ECTS credits assigned to the theoretical study-units covered during Years 1 and 2 of the Course and examined at the end of Year 2. Credits shall be awarded to students who pass the assessment of the study-units with a mark of at least 50%. The following bands shall be used for grading:

70 - 100% Distinction
60 - 69% Merit
50 - 59% Pass
0 - 49% Fail

(3) Students who fail (obtaining 49% or less) in any study-unit shall be allowed to resit the failed assessment at a supplementary session once only.

7. Students wishing to submit 'mitigating circumstances' for not reaching the appropriate standard for any examination taken whilst undertaking the Programme shall be considered by a Joint Examination Board. It shall be at the sole discretion of the Joint Examination Board whether and to what extent the mitigating circumstances are accepted.

8. Students wishing to defer entry to any of the examination processes shall submit the reasons for this to the Joint Examination Board and it shall be at the sole discretion of the Joint Examination Board whether such deferral is accepted.

Dissertation

9. (1) Students shall be required to submit an individual dissertation of approximately 8,000-9,000 words and no more than 25,000 words in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Board.

(2) The provisional title of the dissertation and a detailed research proposal shall be submitted to the Board for approval at the end of the first semester.

(3) Each student shall be assigned a supervisor who shall provide guidance and advice on a regular basis during the period of study. Work on the dissertation may be undertaken after approval of the research proposal.

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

(2) Supervisors shall submit to the Board regular 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 not exceed six months; and

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

11. (1) A dissertation presented for the Degree shall:

(a) be work of an advanced or original nature in the student's area of study;

(b) satisfy the Joint Examination Board as regards content and presentation; and

(c) fulfil the requirements stipulated in the guidelines approved by the Joint Examination Board as regards format and length.

(2) No dissertation shall be accepted which is identical in substance to a document already submitted for a degree of this or any other university or to any other published material. Students shall, however, not be precluded from incorporating such

previous work as may be necessary to the presentation and fuller understanding of their exposition, provided that the nature and extent of such incorporation are clearly indicated in the dissertation itself.

12. (1) Each dissertation shall be examined by a Joint Examination Board composed of three examiners, one from each institution and an external examiner from another institution as agreed by both universities.

(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 Joint Examination Board.

(3) Students whose dissertation is found unsatisfactory may either fail or may be required by the Joint Examination Board 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 three months from notification of the decision by the Joint Examination Board.

Classification of the Award

13. For the purpose of the classification of the Degree, the Final Weighted Average shall be based on the marks obtained in the programme of study described in regulation 5.

14. (1) The names of students who qualify for the award of the Degree shall be published in a list in alphabetical order classified as follows:

Pass with Distinction
Pass.

(2) The Award Classification Board shall consult the following guidelines when deciding upon the final classification of the Degree:

Final Weighted Average Mark	**Classification**
70 – 100%	Pass with Distinction
50 – 69%	Pass

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