VERŻJONI ELETTRONIKA

L.N. 25 of 2012

EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)

Bye-Laws of 2012 in terms of the General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2008 for the Degree of International Master of Arts in Transcultural Counselling - M.A. - 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 section 81(2) of the said Act:

Citation and Interpretation

1. (1) These bye-laws may be cited as the Bye-Laws of 2012 in terms of the General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2008 for the degree of International Master of Arts in Transcultural Counselling – M.A. – offered under the auspices of the Faculty of Education.

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

"the Board of Studies" means the Board of Studies as appointed by the Board of the Faculty of Education after consultation with the Partner University;

"the Course" means the programme of study leading to the degree of International Master of Arts in Transcultural Counselling – M.A.;

"the Degree" means the degree of Master of Arts in Transcultural Counselling – M.A.;

"the Partner University" means the University of Maryland, USA;

"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.

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(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 2011 or later.

Requirements for Admission

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

(2) All applicants shall be required to demonstrate that they have the necessary aptitude and disposition to follow the Course with profit.

(3) (a) Professional aptitude and disposition shall be measured by means of exercises involving (i) group discussion, and (ii) a personal interview.

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

(4) Senate, on the advice of the Board of Studies, may limit the number of students to be admitted to the Course. When the number is so limited and the number of eligible applicants exceeds the number of places available, applicants shall be selected during an interview, according to the following criteria, agreed to by both universities and published at the time of the call for applications:

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

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

Course Duration

4. The Course shall extend over a period of three semesters of full-time study and an additional six months for a supervised clinical component.

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Programme of Study

5. (1) The programme of study shall comprise study-units to which a total of 120 ECTS credits are assigned, of which 90 ECTS credits are assigned to taught and clinical study-units and 30 ECTS credits to the dissertation study-unit.

(2) The programme 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

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 taught study-unit, shall be deemed to have failed the Course.

(4) Students must maintain a satisfactory level of performance in the study-unit/s involving supervised clinical work which shall be assessed on a Pass/Fail basis.

(5) Students who fail to obtain a Pass in the supervised clinical component shall not have the right to a supplementary assessment and shall be required to re-do the work during an additional year of studies. Such an additional year shall not be counted for the purpose of Course duration.

Dissertation

7. (1) Students shall be required to submit an individual dissertation of approximately 20,000 words, in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Board of Studies.

(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 of Studies 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 of Studies 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 of Studies 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 of Studies.

(3) Students whose dissertation is found unsatisfactory may either fail or may 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 six months from notification of the decision of the Board of Examiners.

Classification of the Award

10. The Final Weighted Average Mark for the purpose of the classification of 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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