L.N. 107 of 1994

EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)

The Master of Science — M.Sc. — Degree Course Regulations, 1994

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 — M.Sc. — Degree Course Regulations, 1994.

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

"the Course" means the Course leading to the Degree of Master of Science — M.Sc.;

"the Degree" means the Degree of Master of Science — M.Sc.

Applicability

2. These regulations shall apply to courses starting in 1991 or later.

General

3. The Degree shall be offered in an area of study in which expert guidance and supervision is available within the Faculty of Science.

Qualifications for Admission

4. Before being admitted to read for the Degree, a candidate must have been approved by the Faculty Board, and shall be required to possess the degree of B.Sc. of this University (normally at least Category 2B) or another degree, provided that the Faculty Board is satisfied that the course leading up to it involves studies equivalent to those required for admission on the basis of a B.Sc. qualification as aforesaid.

Duration of Course

5. (1) The duration of the Course shall not normally be less than two and not more than three academic years of full-time study.

(2) A candidate may by permission of the Faculty Board register on a part-time basis. In this case, the duration of the Course shall not normally be less than three and not more than four academic 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 Faculty Board of Science at the time of application to join the Course, in the light of recommendations by the Head of the relevant department.

(2) The examination for the Degree shall comprise nine hours of written papers and a dissertation. In the case of Mathematics, the dissertation may be substituted by further written papers.

(3) Before presenting the dissertation a candidate shall be required to have passed the written examinations.

(4) A candidate who fails any written examination under paragraph (3) of this regulation may be allowed by the Faculty Board, on the recommendation of the Examining Board, to take such further examinations as the Faculty 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 Faculty Board the name of a member of staff who has accepted to act as his supervisor.

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

(3) The supervisor shall be required to submit regular reports on the candidate to the Head of the relevant Department and shall refer to the Faculty Board any candidate whose work and progress is considered unsatisfactory. The supervisor shall refer for the approval of the Faculty 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;

(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 shall, however, be precluded from incorporating such previous dissertation work as may be necessary to the presentation and fuller understanding of his expositon, provided that the nature and extent of such incorporation are clearly indicated in the dissertation itself.

(3) The 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 four examiners, one of whom shall normally be an external examiner from another institution, and, another the candidate's supervisor. The Examining Board may require the candidate to defend the dissertation orally before them, or before such other persons as the Faculty Board may appoint.

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

Referrals

10. (1) A candidate who fails in any written paper may apply to the Faculty 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 re-submit the dissertation earlier than three months from the notification of the Examining Board's decision.

Final 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.

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