L.N. 120 of 1993

EDUCATION ACT, 1988
(ACT No. XXIV of 1988)

The Bachelor of Arts — B.A. — Degree Course Regulations, 1993

IN exercise of the powers conferred upon him by sections 28(5) and 29(6) of the Education Act, 1988, the Chancellor of the University of Malta has promulgated the following regulations made by the Senate of the University in virtue of the powers conferred upon it by sections 29 and 33 of the said Act:

THE BACHELOR OF ARTS — B.A. — DEGREE COURSE REGULATIONS, 1993

Citation and Interpretation

1. (1) These regulations may be cited as the Bachelor of Arts — B.A. — Degree Course Regulations, 1993.

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

"the Course" means the Course leading to the Degree of Bachelor of Arts — B.A.;

"the Degree" means the Degree of Bachelor of Arts — B.A.

Applicability

2. These regulations shall be applicable to Courses starting in October 1990 or later.

Eligibility for the Degree

3. To be eligible for the Degree a candidate must have:

(a) registered for and successfully completed the full course of studies as provided in these regulations;

(b) passed the Final Examinations for the Degree; and

(c) satisfied all the other requirements laid down in these regulations and any other relevant statutes, regulations and bye-laws of this University.

Special Course Requirements

4. (1) A candidate may be registered for the Course if he:

(a) is eligible for admission to the University as a regular student in terms of the Admission Regulations of the University; and

(b) in the case of a candidate taking Maltese, English, French, Italian or Mathematics as a principal or secondary area of study, he has obtained at least Grade C at the Advanced Level Matriculation Examination of this University or its

equivalent in the subject of his choice provided that in the case of Maltese and Italian such Grade shall be that of the Advanced Level Matriculation Examination of this University.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of the foregoing paragraph, University graduates, students over 23 years or other students whose qualifications are considered sufficient by the Faculty Board, may be exempted from any of the requirements for admission to the course.

Course structure

5. (1) The course shall consist of two Parts as follows:

(a) Part One normally extends over a period of two years. It incorporates all introductory and basic courses in Arts and is common to both the B.A. and B.A. (Hons.) students;

(b) Part Two normally extends over a period of one year. It incorporates mainly advanced courses in the principal and secondary subjects.

(2) A student shall qualify for Part Two if he has obtained a Pass Grade or better in the assessment of Part One, but he has to re-register.

(3) A student may be allowed to re-register and proceed provisionally to Part II if he lacks not more than four of the required credits or, if he has been on a long study-visit abroad, officially recognised by the Faculty Board, at another institution of tertiary education, not more than six such credits, provided that, in either case, the student shall obtain such credits before taking the Final Examinations.

(4) With the approval of Senate, the Faculty Board may exempt a student from credits already obtained for a course of studies at this or another recognised university, provided that such credits are equivalent in content and level to the ones for which an exemption is requested. In no case may an exemption be given for more than one third of the total number of credits required by these regulations.

(5) A student who has obtained Grade B or better in the overall assessment of Part I in a principal area of study may, instead of proceeding to Part Two of the Course, opt to register for a course of studies leading to the B.A. (Hons.) Degree in the same area.

(6) A student may not take the Final Examinations earlier than three years or later than four years from first admission to the course, except with the permission of Senate given in special circumstances.

(7) The Faculty Board may allow a student, who for good and sufficient reason cannot follow the first year of the Course on a full-time basis, to take two years to cover that part of the Course normally covered during the first year, under such conditions as the Faculty Board may in each case determine.

Course of Studies

6. (1) Part One of the course shall consist of study-units to which not less than 45 credits are assigned.

(2) To complete Part One a student must obtain:

(a) 16 credits in History of Mediterranean Civilisation;

(b) 12 credits in a principal area of study;

(c) either 12 credits in another principal area of study or 6 credits in each of two secondary areas of study;

(d) at least 5 other credits from approved areas of study including the areas of study already chosen.

(3) Part Two of the Course shall consist of study-units to which not less than 19 credits are assigned.

(4) To complete Part Two a student must obtain:

(a) 8 credits in a principal area of study;

(b) either 8 credits in another principal area of study or 4 credits in each of two secondary areas of study; and

(c) at least 3 other credits from approved areas of study, including the areas of study already chosen.

(5) The following shall be the approved areas of study:

(a) those which may be taken as principal or secondary areas of study namely: Arabic, Archaeology, Art, Classical Culture and Civilisation, Classics, Communication Studies, Contemporary Mediterranean Studies, Economics, English, French, Greek, History, International Relations, Italian, Latin, Linguistics, Maltese, Mathematics, Music Studies, Philosophy, Psychology, Social Studies, Sociology and Theatre Studies; and

(b) those which may only be taken as secondary areas of study namely: American Studies.

(6) With the approval of Senate, the Faculty Board may allow a student to take another area of study besides those listed in the last foregoing paragraph, not necessarily from within the Faculty of Arts, as a principal or secondary area of study.

(7) The Faculty Board may limit the available options or possible combinations of areas of study which can be chosen as principal or secondary areas of study.

(8) The Faculty Board may designate a combination of specific area of study to establish an identifiable option for a course of studies.

(9) On registering for any part of the Course a student shall be required to register for two principal areas of study or for one principal and two secondary areas of study.

(10) Without prejudice to the last foregoing paragraph, the Faculty Board may allow a student to change one principal or two secondary areas of study during the

first year of Part One of the Course provided that such change is compatible with these regulations.

(11) In the case of a student registering for an area of study provided by another Faculty the student shall be subject to the regulations relating to that Faculty in that area of study as far as assessments and examinations are concerned.

Catalogue of study-units

7. (1) Before the start of each academic year, following its approval by Senate, a catalogue of study-units for each area of study and of the credits assigned to each study-unit shall be published by the Faculty Board.

(2) The catalogue shall give details of the study-units in each area of study specifically mentioned in paragraph (5) of the last preceeding regulation and in any other area of study approved by Senate from time to time.

(3) A study-unit may include, or altogether consist of guided fieldwork in those areas of study where it is appropriate. A student taking such a unit may be required to submit a written report on the fieldwork carried out.

(4) Study-units may be offered at different levels: basic or advanced. The catalogue shall indicate at which level each study-unit is being offered.

(5) The catalogue shall also indicate the method of assessment for each study-unit, which study-units shall be taken concurrently and which study-units are compulsory prerequisites or recommended.

Progress

8. (1) The study-units shall be so arranged that a course of studies can be completed in two years for Part One and one year for Part Two.

(2) In each year of the Course a student shall be required to register for a number of study-units for which a total of not less than 19 and not more than 26 credits are assigned.

(3) Credits shall be assigned according to the grades A, B, C, D, and F in descending order of merit. F indicates Failed.

(4) A student who fails to obtain a credit for a study-unit shall be normally allowed to take one resit only and, if necessary, follow the study-unit again only once. In this case his assessment will be graded either as a "D" or as a "Failed".

(5) A student shall be required to obtain a minimum of 12 credits at an advanced level in each principal area of study chosen and a minimum of 6 in each secondary area of study chosen.

(6) A student who obtains less than 14 credits in any year of the Course shall not be allowed to continue the Course or to take the Final Examinations, except in special circumstances and with the approval of Senate.

(7) A student may not taken a study-unit for which he does not have the prerequisites or without taking the recommended concurrent study-units, except with the permission of the Faculty Board.

Final Examinations

9. (1) Final Examinations shall be held once annually, normally in May-June, and consist of four papers in each principal area of study and two papers in each secondary area of study. A viva voce examination may also be held.

(2) On completing a course of studies a student is required to sit the Final Examinations in the principal and secondary areas of study he has taken and to register for them by the end of March.

(3) For those study-units which end just before the Final Examinations, credits will be awarded to a student on the basis of his performance in those study-units.

Final Results

10. (1) The final results of a student shall take into account his performance in the Final Examinations as well as the credits and grades obtained during his course of studies.

(2) A student shall not qualify for the Degree if he does not pass the Final Examinations.

(3) The Final Examinations shall carry fifty per cent of the weighting for the grading for the final result. The other fifty per cent shall be calculated on the basis of an overall average of the credits obtained. If more than 64 credits are obtained by a student, the best 64 credits satisfying paragraphs (1), (2), (3) and (4) of regulation 6 shall be taken into account.

(4) The names of candidates who qualify for the Degree shall be published in alphabetical order in categories I, IIA, IIB, III and Pass.

Resit

11. Without prejudice to the provisions of paragraph (6) of regulation 5, a student who fails the Final Examinations in one area of study may be allowed by the Faculty Board to retain the mark obtained in the area or areas of study successfully taken and to resit once the Final Examination in such area under such conditions as the Faculty Board may in each case determine. If successful, the student shall be given a Pass mark in this area of study. The final results shall take into account the overall performance of the student, as provided in paragraph (1) of regulation 10.

SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR PART-TIME EVENING COURSES

Registration

12. (1) A candidate who qualifies for admission to the full-time Course under regulation 4 may register for the Evening Course as a regular student on a part-time basis.

(2) The Evening Course shall be governed by the provisions of the foregoing regulations except as provided in this regulation and in the following regulations.

Duration

13. (1) A candidate registered for the Evening Course shall normally be required to complete Part One of the Course in three years and Part Two in two years.

(2) A candidate registered for the Evening Course may not complete the Course in less than eight semesters or more than six academic years after first joining the Course except in special circumstances with the permission of Senate and under such conditions as Senate may in each case determine.

Catalogue of study-units

14. (1) A catalogue of study-units for each area of study and of the credits assigned to each study-unit for the Evening Course shall be published by the Faculty Board before the start of each academic year following its approval by Senate.

(2) The study-units for the Evening Course shall be similar to those stated for the full-time Course under regulation 7 and shall be arranged so that a whole course of studies can be completed in five years.

Progress

15. (1) In each year of the Evening Course a student shall be required to register for a number of study-units for which a total of not less than 8 and not more than 16 credits are assigned.

(2) An Evening Course student who obtains fewer than 6 credits in any one year of the Course shall not be allowed to continue the Course or to take the Final Examinations, except in special circumstances and with the approval of Senate.

Final Examinations

16. (1) The Final Examinations of the Evening Course shall be the same as the Final Examinations of the full-time Course.

(2) On completing the Course a student shall be required to register for the Final Examinations by the end of March. The provisions of paragraph (3) of regulation 9 shall apply to any such student.

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