L.N. 39 of 1991

EDUCATION ACT, 1988
(ACT XXIV OF 1988)

Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine and Surgery — M.D.

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 of Malta in virtue of the powers conferred upon it by section 33 of the said Act:—

Citation

These Regulations may be cited as the Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Medicine and Surgery (M.D.) and shall be applicable to courses starting in October 1988 or later.

REGULATIONS FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY (M.D.)

(applicable to courses starting in October 1988 or later)

Eligibility for Degree

1. To be eligible for the award of the Degree of Doctor of Medicine and Surgery (M.D.) a candidate must:

(a) be registered as a matriculated student in terms of the Admission Regulations of the University;

(b) satisfy the Special Course Requirements in accordance with Regulation 3 below;

(c) complete the course of studies, qualify in the examinations and satisfy any other requirements as prescribed in these Regulations;

(d) satisfy any other requirements prescribed in any other relevant Statutes and Regulations of the University.

Duration of Course

2. The course of studies leading to the degree of Doctor of Medicine and Surgery extends over a period of five years and is divided into two parts: the Intermediate Course of two years' duration; and the Final Course, of three years' duration.

Special Course Requirements

3. To apply for admission to the course leading to the degree of Doctor of Medicine and Surgery a candidate must, besides satisfying the conditions for admission as a regular student in terms of the Admission Regulations of the University, satisfy the following Special Course Requirements:

passes at Advanced Level (two of which at Grade C or better and the other at Grade D or better) in:

(i) Physics or Physics-with-Mathematics or (for October 1988 and October 1990 only) Mathematics

(ii) Chemistry

(iii) Biology or Zoology

in the Matriculation Examination of the University, or at corresponding levels of other examinations recognized by the Senate for the purposes of the Admission Regulations:

Provided that a candidate who is a graduate of a university, or has other qualifications considered to be sufficient, may be exempted by the Admissions Board, on the advice of the Faculty Admissions Committee, from the whole or part of these special course requirements.

Subjects of the Course

4. The subjects of the Intermediate Course are the following:

First Year

Anatomy and Cell Biology
Physiology, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Second Year

Semester I

Anatomy and Cell Biology
Physiology, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Semester II

General Pathology, Microbiology, General Pharmacology and Behavioural Sciences

5. The subjects of the Final Course are the following:

First Year

Pathology
Medicine (incl. Clinical Pharmacology)
Surgery (incl. Orthopaedics)

Second Year

Pathology
Medicine (incl. Clinical Pharmacology)
Surgery
Obstetrics and Gynaecology
Paediatrics
Public Health
Dermatology
Ophthalmology
ENT
Anaesthesia
Psychiatry
Forensic Medicine

Third Year

Medicine (incl. Paediatrics)
Surgery (incl. Orthopaedics)
Obstetrics and Gynaecology

Practical and clinical work shall be carried out throughout the course, including the vacations.

Progress Tests

6. During the course, progress tests shall be held in subjects the teaching of which extends over more than one academic year.

These tests shall be held as follows:

Intermediate Course

At the End of the First Year, in

Anatomy and Cell Biology
Physiology, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

At the End of the Second Year, in

General Pathology and Microbiology
Pharmacology

Final Course

At the End of the First Year, in

Pathology
Medicine (incl. Clinical Pharmacology)
Surgery

At the End of the Second Year, in

Medicine (incl. Clinical Pharmacology)
Surgery
Obstetrics and Gynaecology

7. There shall be two sessions of these tests: one in May/June and one in September.

8. A candidate shall not be allowed to proceed to the following year of the course if the Faculty Board is not satisfied as a result of the tests that the candidate has followed the previous year of the course with profit.

The Intermediate Course

The Intermediate Examination

9. (a) The subjects of the Intermedite Examination are:
Anatomy and Cell Biology
Physiology, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

(b) The examination in Anatomy and Cell Biology shall consist of two three-hour papers and a practical session; the examination in Physiology, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology shall consist of three three-hour papers and a library-project.

Candidates may also be required to take a *viva voce* examination in these subjects.

10. (a) the Intermediate Examination shall be held at the beginning of the Second Semester of the second year of the Intermediate Course.

(b) There shall be a second session of the Examination at the end of the Second Semester.

11. Before being admitted to the Intermediate Examination a candidate must present to the Dean a certificate, signed by the Head of Department concerned, showing that the candidate has completed satisfactorily all assigned work in the subjects concerned.

Result of the Intermediate Examinations

12. In each subject of the Intermediate Examination the names of candidates who have passed the examination shall be published in alphabetical order in each of four groups: A, B, C and D, according to their standard of merit. A candidate whose name does not appear in any of the four groups shall be considered to have failed the examination in the subject concerned.

The published result of the examination in each subject shall take into account all parts of the examination in that subject.

13. A candidate who does not complete the Intermediate Examination in the two prescribed sessions shall be deemed to have failed the Examination as a whole.

14. A candidate who fails the Intermediate Examination may be allowed by the Faculty Board to repeat the second year of the Intermediate Course.

No candidate shall be allowed to repeat the Examination in this manner more than once.

The Final Course

Admission to the Final Course

15. Before being admitted to the Final Course a candidate must pass the Intermediate Examination, or be exempted from it by the Senate on the recommendation of the Faculty Board.

Subject Tests in the Final Course

16. During the Final Course, departmental tests shall be held in each of the following subjects:

At the End of October of the Second Year

Public Health
Forensic Medicine

At the End of January of the Second Year

Psychiatry

In April of the Second Year

Dermatology
Ophthalmology
ENT
Anaesthesia

17. There shall be a second session of each of these tests in the next following September.

Result

18. In each of these subjects the names of candidates who have passed the tests shall be published in alphabetical order in a Pass List.

The result in each subject shall also take into account the work of the candidate in that subject during the course.

19. No candidate shall be allowed to proceed to the following year of the course if he has not passed each test prescribed for the year.

Examination in Pathology

20. (a) There shall be an examination in Pathology at the end of the second year of the Final Course.

(b) There shall be two sessions of this examination: one in June and one in September.

(c) The examination shall consist of two three-hour papers and a practical session.

Candidates may also be required to take a *viva voce* examination.

21. Before being admitted to the examination a candidate must present to the Dean a certificate signed by the Head of Department of Pathology showing that the candidate has completed satisfactorily the schedule of practical work prescribed for that subject.

Result

22. The names of candidates who have passed the examination in Pathology shall be published in alphabetcial order. Exceptional performance shall also be indicated on the list.

The published result shall take into account all parts of the examination in the subject.

23. A candidate shall not be allowed to proceed to the third year of the Final Course if he has not passed the examination in Pathology in the two prescribed sessions.

The Final Examination

24. (a) The subjects of the Final Examination are:
Medicine (incl. Paediatrics)
Surgery
Obstetrics and Gynaecology

(b) The examination in each of these subjects shall consist of two three-hour papers and a clinical session.

Candidates may also be required to take a *viva voce* examination in these subjects.

25. (a) The Final Examination shall be held in June of the third year of the Final Course. There shall be an additional session of the Examination in the following January.

(b) A candidate shall be required to take all the subjects of the Final Examination in one session unless he takes the Examination as provided for in Regulation 28,

26. Before being admitted to the Final Examination a candidate must present to the Dean certificates signed by the Heads of Departments concerned showing that the candidate has completed satisfactorily the schedule of clinical work prescribed for the course.

Result of the Final Examination

27. (a) The names of candidates who have passed the Final Examination at the first June session shall be published in alphabetical order in two categories: 'Passed with

Distinction' and 'Passed'. Exceptional performance in a subject shall also be indicated on the list.

In the other session the names of successful candidates shall be published in alphabetical order in a simple Pass List.

(b) The published result of the Final Examination shall take into account all parts of the examination in the three subjects of the Final Examination itself and the Examination in Pathology, as well as the work done by the candidate during the Final Course.

Reference and Re-examination

28. (a) In the first session of the Final Examination, a candidate who takes all three subjects of the Examination may be referred in one or two subjects. A list of such candidates will be published indicating the subject/s in which each candidate has been referred.

(b) A candidate who has been referred in a subject/s may take the examination in that subject at the next session. If he passes the examination in that subject/s, his name will be included in the list of those who have passed the Final Examination. If he fails, he will be deemed to have failed the Final Examination as a whole.

29. A candidate shall not be allowed to re-sit the Examination, in whole or in part, unless he has followed satisfactorily such courses of studies as the Faculty Board may in each case require.

Re-admission

30. A candidate who does not pass the Final Examination in the two sessions prescribed in Regulation 25(a) may be allowed by the Faculty Board to join the third year of the Final Course at the next occasion and to take the Final Examination again at the end of that course under such conditions as the Faculty Board may in each case impose. Such a candidate may not qualify for a 'Pass with Distinction'.

31. No candidate may be re-admitted to the Final Examination in terms of Regulation 30 more than once.

Interruption of Course

32. Except with the special permission of the Faculty Board a candidate must follow the course from admission to the Intermediate Course up to the Final Examination without interruption or repetition. Permission to interrupt or to repeat any part of the course will normally not be given more than once, except by leave of Senate granted for special reasons.

Applicability

33. These regulations shall apply to courses starting in October 1988 or later.

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