VERŻJONI ELETTRONIKA

L.N. 241 of 2014

EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)

Bye-Laws of 2014 in terms of the Professional Doctorate Degree Course Regulations, 2014 for the Degree of Doctorate in Pharmacy – Pharm.D. – under the auspices of the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery

IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred upon him by article 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 Medicine and Surgery in virtue of the powers conferred upon it by article 81 (1) (c) of the said Act and which have been approved by the Senate of the University of Malta as required by article 81 (2) of the said Act:

Citation and Interpretation

1. (1) These bye-laws may be cited as the Bye-Laws of 2014 in terms of the Professional Doctorate Degree Course Regulations, 2014 for the Degree of Doctorate in Pharmacy – Pharm.D. – under the auspices of the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery.

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

"the Board" means the Board of the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery;

"the Board of Studies" means the Board of Studies for the Course appointed by Senate, on the recommendation of the Board;

"the Degree" means the degree of Doctorate in Pharmacy – Pharm.D.;

"the Faculty" means the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery;

"the Master's Degree" means the Master in Advanced Clinical Pharmacy degree;

"the Postgraduate Diploma" means the Postgraduate Diploma in Advanced Clinical Pharmacy; and

"the Principal Regulations" means the Professional Doctorate Degree Course Regulations, 2014.

Applicability

2. These bye-laws shall be applicable for courses starting in October 2014 or later.

Requirements for Admission

3. (1) Applicants for the Degree offered by the Faculty shall be in possession of the Master of Pharmacy degree obtained from this University or from any other recognised university or a qualification deemed as comparable to the Master of Pharmacy degree by the Board.

(2) Applicants shall also be licensed to practise as a pharmacist with a registering body.

(3) Applicants shall be registered on the Master's Degree in the first instance.

Course Duration

4. The Course shall extend over three years of full-time study or the equivalent in part-time study.

Programme of Study

5. The programme of study for the Degree shall comprise (a) a taught component, comprising study-units to which 60 ECTS credits shall be assigned; (b) a supervised professional practice component; and (c) a research component, comprising a dissertation study-unit.

6. In order to remain registered on the Degree, students must maintain an average mark of 60% in the taught study-units, which average mark shall be computed at the end of the academic year, and obtain a pass in the professional practice component in a yearly assessment.

7. Students who obtain at least 60 ECTS credits for taught study-units and either opt not to proceed with the Course, or having proceeded, do not complete the full programme of study, shall be eligible for the award of the Postgraduate Diploma. Should such students also complete a dissertation to which 30 ECTS credits are assigned, they will be eligible for the award of the Master's degree.

8. The programme of study shall be published after approval by Senate, on the recommendation of the Board, normally not less than eight months prior to the commencement of the Course.

Assessment and Progress

9. (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 full-time academic year, fail in the assessment of not more than 20 ECTS credits for taught units shall be given the opportunity to re-sit the failed assessments once during the September supplementary examination session.

(3) Students who fail in more than the number of credits permitted under paragraph (2) of this bye-law, or students who after re-assessment fail to obtain credit for any study-unit, shall be required to withdraw from the Course.

Professional Practice

10. (1) Students shall be required to carry out professional practice in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Board of Studies.

(2) Students shall be required to pass all the components of the professional practice study-units. If students fail in, or for a valid reason approved by Senate, do not complete, the professional practice study-units or any of the assessment components, they shall be allowed to repeat the study-unit or any of its components during the same year or during an additional year of study.

(3) Students who fail in the re-assessment of any professional practice component or the whole study-unit shall be required to withdraw from the Course.

(4) The Board, upon the recommendation of the Board of Studies, shall appoint a Professional Practice Supervisor, who shall be a practising pharmacist, for each student. Professional Practice Supervisors shall provide guidance and advice on a regular basis during the students` professional practice.

(5) Students shall be required to have regular contact with their Professional Practice Supervisors.

11. Professional Practice Supervisors shall submit to the Board of Studies reports for students under their supervision, at the end of each period of practice.

Submission of Dissertation Proposals and Dissertations

12. Students registered for the Degree shall be required to submit an individual dissertation which shall not exceed 60,000 words, excluding bibliography, appendices and abstract, and which shall be written in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Board of Studies.

13. Students shall be required to submit their dissertation proposal for the Degree to the Board of Studies by the end of the second semester of Year 1.

14. Not less than three months before the submission deadline, students shall be required to inform the Faculty that they will be submitting their dissertation for examination.

15. The Board shall recommend to Senate the appointment of the Board of Examiners for each dissertation, in accordance with the Principal Regulations.

16. The Board shall approve and publish guidelines on the format and presentation of the dissertation for the Degree and for the Master's Degree.

17. (1) Students shall be required to submit a loose bound copy of their dissertation for each member of the Board of Examiners, together with a copy in digital format. The officer in charge of the Faculty shall issue a dated receipt.

(2) On successful completion of their studies, students shall be required to submit to the Faculty three hard bound copies of the dissertation and one copy in digital format within six weeks from the publication of their result. One copy of the dissertation shall be kept in the Library of the Department of Pharmacy and another at the University Library. Students who do not comply with this bye-law shall not be awarded the Degree or the Master's Degree.

Special Provisions for Part-Time Courses

18. The provisions of the foregoing bye-laws shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to courses followed on a part-time basis, and subject to such changes as may reasonably be deemed by the Board as necessary due to the part-time nature of the Course.

General Provision

19. In matters not provided for by these bye-laws, the Board and Senate shall be guided by the provisions of the General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2008, published as Legal Notice 120 of 2008, as applicable.

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