VERŻJONI ELETTRONIKA

L.N. 37 of 2016

EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)

Bye-Laws of 2016 in terms of the General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2008 for the Degree of Master Science in Cognitive Science – M.Sc. - under the auspices of the Faculty of Media and Knowledge Sciences

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 Media and Knowledge Sciences 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 2016 in terms of the General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2008 for the degree of Master of Science in Cognitive Science – M.Sc. - offered under the auspices of the Faculty of Media and Knowledge Sciences.

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

"the Board" means the Board of the Faculty of Media and Knowledge Sciences;

"the Course" means the programme of study leading to the degree of Master of Science in Cognitive Science – M.Sc.;

"the Degree" means the degree of Master of Science in Cognitive Science – M.Sc.;

"the Postgraduate Diploma" means the Postgraduate Diploma in Cognitive Science – P.G. Dip.;

"the Principal Regulations" means the General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2008.

Applicability

2. These bye-laws shall be applicable for courses commencing in October 2015 or later.

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Requirements for Admission

3. The Course shall be open to applicants in possession of a Bachelor's degree from this University, or from any other university approved by Senate for this purpose, obtained with at least Second Class Honours or Category II.

4. All applicants shall be required to submit with their application a letter giving their motivation for applying for this Course, and shall further be required to attend for an interview to assess their suitability to follow the Course with profit.

5. Applicants shall be selected according to the following criteria, the weighting of which shall be published at the time of the call for applications:

(a) classification of the first degree;
(b) experience in the area of the proposed study;
(c) motivation letter; and
(d) performance during the interview.

6. For the purpose of selection, applicants whose qualifications as stipulated in bye-law 3 were obtained by 31 August preceding the commencement of the Course shall be considered first.

7. The interviewing board appointed by the Board shall be composed of at least three members.

8. Senate, on the recommendation of the Board, shall determine the number of applicants that may be allowed to register for the Course, depending on the availability of resources. The number of available places shall be announced at the time of the call for applications.

Course duration

9. The Course shall extend over three semesters of full-time study.

Programme of Study

10. (1) The programme of study shall comprise study-units to which a total of 90 ECTS credits are assigned, of which 60 ECTS credits are assigned to taught study-units and 30 ECTS credits assigned to the dissertation study-unit.

(2) Students who obtain the 60 ECTS credits assigned to the taught study-units and do not proceed with the Course, or having proceeded do not successfully complete the dissertation, shall be eligible for the award of the Postgraduate Diploma.

(3) The programme of study shall be published after approval by Senate, normally not less than eight months prior to the commencement of the Course.

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Assessment and Progress

11. (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 20 ECTS credits shall be given the opportunity to re-sit the failed assessments 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 deemed to have failed the Course.

Dissertation

12. (1) Students shall be required to submit an individual dissertation of up to a maximum of 25,000 words in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Board.

(2) Work on the dissertation shall be undertaken primarily 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) Students must submit a provisional title for the dissertation and a detailed research proposal to the Board for approval by the end of the second semester.

13. (1) Students shall be required to have regular contact with their supervisor.

(2) Supervisors shall submit to the Board progress reports for each student under their supervision at the end of each semester of study, whether the student is following the Course on a full-time or a part-time basis. 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 the Principal Regulations; and

(ii) the Board may not terminate studies prematurely according to (b) until it has first given the student a chance to be heard.

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Classification of Awards

14. The Final Weighted Average Mark for the purpose of the classification of the Postgraduate Diploma and the Degree shall be based on the results obtained in all the components of the programme of study, all credits being weighted equally.

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