VERŻJONI ELETTRONIKA

L.N. 397 of 2018

EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)

Bye-Laws of 2018 in terms of the General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2008 for the Degree of Master of Science in Psychological Studies - M.Sc. - under the auspices of the Faculty for Social Wellbeing

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 for Social Wellbeing 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 2018 in terms of the General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2008 for the degree of Master of Science in Psychological Studies - M.Sc. - under the auspices of the Faculty for Social Wellbeing.

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

"the Board" means the Board of the Faculty for Social Wellbeing;

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

"the Course" means the programme of study leading to the degree of Master of Science in Psychological Studies - M.Sc.;

"the Degree" means the degree of Master of Science in Psychological Studies - M.Sc.;

"the Postgraduate Certificate" means the Postgraduate Certificate in Research Methods in Psychology - P.G. Cert.; and

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

Applicability

2. These bye-laws shall be applicable for courses commencing in February 2019 or later.

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Requirements for Admission

3. The Course shall be open to applicants in possession of one of the following qualifications:

(a) a Bachelor degree in Psychology, obtained with at least a Second Class Honours (Upper Division); or

(b) a Bachelor degree in Psychology or a Bachelor degree with Psychology as a main area of study, in both cases obtained with at least Category IIA, or another degree in a related area deemed relevant by the Board of Studies obtained with at least Second Class (Honours) (Upper Division),provided that all applicants applying in terms of this paragraph would either have obtained 60 ECTS credits in Psychology, as approved by the Board, following the award of their degree, or have obtained the Higher Diploma in Psychology with at least Pass with Merit, which together with their degree are deemed to be comparable to the qualification indicated in paragraph (a) of this bye-law.

Course Duration

4. The Course shall extend over six semesters of part-time study. Students who successfully complete the taught component may be given the opportunity to change their mode of attendance to full-time study before proceeding to the research component.

Programme of Study

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

6. Students who obtain the 30 ECTS credits assigned to the taught study-units with an average mark of at least 50% and do not proceed with the Course, or having proceeded do not successfully complete the Course, shall be eligible for the award of the Postgraduate Certificate.

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

Assessment and Progress

8. (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 fail in the assessment of not more than 10 ECTS credits for taught study-units shall be given the opportunity to re-sit the failed assessments during the September supplementary examination session.

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(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.

9. Students shall be allowed to proceed to the dissertation study-unit subject to obtaining the 30 ECTS credits assigned to the taught study-units with a minimum average mark of 60%.

Dissertation

10. (1) Students shall be required to submit an individual dissertation of approximately 30,000 words in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Board.

(2) Work on the dissertation shall be undertaken at any time during the Course after approval of the research proposal. Each student shall be assigned a supervisor who shall provide guidance and advice on a regular basis during the period of study.

(3) A provisional title for the dissertation and a provisional research proposal of approximately 300 words shall be submitted at the time of call for applications. The title for the dissertation and a detailed research proposal outlining the proposed project and the main questions to be addressed shall be submitted to the Board of Studies for approval by not later than the end of the second semester.

11. (1) The Board shall appoint a Panel of Supervision for each student, normally composed of three members as follows: the Dean of the Faculty, or his/her delegate as Chairperson, and two other members, one of whom being the principal supervisor, provided that when the Dean of the Faculty is the supervisor, s/he shall not chair the panel.

(2) The Panel of Supervision shall follow, as it deems fit, the progress of students throughout the Course, provided that it meets at least twice a year to review such progress.

(3) Students shall be required to report to their supervisor at least once every two months, and in addition as often as the supervisor deems necessary.

(4) At the end of each semester of studies, supervisors shall be required to submit to the Panel of Supervision reports for the students under their supervision. Students shall seek approval from the Panel of Suupervisors for any substantial modification in the title or content of the dissertation.

(5) The Panels of Supervision shall periodically inform the Board, in writing, on the general performance of each student. 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:

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(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.

Classification of the Awards

12. (1) The Final Weighted Average Mark for the purpose of the classification of the Degree shall be based on the results obtained in all the components of the programme of study, all credits being weighted equally.

(2) The names of students who qualify for the award of the Postgraduate Certificate shall be published in a list in alphabetical order.

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