B 150

L.N. 25 of 2021

EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)

Bye-Laws of 2021 in terms of the Doctor of Philosophy - Ph.D. - Degree Regulations, 2008 for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy – Ph.D. - under the auspices of the Centre for Molecular Medicine and Biobanking

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 Centre for Molecular Medicine and Biobanking in virtue of the powers conferred upon it by article 7 (b)(v), of the Statute for the Centre, which bye-laws have been approved by the Senate of the University of Malta:

Citation and Interpretation

1. (1) These bye-laws may be cited as the Bye-Laws of 2021 in terms of the Doctor of Philosophy - Ph.D. - Degree Regulations, 2008 for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy – Ph.D. - under the auspices of the Centre for Molecular Medicine and Biobanking.

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

"the Board" means the Board of the Centre for Molecular Medicine and Biobanking;

"the Centre" means the Centre for Molecular Medicine and Biobanking;

"the Degree" means the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy – Ph.D.; and

"the Principal Regulations" means the Doctor of Philosophy - Ph.D. - Degree Regulations, 2008.

Applicability

2. These bye-laws shall be applicable from 1 October 2021 onwards.

Requirements for Admission

3. Applicants for the Degree shall be in possession of one of the following degrees:

(a) a Master's degree, normally of this or another University, in an area of studies relevant to that applied for, obtained subsequent to the completion of a first cycle qualification;

(b) a Bachelor's degree, with at least Second Class Honours (Upper Division), normally of this or another University, in an area of studies relevant to that applied for;

(c) qualifications which the Board deems comparable to the degrees indicated in paragraphs (a) and (b).

4. (1) Applicants may submit their application form, together with a comprehensive research proposal outlining the proposed project, including research sources and materials, at any time of the year.

(2) Applicants may also be asked to demonstrate competence in those skills required by the nature of the proposed research.

(3) Applicants will be called for an interview to provide details of the research project proposal that forms the core basis of the studies to be undertaken for the Degree.

Centre Doctoral Committee

5. The Board shall recommend to Senate the appointment of a Centre Doctoral Committee composed as follows:

Chairman of the Centre or delegate
3 – 5 Members of the Centre.

Supervision and Students' Progress

6. Principal Supervisors shall be required to submit a written report to the Board, through the Centre Doctoral Committee, every June for all students under their supervision.

7. Students shall only be allowed to proceed with their studies subject to satisfactory progress reports from their Principal Supervisor. If the report is negative, the Board shall make recommendations to Senate on the student's continuing registration for the Degree.

8. (1) After 12 months and not later than 24 months of full-time study or the equivalent in part-time study have elapsed, students are required to submit some chapters / report on their research work for consideration by an *ad hoc* board appointed by the Board. The *ad hoc* board shall be composed of a chairman, who shall be a member of Centre, and two examiners, one of whom shall be the Principal Supervisor and the other an expert in the chosen field of study.

(2) The *ad hoc* board shall examine the student's submission and where appropriate provide an oral examination and shall submit a written report for consideration by the Board following its apparisal by the Centre's Doctoral Committee in the first instance. The report may contain recommendations according to the provisions of the Principal Regulations.

9. Students registered at the Centre shall be required to participate in the Centre's research and teaching programmes.

Thesis Presentation and Format

10. Six months before the submission deadline students shall be informed that they are required to inform the Board through the Centre's Doctoral Committee that they will be submitting their thesis for examination not less than three months before the submission deadline.

11. The Board shall recommend, after considering the Centre's Doctoral Committee appraisal, to Senate the appointment of the Board of Examiners in accordance with the Principal Regulations.

12. The Board shall approve and publish guidelines on the format and presentation of the thesis for the Degree.

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

(2) On successful completion of their studies, students shall be required to submit to two hard bound copies of the thesis and a signed declaration of authenticity to the Centre and one electronic version for the University Library within six weeks from the publication of their result. One hard bound copy of the thesis shall be kept in the Library of the Centre. Students who do not comply with this bye-law shall not be awarded the Degree unless a non-disclosure agreement has been signed prior to the examination and the Library alerted to this fact accordingly.

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