CRITERIA REGARDING THE DISSERTATION IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT
OF THE MASTER OF ARTS IN ISLANDS AND SMALL STATES STUDIES.

1. These criteria were adopted by the Board of the Islands and Small States Institute on 14 July 2006.

2. These criteria are established in line with Article 16 of the Master of Arts in Islands and Small States Studies – MA (ISSS) – Degree Course Regulations, Education Act (CAP. 327)
(Available at: http://home.um.edu.mt/registrar/regulations/faculties/iss/MA-ISS-web.pdf)

3. The MA (ISSS) dissertation must embody the results of the candidate’s own research and observations.

4. The dissertation shall not be less than 20,000 words and not exceed 35,000 words, including appendices, references, glossaries and footnotes. The thesis should incorporate an abstract of not more than 500 words. The text must be typed or printed on A4 sheets, on one side only, in double spacing, and the presentation must follow a guideline of style shown below.

5. The candidate will be required to submit three temporarily bound copies of the dissertation for examination by the board of examiners.

6. After the viva voce examination, and after incorporating any amendments as the Board of Examiners may require, the candidate shall submit three additional copies of the dissertation, hard bound. The title of the thesis, the name of the candidate, the designation of the degree and the date on which the candidate was admitted to the Masters degree, shall be printed on the front cover. One of the copies is to be retained by the candidate, another copy shall be deposited in the Library of the University of Malta and the third copy shall be retained by the Islands and Small States Institute.
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The following style is suggested for the references:


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• **Acronyms:** When an organisation is mentioned for the first time give its name in full followed by the acronym in brackets e.g. United Nations (UN). Subsequently, only the acronym only may be used. It is a good idea to present a list of acronyms in the dissertation.

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• **Spelling:** Use English (UK) spelling and use English (UK) spell-check.