

**EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)**

**Bye-Laws of 2016 in terms of the
Doctor of Philosophy – Ph.D. – Degree Regulations, 2008
for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy
under the auspices of the Institute of Aerospace Technologies**

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 Institute of Aerospace Technologies in virtue of the powers conferred upon it by article 8 (v) of the Statute for the Institute, 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 2016 in terms of the Doctor of Philosophy – Ph.D. – Degree Regulations, 2008 for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy under the auspices of the Institute of Aerospace Technologies.

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

"the Board" means the Board of the Institute of Aerospace Technologies;

"the Institute" means the Institute of Aerospace Technologies;

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

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

Applicability

2. These bye-laws shall be applicable from 1 February 2016 onwards.

Requirements for Admission

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

(a) a Bachelor Honours degree obtained with at least First Class or Second Class Upper Division in an area of study related to the proposed area of research, provided that the Board ascertains that the applicant has a strong background in the area of study related to the proposed area of research; or

(b) a Master's degree in an area related to the proposed area of research; or

(c) qualifications that the Board deems adequate and comparable to the degrees indicated in paragraph (a) and b) of this bye-law.

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.

5. When the Board deems it necessary, it may require students to successfully complete a number of study-units during their studies, and/or to satisfactorily undertake tasks recommended by the Board, under those conditions that it may impose, after approval by Senate.

Institute Doctoral Committee

6. The Board shall recommend to Senate the appointment of an Institute Doctoral Committee, composed as follows:

The Director of the Institute, or delegate, and
3 members of the Academic Staff

The Institute Doctoral Committee may co-opt other members from other Faculties/Institutes, possessing academic doctoral qualifications, if deemed necessary.

Supervision and Students' Progress

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

8. 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.

9. (1) After 12 months and not later than 24 months of full-time study or the equivalent in part-time study, students are required to submit a report on their research work for consideration by an *ad hoc* board appointed by the Board. The *ad hoc* board shall be appointed by the Board on the advice of the Institute Doctoral Committee and shall be composed of a chairman, the Principal Supervisor and an academic with expertise in the area.

(2) The *ad hoc* board shall examine the student orally and shall submit a written report for consideration by the Institute Doctoral Committee in the first instance. The report shall contain recommendations according to the provisions of the Principal Regulations.

10. Students registered at the Institute may be required to participate in the Institute's research and teaching programmes.

Thesis Presentation and Format

11. Six months before the submission deadline students shall be notified that they are required to inform the Institute that they will be submitting their thesis for examination not less than three months before the submission deadline.

12. The Board shall recommend to Senate the appointment of the Board of Examiners in accordance with the Principal Regulations.

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

14. (1) Students shall be required to submit a loose bound copy of their thesis for each member of the Board of Examiners, together with an electronic version. The officer in charge of the Institute shall issue a dated receipt.

(2) On successful completion of their studies, students shall be required to submit to the Institute two hard bound copies and one electronic version of the thesis, which shall include a signed declaration of authenticity, within six weeks from the publication of their result. One copy of the thesis shall be kept in the Library of the Institute. The electronic version must conform to the standards set up by the University of Malta Library. Students who do not comply with this bye-law shall not be awarded the Degree.