

Legal Notice 212 of 2010 - Malta Government Gazette No.18,577 – 9 April 2010  
Amended by:  
Legal Notice 65 of 2018 - Malta Government Gazette No.19,954 – 27 February 2018  
Legal Notice 58 of 2019 - Malta Government Gazette No.20,158 – 2 April 2019

**EDUCATION ACT  
(CAP. 327)**

**Bye-Laws of 2010 in terms of the  
Doctor of Philosophy - Ph.D. - Degree Regulations, 2008  
for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy  
under the auspices of the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery**

IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred upon him by article 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 Medicine and Surgery in virtue of the powers conferred upon it by article 81 (1) 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 2010 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 Faculty of Medicine and Surgery.

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

“the Board” means the Board of the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery;

“the Degree” means the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy – Ph.D.;

“the Faculty” means the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery; and

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

**Applicability**

2. These bye-laws shall be applicable from October 2008 onwards.

**Requirements for Admission**

3. (1) Applicants for the Degree offered by the Faculty 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) the degree of Doctor of Medicine and Surgery, passed in the first sitting with at least Grade B in the subject area related to the proposed area of research;

(c) a Bachelor of Pharmacy (Honours) degree obtained with at least Second Class Honours (Upper Division);

(d) a Bachelor (Honours) degree in a health science obtained with at least Second Class Honours (Upper Division); or

(e) qualifications which the Board deems comparable to the degrees indicated in sub-paragraphs (a) to (d).

**Applicable as from 1 March 2019 onwards:**

3. (1) Applicants for the Degree offered by the Faculty 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) the degree of Doctor of Medicine and Surgery;

(c) the degree of Master of Pharmacy;

(d) a Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Pharmaceutical Science degree with at least Second Class Honours (Upper Division);

(e) a Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Pharmaceutical Technology degree with at least Second Class Honours (Upper Division);

(f) a Bachelor of Pharmacy (Honours) degree obtained with at least Second Class Honours (Upper Division);

(g) a Bachelor (Honours) degree in a health science obtained with at least Second Class Honours (Upper Division); or

(h) qualifications which the Board deems comparable to the degrees indicated in sub-paragraphs (a) to (g).

(2) Applicants in possession of the degree indicated in:

(a) sub-paragraph (b) of paragraph (1) of this bye-law shall normally be required to successfully complete a number of study-units in Research Methodology, under those conditions that Senate, on the advice of the Board, may impose; and

(b) sub-paragraphs (c) to (e) shall have successfully completed a substantial dissertation / research component assigned not less than 15 ECTS credits.

4. 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.

### **Faculty Doctoral Committee**

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

The Dean of the Faculty or delegate (chairman)  
5 members of the Faculty possessing academic doctoral qualifications.

### **Supervision and Students' Progress**

6. Principal Supervisors shall be required to submit a written report to the Board, through the Faculty Doctoral Committee, annually 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. Before transferring from the M.Phil. to the Ph.D. degree, students are required to submit a report on their research work for consideration by an *ad hoc* board. The *ad hoc* board shall be appointed by the Board on the advice of the Faculty Doctoral Committee.

9. Students registered at the Faculty may be required to participate in the Faculty'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 Faculty that they will be submitting their thesis for examination not less than three months before the submission deadline.

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

12. Students shall be required to defend their thesis orally. They are expected to make a presentation of the major findings of their research work of about 20 to 30 minutes and then to answer questions posed by members of the Board of Examiners. The Chairman of the Board of Examiners shall ensure that the student is aware of the procedure to be followed during the oral examination.

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 a copy in digital format. The officer in charge of the Faculty shall issue a dated receipt.

(2) Students may publish the whole or part of their thesis before submitting it for examination. Such published work may later be included in the thesis submitted for examination, provided that a statement to this effect is included.

(3) On successful completion of their studies, students shall be required to submit to the Faculty three hard bound copies of the thesis and one copy in digital format within six weeks from the publication of their result. One copy of the thesis shall be kept in the Library of the department and another at the University Library. Students who do not comply with this bye-law shall not be awarded the Degree.

### **Repeal**

15. The Bye-Laws of 1992 for the degree of Master of Philosophy – M.Phil. - under the auspices of the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery, published as Legal Notice 112 of 1992 and the Bye-Laws of 1998 for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy – Ph.D. - under the auspices of the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery, published as Legal Notice 246 of 1998, shall be deemed to cease to be in force as from 1st October 2008, provided that students registered for these degrees before 1st October 2008 shall continue to be governed by the regulations that were in force at the time of their registration for the degree.