

**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 – Ph.D. -
under the auspices of the Centre for English Language Proficiency**

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 English Language Proficiency in virtue of the powers conferred upon it by article 7 (b) (v) of the Statute for the Centre and which 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 Centre for English Language Proficiency.

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

“the Board” means the Board of the Centre for English Language Proficiency;

“the Centre” means the Centre for English Language Proficiency;

“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 October 2016 onwards.

Requirements for Admission

3. (1) Applicants for the Degree offered by the Centre shall be in possession of one of the following degrees:

(a) a Master’s degree in the same area of study or in a related area; or

(b) a First Class Bachelor Honours degree in the same area of study or in a related area.

(2) The Board may also consider applications from applicants with qualifications at Master's level or higher in another discipline and possessing experience or knowledge which, in the opinion of the Board, will enable them to pursue doctoral studies successfully.

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

5. (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.

Centre's Doctoral Committee

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

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

The Centre Doctoral Committee may co-opt other members from other Faculties/Institutes/Centres, 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 Centre's 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 have elapsed, 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 composed of a chairperson, who shall be the Director of the Centre (or delegate), and two members, one of whom shall be the Principal Supervisor.

(2) The *ad hoc* board shall examine the student orally on the basis of the work submitted and shall submit a written report for consideration by the Centre Doctoral Committee. The report shall contain recommendations according to the provisions of the Principal Regulations.

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

Thesis Presentation and Format

11. Six months before the submission deadline students shall be informed that they are required to inform the Centre 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 in line with the format indicated in the published guidelines, together with a copy in digital format. The officer in charge of the Centre 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 Centre two hard bound copies of the thesis and one copy in digital format for the University Library within six weeks from the publication of their result. The electronic version must conform to the standards set up by the University Library. Students who do not comply with this bye-law shall not be awarded the Degree.