

**EDUCATION ACT  
(CAP. 327)**

**Bye-Laws of 2009 in terms of the General Regulations for  
University Postgraduate Awards, 2008  
for the Degree of Master of Science in Applied Chemistry  
under the auspices of the Faculty of Science**

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 Faculty of Science 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 2009 in terms of the General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2008 for the degree of Master of Science in Applied Chemistry under the auspices of the Faculty of Science.

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

"the Board" means the Board of the Faculty of Science;

"the Board of Studies" means the Board of Studies appointed by Senate for the Course, on the recommendation of the Board;

"the Course" means the programme of study leading to the degree of Master of Science in Applied Chemistry;

"the Degree" means the degree of Master of Science in Applied Chemistry;

"the Faculty" means the Faculty of Science;

"the Postgraduate Diploma" means the Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Chemistry; and

"the Principal Regulations" means the General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2008.

## **Applicability**

2. These bye-laws shall be applicable for courses commencing in October 2009 or later.

## **Requirements for Admission**

3. (1) To be registered as regular students in the Course, applicants shall be in possession of any one of the following qualifications:

(a) a degree in science with chemistry as a main area of study obtained with second class honours or better; or

(b) a degree in pharmacy obtained with second class honours or better; or

(c) a degree obtained with second class honours or better in an area of study that is deemed relevant by the Board.

(2) Applicants with a degree in science with chemistry as a main area of study obtained with third class honours may be admitted if they show evidence of significant experience in work relevant to the area of study of the Course obtained after their first cycle degree.

(3) The Board shall recommend to Senate the number of applicants that may be allowed to register for the Course, depending on the availability of resources. The number of available places shall be announced at the time of the call for applications.

(4) If there are more eligible applicants than the number of places available, applicants shall be selected after an interview by a board consisting of at least three members, appointed for the purpose. The Board shall select applicants according to the following criteria:

(a) degree type and class;

(b) experience in the area of the proposed study; and

(c) performance during the interview.

## **Course Duration**

4. The Course shall extend over three semesters of full-time study or the equivalent in part-time study.

## **Programme of Study**

5. (1) The programme of study shall comprise study-units to which a total of 90 credits are assigned, of which 60 credits are assigned to taught study-units and 30 credits assigned to the dissertation study-unit.

(2) Students who obtain the 60 credits assigned to the taught study-units with an average mark of at least 50% and do not proceed with the Course, or having proceeded do not successfully complete the dissertation, shall be eligible for the award of the Postgraduate Diploma.

(3) The programme of study shall be published after approval by Senate, normally not less than eight months prior to the commencement of the Course.

## **Assessment and Progress**

6. (1) The assessment of each taught study-unit shall be completed by the end of the semester in which the teaching of the study-unit is held.

(2) Students who in any academic year fail in the assessment of not more than twenty credits, if following the full-time Course, or not more than twelve credits if following the part-time Course, shall be given the opportunity to re-sit the assessment/s of the failed study-unit/s during the September supplementary examination session.

(3) Students who fail in more than the number of study-units permitted under paragraph (2) of this bye-law, or students who after re-assessment fail to obtain credit for any study-unit, shall be required to withdraw from the Course.

7. Students shall be allowed to proceed to the dissertation study-unit subject to obtaining the 60 credits assigned to the taught study-units with a minimum average mark of 60%.

## **Dissertation**

8. (1) Students shall be required to submit an individual dissertation of approximately 25,000 words in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Board.

(2) Work on the dissertation shall be undertaken during the third semester of the Course. Each student shall be assigned a supervisor by the Board, who shall provide guidance and advice on a regular basis during the period of study. Any substantial modification in the title or content must be approved by the Board.

(3) A provisional title of the dissertation and a detailed research proposal shall be submitted to the Board for approval by the beginning of the second semester.

9. (1) Students shall be required to have regular contact with their supervisor.

(2) Supervisors shall submit to the Board progress reports for each student under their supervision at the end of each semester of studies, whether the student is following the Course on a full-time or a part-time basis. Such reports may include a recommendation to either (a) extend the period of study in order to enable the student to complete the dissertation; or (b) terminate studies prematurely if the supervisor deems this to be proper in the circumstances, provided that:

(i) the extension of the study period referred to in (a) shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Principal Regulations; and

(ii) the Board may not terminate studies prematurely according to (b) until it has first given the student a chance to be heard.

#### **Classification of the Awards**

10. The Final Weighted Average Mark for the purpose of the classification of the Postgraduate Diploma and of the Degree shall be based on the results obtained in all the components of the programme of study, all credits being weighted equally.

#### **Special Provisions for Part-Time Courses**

11. The provisions of the foregoing bye-laws shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to courses followed on a part-time basis, and subject to such changes as may reasonably be deemed by the Board as necessary due to the part-time nature of the Course.

#### **Repeal**

12. The Regulations of 2006 for the degree of Master of Science in Applied Chemistry under the auspices of the Faculty of Science, published as Legal Notice 126 of 2008, shall be deemed to cease to be in force as from 1st October 2009, provided that students registered for this course before 1st October 2009 shall continue to be governed by the regulations that were in force at the time of their joining the course.