

**EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)**

**Bye-Laws of 2013 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 for Social Wellbeing**

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 for Social Wellbeing in virtue of the powers conferred upon it by article 81 (1) (c) 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 2013 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 for Social Wellbeing.

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

“the Board” means the Board of the Faculty for Social Wellbeing;

“the Faculty” means the Faculty for Social Wellbeing;

“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 1 October 2013 onwards.

Requirements for Admission

3. Applicants for the Degree offered by the Faculty shall be in possession of a Master’s degree normally in the same area of studies applied for. Applicants in possession of a Bachelor’s degree obtained with First Class Honours or Second Class Honours (Upper Division) with outstanding academic potential and very

strong background in the area of study related to the proposed area of research may also be considered.

4. (1) Applicants may submit their application form, together with a comprehensive research proposal of not less than 3000 words 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.

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)
3 – 4 Heads of Department

Supervision and Students' Progress

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

7. Students shall only be allowed to progress 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. (1) After at least 12 months and not later than 24 months of full-time study, students are required to submit some chapters / 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 chairman, who shall be the head of the department / unit concerned or his delegate, and two examiners, one of whom shall be the Principal Supervisor and the other a delegate of the Faculty Doctoral Committee.

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

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

13. (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 Faculty shall issue a dated receipt.

(2) 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.