

Legal Notice 213 of 2008 – Malta Government Gazette No. 18,309 – 16 September 2008  
Amended by:  
Legal Notice 23 of 2012 – Malta Government Gazette No. 18,859 – 24 January 2012  
Legal Notice 193 of 2013 – Malta Government Gazette No. 19,111 – 19 July 2013  
Legal Notice 408 of 2013 – Malta Government Gazette No. 19,172 – 26 November 2013  
Legal Notice 323 of 2014 – Malta Government Gazette No. 19,310 – 16 September 2014  
Legal Notice 292 of 2016 – Malta Government Gazette No. 19,633 – 2 September 2016  
Legal Notice 50 of 2017 – Malta Government Gazette No. 19,723 – 7 February 2017  
Legal Notice 218 of 2017 – Malta Government Gazette No. 19,857 – 1 September 2017  
Legal Notice 198 of 2018 – Malta Government Gazette No. 20,015 – 26 June 2018  
Legal Notice 58 of 2019 – Malta Government Gazette No. 20,158 – 2 April 2019

**EDUCATION ACT  
(CAP. 327)**

**Bye-Laws of 2008 in terms of the  
General Regulations for University Undergraduate Awards, 2004  
for the Degrees of Bachelor of Science - B.Sc. -  
and Bachelor of Science (Honours) - B.Sc. (Hons) -  
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 2008 in terms of the General Regulations for University Undergraduate Awards, 2004 for the degrees of Bachelor of Science - B.Sc. - and Bachelor of Science (Honours) - B.Sc. (Hons) - 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 Course" means the programme of studies leading to the degree of Bachelor of Science - B.Sc. - or the degree of Bachelor of Science (Honours) - B.Sc. (Hons) - as appropriate;

"the Degree" means the degree of Bachelor of Science - B.Sc. - or the degree of Bachelor of Science (Honours) - B.Sc. (Hons) - as appropriate; and

“the Faculty” means the Faculty of Science;

"the Principal Regulations" means the General Regulations for University Undergraduate Awards, 2004.

**Applicable as from 1 July 2016 onwards:**

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

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

"the Course" means the programme of studies leading to the degree of Bachelor of Science - B.Sc. - or the degree of Bachelor of Science (Honours) - B.Sc. (Hons) - as appropriate;

"the Degree" means the degree of Bachelor of Science - B.Sc. – or the degree of Bachelor of Science (Honours) - B.Sc. (Hons) - as appropriate;

“the Diploma” means the Diploma in Science;

“the Faculty” means the Faculty of Science;

“the Higher Diploma” means the Higher Diploma in Science; and

"the Principal Regulations" means the General Regulations for University Undergraduate Awards, 2004.

**Applicability**

2. These bye-laws shall be applicable for courses commencing in October 2008 or later.

**Special Course Requirements for Admission**

3. (1) To be registered as regular students in the Course, applicants shall, apart from satisfying the general requirements for admission as specified in the Admission Regulations, be in possession of the special course requirements as follows:

**(a) Banking and Finance:** a pass in Pure Mathematics (Intermediate);

**(b) Biology:** passes in Biology (Advanced, grade C or better) and Chemistry (Intermediate, grade C or better);

**(c) Chemistry:** passes in Chemistry (Advanced, grade C or better) and either Physics or Pure Mathematics (Intermediate, grade C or better);

**(d) Computational Physics:**

*for admission in October 2013:*

passes in Physics (Advanced, grade C or better) and Pure Mathematics (Advanced, grade C or better or Intermediate, grade C or better);

*for admission in October 2014 or later:*

either passes in Physics (Advanced, grade C or better) and Pure Mathematics (Advanced, grade C or better or Intermediate, grade C or better);

or passes in Pure Mathematics (Advanced, grade C or better) and Physics (Advanced, grade C or better or Intermediate, grade C or better);

*for admission in October 2017 or later:*

passes in Pure Mathematics (Advanced, grade C or better) and Physics (Intermediate, grade C or better);

**(e) Computing Science:** a pass in Pure Mathematics (Advanced, grade C or better);

**(f) Geosciences:**

*for admission in October 2017 or later:*

either passes in Physics (Advanced, grade C or better) and Pure Mathematics (Intermediate, grade C or better);

or passes in Pure Mathematics (Advanced, grade C or better) and Physics (Intermediate, grade C or better);

or passes in Chemistry (Advanced, grade C or better) and Pure Mathematics (Intermediate, grade C or better) and Physics (Intermediate, grade C or better);

or passes in Computing (Advanced, grade C or better) and Pure Mathematics (Intermediate, grade C or better) and Physics (Intermediate, grade C or better);

**(g) Mathematics:** a pass in Pure Mathematics (Advanced, grade C or better);

**(h) Physics:**

either passes in Physics (Advanced, grade C or better) and Pure Mathematics (Intermediate, grade C or better);

or passes in Pure Mathematics (Advanced, grade C or better) and Physics (Intermediate, grade C or better);

**(i) Statistics and Operations Research:**

**either** a pass in Pure Mathematics (Advanced, grade C or better);

**or** a pass in Applied Mathematics (Advanced, grade C or better);

**or** passes in Computing or Information Technology (Advanced, grade C or better) and Pure Mathematics (Advanced, grade D or better);

or passes in Computing or Information Technology (Advanced, grade C or better) and Applied Mathematics (Advanced, grade D or better).

***for admission in October 2018 or later:***

either a pass in Pure Mathematics (Advanced, grade C or better);  
or passes in Computing or Information Technology (Advanced, grade C or better) and Pure Mathematics (Advanced, grade D or better);

(2) Applicants who possess a grade D when the minimum specified grade is C in only one of the required subjects, whether at Advanced or Intermediate Level, of the special course requirements indicated in paragraph (1) of this bye-law, shall be admitted under those conditions as the Board may impose to compensate for the qualification deficiency. If, by the end of the first year, such students do not successfully complete all the requirements to progress regularly to the second year of the Course, they shall be required to withdraw from the Course, and shall neither be entitled to repeat the year nor to progress conditionally as normally permitted under the Principal Regulations.

***The following paragraph shall be deleted for courses commencing in October 2019 or later:***

(3) *As from October 2017, all applicants must demonstrate a level of competence in computing comparable with the European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL) Standard Certificate, provided that applicants seeking admission in 2017 shall be allowed to present the ECDL Standard Certificate or a comparable certificate during their first year of studies.*

**Course Duration**

4. (1) The course leading to the degree of Bachelor of Science (Honours) in one main area of study, which may be taken with one subsidiary area, shall extend over a period of three years of full-time study.

(2) The course leading to the degree of Bachelor of Science (Honours) in two subjects as main areas of study shall extend over a period of four years of full-time study.

**Areas of Study**

5. (1) The degree of Bachelor of Science (Honours) in one main area of study may be offered in any area of study that falls within the responsibility of the Faculty, as approved by the Board.

(2) The degree of Bachelor of Science (Honours) may also be offered either in two main areas of study from the areas listed in (a), or in one main area of

study from option (a) and one main area of study from option (b), as approved by the Board:

(a) Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics, Statistics and Operations Research;

(b) Banking and Finance, Computer Information Systems, Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence.

**For courses commencing in October 2013 or later:**

(b) Banking and Finance, Computing Science.

**Applicable for courses commencing in October 2018 or later:**

(2) The degree of Bachelor of Science (Honours) may also be offered either in two main areas of study from the areas listed in (a), or in one main area of study from option (a) and one main area of study from option (b), as approved by the Board:

(a) Biology, Chemistry, Computational Physics, Geosciences, Mathematics, Physics, Statistics and Operations Research;

(b) Banking and Finance, Computing Science, Philosophy.

(3) Subject to approval by Senate, the Board may also allow any of the areas of study indicated in sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph (2) of this bye-law to be offered jointly with other areas of study which fall under the responsibility of other academic entities within the University, provided that in such instances, applicants shall be required to be in possession of those qualifications relevant to their chosen second main area of study as indicated in the bye-laws for the degree in the area of study offered under the auspices of the academic entity responsible for the discipline.

6. The areas of study offered in any particular year and the permissible combinations of areas of study shall be published by the Board before the commencement of each Course, provided that in any year, combinations of areas of study shall be offered depending on the availability of resources and the number of applicants who choose them.

**Publication of Programmes**

7. The Board shall publish the programme of study for each area of study, as approved by Senate, before the commencement of each Course. Subject to changes that the Board may, with the approval of Senate, be constrained to make, students are bound to follow the study-units and obtain the credits as indicated in the course

programme and in the programmes of study of the areas of study they are following for the Degree, provided that course programmes and programmes of study shall be drawn up in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Principal Regulations.

### **Course Programme for the Degree in one Main Area of Study**

8. (1) The Course shall consist of study-units to which 180 credits are assigned.

(2) The Course may be offered either in one area of study as a main area, or in one main area of study with a subsidiary area as approved by the Board, provided that not less than 110 credits shall be assigned to the main area of study.

(3) Programmes of study for the areas that may be taken as subsidiary areas shall be those published by the boards of the academic entities responsible for them.

(4) The third year of the Course shall include a dissertation to which 18 credits shall be assigned, provided that in the case of Mathematics, this may be substituted by one or more additional taught study-units.

#### **For courses commencing in October 2013 or later:**

(4) The third year of the Course shall include a dissertation to which 18 credits shall be assigned, provided that in the case of Mathematics and Computational Physics, this may be substituted by one or more additional taught study-units.

#### **Applicable as from October 2018 onwards:**

(4) The third year of the Course shall include a dissertation to which not less than 10 credits and not more than 20 credits shall be assigned:  
provided that in the case of Mathematics and Computational Physics, the dissertation may be substituted by one or more additional taught study-units.

#### **Applicable as from 1 July 2016 onwards:**

(5) Students who successfully complete study-units to which 60 ECTS credits are assigned and opt not to proceed with the Course or, having proceeded, do not successfully complete the Course, shall be entitled to the Diploma.

(6) Students who successfully complete study-units to which 120 ECTS credits are assigned and opt not to proceed with the Course or, having proceeded, do not successfully complete the Course, shall be entitled to the Higher Diploma.

### **Course Programme for the degree in two main areas of study**

9. The Course shall consist of two parts, namely, Part One comprising the first three years and Part Two comprising the fourth year.

10. (1) Part One shall consist of study-units to which 180 credits are assigned divided as follows:

- First Year: 60 credits of which not less than 26 credits in each of the two areas of study;
- Second Year: 30 credits in each of the two areas of study;
- Third Year: 30 credits in each of the two areas of study.

(2) At the end of Part One, students who obtain 180 credits as specified in paragraph (1) of this bye-law but who either opt not to proceed with the Course leading to the degree of Bachelor of Science (Honours) – B.Sc. (Hons.), or having proceeded, do not successfully complete the Course, shall be eligible for the award of the degree of Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) classified in terms of bye-law 13.

11. (1) Part Two shall consist of study-units to which 60 credits are assigned divided as follows:

- (a) 34 credits in one area of study, of which 18 credits are assigned to a dissertation; and
- (b) 26 credits in the other area of study,

provided that in the case of Mathematics, the dissertation may be substituted by one or more additional taught study-units.

#### **For courses commencing in October 2012 or later:**

11. (1) Part Two shall consist of study-units to which 60 credits are assigned divided as follows:

- (a) 40 credits in one area of study, of which 18 credits are assigned to a dissertation; and

(b) 20 credits in the other area of study,  
provided that in the case of Mathematics, the dissertation may be substituted by one or more additional taught study-units.

#### **Applicable as from October 2018 or later:**

11. (1) Part Two shall consist of study-units to which 60 credits are assigned divided as follows:

(a) 40 credits in one area of study, of which not less than 10 credits and not more than 20 credits are assigned to a dissertation; and

(b) 20 credits in the other area of study:  
provided that in the case of Mathematics, the dissertation may be substituted by one or more additional taught study-units.

12. (1) In a Course Programme for the Degree in two main areas of study, students who fail in any study-unit, except a compulsory study-unit that is declared to be non-compensatable in a Programme of Study, with a mark of not less than 35% in the unit and whose current Year Average Mark in the Programme of Study for the Area of Study to which the study-unit is assigned is at least 50%, shall be awarded the grade CP and shall be awarded credit for the unit by compensation and shall not be required to be reassessed.

**Applicable as from 1 July 2016 onwards:**

(2) Students who successfully complete study-units to which 60 ECTS credits are assigned and opt not to proceed with the Course or, having proceeded, do not successfully complete the Course, shall be entitled to the Diploma.

(3) Students who successfully complete study-units to which 120 ECTS credits are assigned and opt not to proceed with the Course or, having proceeded, do not successfully complete the Course, shall be entitled to the Higher Diploma.

**Classification of the Degree**

13. The Final Weighted Average Mark for the classification of the Degree shall be based on the results obtained in each year of the Course, all years being weighted equally.

**Applicable as from 1 July 2016 onwards:**

**Classification of the Awards**

13. The Final Weighted Average Mark for the classification of the Diploma, the Higher Diploma and the Degree, shall be based on the results obtained in each year of the Course, all years being weighted equally.

**Repeal**

14. The Bye-Laws of 2005 for the Degrees of Bachelor of Science – B.Sc. – and Bachelor of Science (Honours) – B.Sc.(Hons), published as Legal Notice 152 of 2005, as amended by Legal Notices 123 of 2006 and 258 of 2007, shall be deemed



to cease to be in force as from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2008, provided that students registered for this course before the 1<sup>st</sup> October 2008 shall continue to be governed by the by-laws that were in force at the time of their joining the course.

BSc&BSc(Hons)-BL-2008  
16 May 2008