

Legal Notice 119 of 2008 – Malta Government Gazette No. 18,227 – 11 April 2008 Amended by: Legal Notice 212 of 2013 – Malta Government Gazette No. 19,111 – 19 July 2013 Legal Notice 122 of 2014 – Malta Government Gazette No. 19.235 – 11 April 2014
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EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)

**Erasmus Mundus Master of Science in Human Language Science and
Technology - M.Sc. (HLST) - Degree Course Regulations, 2014
under the auspices of the Faculty of Information and Communication
Technology**

IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred upon him by sections 74 (5) and 75 (6) of the Education Act (Cap. 327), the Chancellor of the University of Malta has promulgated the following regulations made by the Senate of the University of Malta by virtue of the powers conferred upon it by sections 75 and 79 of the said Act:

Citation and Interpretation

1. (1) These regulations may be cited as the Erasmus Mundus Master of Science in Human Language Science and Technology - M.Sc. (HLST) - Degree Course Regulations, 2014.

(2) In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires –

“the Board” means the Board of Studies, responsible for the academic administration and organisation of the Course, appointed by Senate;

“the Course” means the programme of study leading to the degree of Erasmus Mundus Master of Science in Human Language Science and Technology - M.Sc. (HLST);

“the Degree” means the degree of Master of Science in Human Language Science and Technology - M.Sc. (HLST);

“the Faculty” means the Faculty of Information and Communication Technology;

“the Partner Universities” means the following institutions:

Saarland University in Saarbrücken, Germany (Coordinating University)
University of Trento, Italy

University of Malta, Malta
University of Lorraine, France
Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic
University of Groningen, The Netherlands
Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China
University of Melbourne, Australia
University of the Basque Country

“this University” means the University of Malta.

(3) This Degree is an Erasmus Mundus Master’s degree of this University and this shall be taken to mean that the Course is taught at this University in collaboration with Partner Universities within the framework of a double degree programme.

Applicability

2. These regulations shall apply to courses starting in October 2007 or later.

Qualifications for Admission

3. (1) The Course shall be open to applicants in possession of a first cycle degree classified with a second class honours or category II or better in one of the following areas of study: (Computational) Linguistics, Language Technology, Cognitive Science, Computer Science, Mathematics, Artificial Intelligence, or other relevant disciplines.

(2) (i) Applicants are required to demonstrate that their standard of English is satisfactory. The offer of a place on the Course may be made subject to the applicants obtaining such proficiency qualifications prior to the commencement of their studies.

(ii) Proficiency in English may be certified by one of the following:

TOEFL: score of at least 250 (computer-based test) or 95 with a writing score of at least 24 (internet-based test);

Cambridge Proficiency Examination Advanced Certificate: pass at grade C or better;

IELTS: at least 6.5 with a minimum 6.0 in each element.

(iii) English native speakers and students who have attended a Bachelor’s course taught in English may not be required to submit the above certificates but may be required to demonstrate proficiency in some other way.

Course Duration

4. (1) The Course shall extend over a period of twenty-four calendar months of full-time study.

(2) The Board may allow students to extend their studies by not more than six months.

Registration for the Course

5. Applicants wishing to register for the Course shall apply on the prescribed form within the time specified by the Office of the Registrar. They must indicate at which of the Partner Universities they wish to undertake studies, besides this University.

Course Structure

6. (1) The programme of studies shall consist of study-units to which a total of 120 ECTS credits shall be assigned, comprising taught study-units assigned 90 ECTS credits and the writing of a dissertation to which 30 ECTS credits are assigned.

(2) The Board, in agreement with the Partner Universities, shall draw up a programme of studies for the Course which shall include all the study-units, the credits assigned to each study-unit, which study-units are compulsory, concurrent or pre-requisites for other study-units, and the methods of teaching and assessment. The programme shall also include guidelines on the production of the dissertation and its assessment. The Board shall publish the programme of studies for the Course prior to its commencement, following the approval of Senate.

(3) Students shall be required to spend one year of study at this University and another year at the chosen Partner Universities. Work on the dissertation shall be carried out at one of the universities where the student is following the second year of studies, under the direction of a Principal Supervisor appointed by that University.

Progress and Assessment

7. (1) Results for the assessment of the study-units and the dissertation shall be published as a percentage mark and grade as indicated in the table below:

Mark Range	Grade
80% - 100%	A
70% - 79%	B
55% - 69%	C
50% - 54%	D
45% - 49%	E
0% - 44%	F

(2) Students who fail in any taught study-unit shall be allowed a supplementary assessment once only. A supplementary assessment of a study-unit shall be held at the next scheduled examination session (May or September) as the case may be. In supplementary assessments, the maximum mark and grade that may be awarded shall be 45% – grade D. If unsuccessful, students shall be required to withdraw from the Course.

(3) Students shall not be allowed to be re-assessed for a study-unit if they have already been awarded credit for it.

The Dissertation

8. (1) Work for the dissertation shall be undertaken during the second year of the Course. Each student shall be assigned a Principal Supervisor who shall provide guidance and advice on a continuous basis during the period of study. A co-Supervisor may also be assigned.

(2) Students must provide, within two months of the commencement of the third semester of study, a provisional title for the dissertation, a research proposal of at least 300 words and a supporting statement by a suitably qualified academic who has agreed to act as Principal Supervisor.

(3) When study for the dissertation is not undertaken at this University, an academic of this University shall be assigned as advisor for matters concerning preparation of the dissertation for submission at this University.

9. (1) Dissertations presented for the Degree shall:

(a) be work of an advanced or original nature in the student's approved area of study;

(b) satisfy the Board of Examiners as regards content and presentation; and

(c) consist of 15,000 - 20,000 words and fulfill other requirements related to format and presentation as stipulated in the relevant guidelines.

(2) No dissertation shall be accepted which is identical in substance to a document already submitted for a degree in this or any other university or to any other published material. Students shall, however, not be precluded from incorporating such previous work as may be necessary to the presentation and fuller understanding of their exposition, provided that the nature and extent of such incorporation are clearly indicated in the dissertation itself.

(3) Students shall seek approval from the Board of Studies for any substantial modification in the title or content of the dissertation.

(4) Each student shall present three bound copies of the dissertation to the Faculty, one of which shall be retained in the library of this University and another at the library of the Partner University that has separately awarded the student a degree for successful completion of the same Course.

Supervision

10. (1) The Board of Studies shall appoint a Panel of Supervision for each student who undertakes the research dissertation at this University. The Panel shall consist of three members as follows: the chairman of the Board of Studies as chairman of the Panel, and two other members, one of whom being the Principal Supervisor of the dissertation, provided that when the chairman is the Principal Supervisor he shall not chair the Panel.

(2) The Panel of Supervision shall follow the progress of students as it deems fit, provided that it meets at least once to review such progress.

(3) Supervisors shall be required to submit regular reports on students to the Panel of Supervision.

(4) The Panel of Supervision may advise the Board of Studies, in writing, on the performance of a student; such advice may recommend either (a) an extension of the study period in order to enable the student to complete the dissertation; or (b) a premature termination of studies if the Panel deems this to be proper in the circumstances; provided that the extension of the study period referred to in (a) shall be according to paragraph (2) of regulation 4.

Examination of the Study-Units and the Dissertation

11. (1) Senate shall appoint a Board of Examiners for each study-unit undertaken at this University, in accordance with the provisions of the University Assessment Regulations.

(2) For the examination of the dissertation, the Board of Examiners shall be composed of at least three members, but may additionally also include an

external examiner appointed from an institution other than this University or the chosen Partner Universities attended by the student.

(3) The Board of Examiners for the dissertation shall require students to defend the dissertation orally before them, provided that the external examiner need not be present at the oral defence.

(4) Students whose dissertation is found unsatisfactory may either fail or be required by the Board of Examiners for the dissertation to rewrite the document in whole or in part and to re-submit it for examination. Students may re-submit the dissertation not earlier than two months and not later than six months from notification of the decision by the Board of Examiners for the dissertation.

Award of the Degree

12. (1) Students shall be eligible for the award of the Degree if they obtain the 120 credits associated with the study-units comprising the programme of studies, as indicated in regulation 6.

(2) The Board shall compute the global final result taking into account all components of the Course and shall also establish the Degree classification.

(3) The names of students who qualify for the award of the Degree shall be published in a list in alphabetical order and classified as follows:

Passed with Distinction
Passed with Merit
Passed.

Testimonial of the Award

13. The testimonial given by this University shall include a statement to indicate which of the Partner Universities has separately awarded a degree for successful completion of the same Course.