

**EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)**

**Bye-Laws of 2015 in terms of the
General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2008
for the Degree of Master of Science – M.Sc. –
under the auspices of the Centre for Biomedical Cybernetics**

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 Biomedical Cybernetics in virtue of the powers conferred upon it by article 6 (b)(v) of the Statute for the Centre, which bye-laws 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 2015 in terms of the General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2008 for the degree of Master of Science – M.Sc. - under the auspices of the Centre for Biomedical Cybernetics.

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

"the Board" means the Board of the Centre for Biomedical Cybernetics;

"the Centre" means the Centre for Biomedical Cybernetics;

"the Course" means the programme of study leading to the degree of Master of Science – M.Sc.;

"the Degree" means the degree of Master of Science – M.Sc.; and

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

Applicability

2. These bye-laws shall be applicable for courses commencing October 2015 or later.

Areas of Study

3. (1) The Course may be offered in any area of study that falls within the academic responsibility of the Board, after approval by Senate.

(2) The Board shall publish the areas of study in which the Centre can offer expert guidance and supervision before the commencement of the Course.

Requirements for Admission

4. The Course shall be open to applicants in possession of the following qualifications:

(a) a Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) degree with at least Second Class Honours; or

(b) a Bachelor of Science (Honours) degree with at least Second Class Honours in appropriate subjects as approved by the Board; or

(c) the degree of Doctor of Medicine and Surgery; or

(d) the degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery (with a classification of Second Class Honours or better if awarded from July 2009 onwards); or

(e) the degree of Master of Dental Surgery awarded from July 2018 onwards; or

(f) a qualification deemed by Senate, on the recommendation of the Board, to be equivalent or higher to the qualifications listed in (a) to (e) above.

Course Duration

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

Programme of Study

6. (1) The programme of study shall comprise study-units to which a total of 90 ECTS credits are assigned, of which not more than 15 ECTS credits are assigned to taught study-units and not less than 75 ECTS credits are assigned to the dissertation study-unit.

(2) 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

7. (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 10 ECTS credits for taught study-units, whether following the full-time or part-time Course, shall be given the opportunity to re-sit the failed assessments during the September supplementary examination session.

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

Dissertations

8. (1) Students shall be required to submit an individual dissertation normally not to exceed 45,000 words in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Board.

(2) Work on the dissertation may be undertaken at any time during the Course after approval of the research proposal. Each student shall be assigned a supervisor who shall provide guidance and advice on a regular basis during the period of study.

(3) The provisional title of the dissertation and a detailed research proposal shall be submitted to the Board for approval at the time of application.

9. (1) The Board shall appoint a Panel of Supervision for each student, normally composed of three members as follows: the Director of the Centre, or his or her delegate, as Chairman, and two other members, one of whom being the research supervisor, provided that when the Director is the supervisor, he or she shall not chair the Panel.

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

(3) Students shall be required to report to their supervisors at least once every two months, and in addition, as often as the supervisor deems necessary.

(4) At the end of each semester of study, supervisors shall be required to submit to the Panel of Supervision reports for the students under their supervision, whether they are following the Course on a full-time or a part-time basis.

(5) Students shall seek approval from the Panel of Supervision for any substantial modification in the title or content of the dissertation.

(6) The Panel of Supervision shall periodically inform the Board, in writing, on the general performance of each student. Such reports may include recommendations 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 Award

10. The Final Weighted Average Mark for the purpose of the classification 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.