

Legal Notice 135 of 2013 – Government Gazette 19,082 – 30 April 2013 Amended by: Legal Notice 180 of 2017 – Government Gazette 19,801 – 12 June 2017
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**EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)**

**Bye-Laws of 2013 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 Faculty of Dental Surgery**

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 Dental Surgery 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 General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2008 for the degree of Master of Science - M.Sc. - under the auspices of the Faculty of Dental Surgery.

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

“the Board” means the Board of the Faculty of Dental Surgery;

“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 in October 2012 or later.

Areas of Study

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

Requirements for Admission

4. (1) The Course shall be open to applicants in possession of the degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery – B.Ch.D. - with at least Second Class (Honours),

provided that for the Restorative Dentistry area of study, applicants in possession of the following qualifications shall also be considered:

(a) the degree of Bachelor of Science (Honours) with at least Second Class (Honours) with Chemistry, or Biology, or Chemistry with Materials as one of the main areas of study; or

(b) the degree of Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) with at least Second Class (Honours) in Mechanical Engineering.

(2) The admission of applicants under sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) of paragraph (1) of this bye-law may be made conditional on the results of an interview conducted for the purpose.

Applicable for courses commencing in October 2017 or later:

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

(a) the degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery – B.Ch.D. – with at least Second Class (Honours) or the degree of Master of Dental Surgery awarded from July 2018 onwards; or

(b) the degree of Bachelor of Science (Honours) with at least Second Class (Honours) in Dental Hygiene or Dental Technology; or

(c) the degree of Bachelor of Science (Honours) with at least Second Class (Honours) with Chemistry, or Biology, or Chemistry with Materials, as one of the main areas of study; or

(d) a degree with at least Second Class (Honours) in a discipline related to health science; or

(e) a degree with at least Second Class (Honours) in an area of study which the Board deems to be relevant to the proposed area of study.

(2) The admission of applicants under sub-paragraphs (c) to (e) of paragraph (1) of this bye-law may be made conditional on the results of an interview conducted for the purpose.

(3) The Board shall recommend to Senate the number of applicants that may be allowed to register for each area of study offered in 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) When the number of places is so limited and the number of eligible applicants exceeds the number of places available, applicants will be selected using the following criteria, the weighting of which shall be published at the time of the call for applications:

- (a) degree type and classification;
- (b) experience in the area of the proposed study; and
- (c) performance during an interview.

(5) Interviews, when necessary, shall be conducted by a board composed of at least three members appointed for the purpose.

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 less than 20 ECTS credits are assigned to taught study-units and not more than 70 ECTS credits are assigned to the dissertation study-unit.

Applicable for courses commencing in October 2017 or later:

(2) In cases where applicants lack essential knowledge in particular areas not covered in their first degree, the Board may require the applicant to follow and pass supplementary study-units at level 4 or lower to which not more than 12 ECTS credits are assigned.

(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

7. The assessment of the taught study-units shall be held by the end of the semester in which the teaching of the study-units is held.

Dissertation

8. (1) Students shall be required to submit an individual dissertation of between 40,000 and 50,000 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 for 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 Head of Department as Chairman, or his or her delegate, and two other members, one of whom being the research supervisor, provided that when the Head of Department 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 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 studies supervisors shall be required to submit to the Panel of Supervision reports for the students under their supervision. Students shall seek approval from said Panel for any substantial modification in the title or content of the dissertation.

(5) The Panel of Supervision shall periodically inform the Board, in writing, on the general performance of each student. 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) this 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

11. 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

12. 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

13. The Master of Science – M.Sc. – Degree Course Regulations, 2006 under the auspices of the Faculty of Dental Surgery, published as Legal Notice 95 of 2006, shall be deemed to cease to be in force as from the 1 October 2012, provided that students registered for this course before the 1 October 2012 shall continue to be governed by the regulations that were in force at the time of their joining the course.