

**EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)**

**Bye-laws of 2020 in terms of the
General Regulations for University Undergraduate Awards, 2019
for the Degree of Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Politics and Governance
- B.A. (Hons) -
under the auspices of the Faculty of Economics, Management and Accountancy**

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 Economics, Management and Accountancy in virtue of the powers conferred upon it by section 81(1) (c) of the said Act and which have been approved by the Senate of the University of Malta as required by section 81 (2) of the said Act:

Citation and Interpretation

1. (1) These bye-laws may be cited as the Bye-Laws of 2020 in terms of the General Regulations for University Undergraduate Awards, 2019 for the Degree of Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Politics and Governance - B.A. (Hons) - under the auspices of the Faculty of Economics, Management and Accountancy.

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

“the Board” means the Board of the Faculty of Economics, Management and Accountancy;

“the Board of Studies” means the Board of Studies appointed by Senate for the Course, on the recommendation of the Board;

“the Certificate” means the Certificate in Politics and Governance;

“the Course” means the programme of study leading to the degree of Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Politics and Governance - B.A. (Hons);

“the Degree” means the degree of Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Politics and Governance - B.A. (Hons);

“the Diploma” means the Diploma in Politics and Governance;

“the Higher Diploma” means the Higher Diploma in Politics and Governance; and

“the Principal Regulations” means the General Regulations for University Undergraduate Awards, 2019.

Applicability

2. These bye-laws shall be applicable for courses commencing in October 2020 or later.

Requirements for Admission

3. (1) To be registered as regular students in the Course, applicants shall satisfy the general requirements for admission as specified in the Admissions Regulations.

(2) Applicants admitted under paragraph (c) of regulation 6 of the Admissions Regulations must be in possession of those qualifications and/or experience that would satisfy the Faculty Admissions Committee, through an interview, that they have reached the academic standard required to follow the Course with profit.

(3) Applicants admitted in terms of paragraph (2) of this bye-law shall be in possession of a pass in an English language proficiency test as approved by the University before being admitted to the Course:

provided that applicants in possession of a Secondary Education Certificate pass at Grade 3 or higher in English Language, or a pass at the same standard in a comparable qualification, shall be exempted from sitting for the proficiency test.

(4) Applicants in possession of the Higher Diploma in Political Studies of this University or a comparable qualification in an area related to Politics and/or Governance, or who have obtained ECTS credits for study-units considered by the Board of Studies to be equivalent to those in the programme of study may also be admitted to the Course. Subject to the provisions of the Principal Regulations, such applicants may be allowed by the Board of Studies to transfer these credits to the Course. The number of credits so transferred shall not exceed 90 ECTS credits.

Course Duration

4. The Course shall extend over a period of five years of part-time evening study, which may be extended to seven years provided the respective study-units are on offer.

Applicable for courses commencing in October 2023 or later:

Course Duration

4. The Course shall extend over a period of three years of full-time day study, or the equivalent in part-time study.

Programme of Study

5. The programme of study, which shall comprise study-units to which 180 ECTS credits are assigned, shall be published after approval by Senate, normally not less than eight months prior to the commencement of the Course.

6. Students who successfully complete the study-units to which at least 30 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 award of the Certificate.

7. 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 award of the Diploma.

8. Students who successfully complete study-units to which 90 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 award of the Higher Diploma.

9. Students shall be eligible for the award of the Degree if they obtain the 180 ECTS credits as outlined in the programme of study for the Course.

Classification of the Awards

10. (1) For the purpose of the classification of the Degree, the Higher Diploma, and the Diploma, the overall evaluation of each student's performance in the Course shall be based on the results obtained in all the study-units of each programme as appropriate, with all credits awarded being weighted equally.

(2) The names of students who qualify for the award of the Certificate shall be published in a list in alphabetical order.

Applicable for courses commencing in October 2023 or later:

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.

12. The Course may be offered on a flexible part-time basis with the following special provisions in terms of the provisions outlined in the General Regulations for University Undergraduate Awards, applicable with the necessary changes needed (*mutatis mutandis*) owing to the part-time nature of the course:

(a) During each academic year, students shall be allowed to register for a number of study-units as agreed with the Course Coordinator, to which not less than 12 ECTS credits are assigned, provided that registration for the study-units included in the programme of study for each course year (60 ECTS credits) is spread over not more than 3 academic years.

(b) In order to progress regularly from one course year to the next, the 60 ECTS credits of each course year must be completed in not more than 3 academic years.

(c) Students who are absent for the assessment of a study-unit, or fail in the assessment of a study-unit, shall, if eligible, be required to take the assessment of any number of such incomplete study-units at the September assessment session or at the next available opportunity.

(d) If necessary, students may be allowed to refer the assessment of the study-unit to the next academic year, provided that not more than 12 ECTS credits may be referred from one course year to the next.

(e) The assessment of study-units that may be referred to the next academic year shall be considered as additional to the minimum number of credits (12 ECTS) that students are obliged to register for during any academic year.

(f) Students who, after having registered for all the study-units comprising the programme of a course year, and after the September session lack more than 12 ECTS credits to complete the programme for the course year, may be allowed, if eligible and after academic advice, to refer them to the next academic year during which they shall not be allowed to register for any other study-units. If such an academic year is needed in addition to the maximum period of three years referred to in (b), it shall be considered as an additional year.

(g) Students who, after having registered for all the study-units comprising the programme of the final year, may, if necessary and if eligible, refer any incomplete study-units to an additional academic year.

(h) An additional year, whether required in terms of paragraphs (f) or (g) may be granted once only throughout the Course, unless in special circumstances and with the approval of Senate.

(i) Students registered on the flexible part-time programme must obtain the approval of the Course Coordinator before they are registered on the study-units they wish to follow in any academic year.

(j) Subject to approval by the Board, students registered on the Course may be allowed to change the mode of attendance from full-time to flexible part-time or *vice-versa* at the beginning of the second year of the regular programme of study. Changes in mode of attendance in any subsequent year of the Course may be considered by the Board, if the course programme permits.

(k) Notwithstanding the provisions in the General Regulations for Undergraduate Courses, owing to the nature of the course when offered on a flexible part-time basis that allows for a longer duration than normal, students registered on such a flexible part-time course programme shall not be entitled to ever repeat a course year in its entirety, nor to an extension year after each course year.