# EDUCATION ACT (CAP. 327)

# Master of Science in Tourism Development and Culture - M.Sc. - Degree Course Regulations, 2019 under the auspices of the Institute for Tourism, Travel and Culture

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 regulations made by the Senate of the University of Malta by virtue of the powers conferred upon it by articles 75 (3) and 79 (b) (v) of the said Act:

# **Citation and Interpretation**

- 1. (1) These regulations may be cited as the Master of Science in Tourism Development and Culture M.Sc. Degree Course Regulations, 2019.
  - (2) In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires -

"the Board" means the Board of the Institute for Tourism, Travel and Culture;

"the Board of Studies" means the Board of Studies responsible for the academic administration and organisation of the Course, which shall include a member from each Partner Institution:

"the Course" means the programme of study developed by the Partner Institutions leading to the degree of Master of Science in Tourism Development and Culture - M.Sc.;

"the Degree" means the degree of Master of Science in Tourism Development and Culture - M.Sc.;

"the Partner Institutions" means the institutions taking part in the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree launched through funding from the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA), namely:

University of Glasgow (Administering Institution)
University of Malta
Lund University
University Institute of Lisbon
Wageningen University (non-degree awarding partner)

"the Postgraduate Diploma" means the Postgraduate Diploma in Tourism Development and Culture – P.G. Dip.;

"the Senate" means the Senate of the University of Malta; and

"the University" means the University of Malta.

(3) This Degree is a joint degree of the University and this shall be taken to mean that the Course is taught at the Partner Institutions within the framework of a joint degree programme.

# **Applicability**

2. These regulations shall apply to courses commencing in September 2019 or later.

# **Qualifications for Admission**

- 3. (1) The Course shall be open to applicants in possession of a Bachelor degree obtained with at least Second Class Honours Upper Division or equivalent.
- (2) 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.
- (3) Proficiency in English may be certified by the following: IELTS obtained with at least 6.5 and a minimum 6.0 in each element, or comparable. English native speakers and students who have attended a Bachelor's course in an English speaking country shall not be required to submit this certification.
- (4) Depending on the availability of resources, the Senate, on the recommendation of the Board of Studies, shall determine the number of applicants that may be allowed to register on the Course. The number of available places shall be announced at the time of the call for applications.
- (5) If there are more eligible applicants than there are available places, applications shall be evaluated on the basis of the criteria as agreed by the Partner Institutions and published at the time of the call for applications.

### **Course Duration**

4. The Course shall extend over two years of full-time study.

# **Programme of Study**

- 5. (1) The programme of study shall consist of study-units to which a total of 120 ECTS credits shall be assigned, comprising taught study-units and placements assigned 90 ECTS credits and a dissertation to which 30 ECTS credits are assigned. The Board shall publish the programme prior to the commencement of the Course, following the approval of Senate.
  - (2) All students shall be required to spend study periods at the Partner

#### Institutions as indicated below:

Semester 1 – University of Glasgow

Semester 2 – University of Malta

Semester 3 – Lund University or University Institute of Lisbon

Semester 4 – Any one of the three institutions at which the students follow the taught study-units. Each student's destination for the fourth semester will be chosen by the Partner Institutions in accordance with the criteria indicated in the programme handbook which shall be made available to students.

# **Catalogue of Study-Units**

6. The Board of Studies shall draw up a catalogue of all study-units. The catalogue shall indicate the level, code, title, description and type of each study-unit, the ECTS credits assigned to each study-unit, the methods of teaching and assessment, as well as the re-assessment opportunities for each study-unit.

# **Assessment and Progress**

- 7. (1) Senate shall appoint a Board of Examiners for each study-unit undertaken at the University, in accordance with the provisions of the University Assessment Regulations.
- (2) The assessment of each study-unit shall be held on completion of the study-unit, during the period of attendance at one of the Partner Institutions at a time to be specified by the Board of Studies.
- (3) Examiners shall express the students' performance in the assessment of all study-units undertaken at the University, including the dissertation if applicable, as a percentage mark and grade, in accordance with the applicable regulations of the University.
- (4) Students who obtain 60 ECTS for taught and placement study-units and opt not to proceed with the Course, or having proceeded do not successfully complete the Course, shall be eligible for the award of the Postgraduate Diploma.

## **Dissertation**

- 8. (1) Students who are eligible to proceed to the dissertation study-unit shall be required to submit an individual dissertation of 15,000-20,000 words in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Board of Studies.
- (2) Work on the dissertation shall be undertaken during the final semester of the Course. Students shall submit for approval a title and a detailed research proposal by the deadline and in the format specified by the Board of Studies.
- (3) Students shall be required to familiarise themselves with, and adhere to the instructions and guidelines as set out in the Dissertations Handbook provided by the Board of Studies.

- 9. (1) The Board of Studies shall appoint a Panel of Supervision for each student, composed of representatives from the three institutions that will be awarding the Degree.
- (2) The Panel of Supervision shall follow, as it deems fit, the progress of students, provided that it meets at least once a year to review such progress.
- (3) Students shall be required to report to their supervisor at least once every two months, and in addition as often as the supervisor deems necessary.
- (4) Supervisors shall be required to submit reports regarding the students under their supervision to the Panel of Supervision. Students shall seek approval from the Panel of Supervision for any substantial modification in the title or content of the dissertation.
- (5) Panels of Supervision shall periodically inform the Board of Studies, 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) the extension of the study period referred to in (a) shall be in accordance with the provisions of Principal Regulations; and
- (ii) the Board of Studies may not terminate studies prematurely according to (b) until it has first given the student a chance to be heard.
- 10. (1) Each dissertation shall be examined by a Board of Examiners composed of at least four examiners representing the Partner Institutions.
- (2) Students may be required to take a *viva voce* examination to defend their dissertation and this may also be conducted using electronic means of communication if so approved by the Board of Studies.
- (3) Students whose dissertation is found unsatisfactory may be allowed by the Board of Studies, on the recommendation of the Board of Examiners, to resubmit it in a revised form, within a period of up to three months from the day on which it is referred back to them.

# **Award of the Degree**

- 11. (1) The Degree shall only be awarded if the three Partner Institutions at which the students followed the programme declare the student to be eligible for the award of the Degree.
- (2) Students who obtain results as indicated in the programme handbook and the 120 ECTS credits for the programme shall be eligible for the award of the Degree.
- (3) The names of students who qualify for the award of the Degree shall be published in a list in alphabetical order classified as Pass with Distinction or Pass

with Merit.

12. The Degree shall be awarded jointly by all the Partner Institutions following agreement between the University and the degree awarding Partner Institutions.