# EDUCATION ACT (CAP. 327)

# Bye-Laws of 2024 in terms of the General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2021 for the Degree of Master of Arts in Adult Education - M.A. under the auspices of the Faculty of Education

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 Education 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 2024 in terms of the General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2021 for the degree of Master of Arts in Adult Education M.A. under the auspices of the Faculty of Education.
  - (2) In these bye-laws, unless the context otherwise requires -

"the Board" means the Board of the Faculty of Education;

"the Course" means the programme of study leading to the degree of Master of Arts in Adult Education - M.A.;

"the Degree" means the degree of Master of Arts in Adult Education - M.A.; and

"the Principal Regulations" means the General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2021.

#### **Applicability**

2. These bye-laws shall be applicable for courses commencing in February 2024 or later.

#### **Requirements for Admission**

- 3. (1) The Course shall be open to applicants in possession of a Bachelor's degree obtained with at least Second Class Honours or Category II in an area of study deemed suitable by the Board.
- (2) The admission of applicants shall be made conditional on the result of an interview conducted by an interviewing board composed of at least three members, appointed by the Board for the purpose.
- (3) The Faculty Admissions Committee may, after thorough examination of documents submitted in support of the qualifications presented, and following an interview, recommend the admission of applicants applying for admission in terms of the University's Policy for the Recognition and Accreditation of Prior Learning (RPL) who are in possession of other academic or professional qualifications and documented experience related to adult education, if these are deemed to be comparable to the qualifications referred to in paragraph (1) of this bye-law.
- (4) The admission of applicants referred to in paragraph (3) of this bye-law may be made subject to those conditions that the Faculty Admissions Committee may impose to address any lacunae in the applicants' academic preparation. Conditions imposed may include the satisfactory completion of a preparatory programme, or the requirement to follow and pass supplementary study-units, up to a maximum of 12 ECTS credits, in addition to the programme of study specified in bye-law 5 of these bye-laws.

#### **Course Duration**

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

### **Programme of Study**

- 5. The programme of study shall comprise study-units to which a total of 90 ECTS credits are assigned, of which 10 ECTS credits are assigned to taught study-units and 80 ECTS credits are assigned to a dissertation study-unit.
- 6. The programme of study shall be published after approval by Senate, normally not less than eight months prior to the commencement of the Course.

#### Dissertation

7. (1) Students shall be required to submit an individual dissertation of between 30,000 - 35,000 words in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Board.

- (2) The provisional title for the dissertation and a detailed research proposal shall be submitted to the Board for approval at the time of the call for applications.
- (3) 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.
- 8. (1) 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.
- (2) Supervisors shall submit to the Board progress reports for each student under their supervision at the end of each semester of studies, whether the student is following the Course on a full-time or a part-time basis. 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 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**

9. The Final Weighted Average Mark for the purpose of the classification of the Degree shall be based on the results obtained in all components of the programme of study, all credits being weighted equally.

## **Special Provisions for Part-Time Courses**

10. 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.