

Legal Notice 289 of 2011 – Malta Government Gazette No. 18,782 – 22 July 2011 Amended by: Legal Notice 245 of 2021 – Malta Government Gazette No. 20,642 – 11 June, 2021 Legal Notice 275 of 2024 – Malta Government Gazette No. 21,333 – 23 October 2024
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**EDUCATION ACT  
(CAP. 327)**

**Bye-Laws of 2011 in terms of the  
General Regulations for University Undergraduate Awards, 2004  
for the Degree of Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Earth Systems –  
B.Sc. (Hons) -  
under the auspices of the Institute of Earth Systems**

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 Institute of Earth Systems in virtue of the powers conferred upon it by article 8 (b) (v) of the Statute for the Institute, 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 2011 in terms of the General Regulations for University Undergraduate Awards, 2019 for the degree of Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Earth Systems - B.Sc. (Hons), under the auspices of the Institute of Earth Systems.

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

"the Board" means the Board of the Institute of Earth Systems;

"the Course" means the programme of study leading to the degree of Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Earth Systems - B.Sc. (Hons);

"the Degree" means the degree of Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Earth Systems - B.Sc. (Hons);

"the Diploma" means the Diploma in Earth Systems;

"the Higher Diploma" means the Higher Diploma in Earth Systems; 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 2011 or later.

### **Special Course Requirements for Admission**

3. To be registered as regular students in the Course, applicants shall, apart from satisfying the general requirements for admission as specified in the Admission Regulations, be in possession of an Intermediate Level pass at grade C or better in at least one of the following subjects: Environmental Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Pure Mathematics, Applied Mathematics (Mechanics), Geography and Sociology.

### **Course Duration**

4. The Course shall extend over a period of three years of full-time study.

#### **Applicable for courses commencing in October 2024 or later:**

#### **Course Duration**

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

### **Programme of Study**

5. The Board shall publish the programme of study before the commencement of each Course. Subject to changes that the Board may, with the approval of Senate, be constrained to make, students are bound to follow the study-units and obtain the credits as indicated in the programme of study for the Degree, provided that the programme of study shall be drawn up in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Principal Regulations.

6. Students shall be required to register and pass in study-units to which a total of 180 credits are assigned.

7. Students who successfully complete study-units to which not less than 60 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 Diploma.

8. Students who successfully complete study-units to which not less than 120 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 Higher Diploma.

## Classification of the Awards

9. (1) For the purpose of the classification of the Diploma and the Higher 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) For the purpose of the classification of the Degree, the overall evaluation of the performance of every student in the Course shall be based on the results obtained in all the study-units of the three years of the course, which shall be weighted as follows:

First Year Average Mark	30%
Second Year Average Mark	35%
Third Year Average Mark	35%.

<b>Applicable for courses commencing in October 2024 or later:</b>
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<b>Provisions for Part-Time Courses</b>
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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.

11. 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, 2019 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 three 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 three 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 a

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 credits) 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 paragraph (b) of this bye-law, 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 Course 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) of this bye-law, 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 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; and

(k) Notwithstanding the provisions in the General Regulations for University Undergraduate Awards, 2019 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.