

Legal Notice 298 of 2010 – Malta Government Gazette No. 18,597 – 21 May 2010 Amended by: Legal Notice 134 of 2019 – Malta Government Gazette No. 20,217 – 21 June 2019 Legal Notice 135 of 2023 – Malta Government Gazette No. 21,074 – 23 June 2023

EDUCATION ACT (CAP. 327)

Bye-Laws of 2019 in terms of the Doctor of Philosophy - Ph.D. - Degree Regulations, 2008 for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy – Ph.D. - 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 2019 in terms of the Doctor of Philosophy - Ph.D. - Degree Regulations, 2008 for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy – Ph.D. - 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 Degree” means the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy – Ph.D.;

“the Institute” means the Institute of Earth Systems; and

“the Principal Regulations” means the Doctor of Philosophy - Ph.D. - Degree Regulations, 2008.

Applicability

2. These bye-laws shall be applicable from July 2009 onwards.

Requirements for Admission

3. (1) Applicants for the Degree offered by the Institute shall be in possession of one of the following degrees:

(a) a first cycle degree (First Class Honours), in Earth, Life and/or Natural Sciences or Geography, or Humanities, or Environmental Planning and/or Environmental Management, and/or

(b) a Master level degree in the same subject areas.

(2) Under exceptional circumstances, the Board may favourably consider an applicant with a Second Class Upper classification in the event that such applicant has authored relevant research papers in reputable journals.

4. (1) Applicants may submit their application form, together with a comprehensive research proposal outlining the proposed project, including research sources and materials, at any time of the year.

(2) Applicants may also be asked to demonstrate competence in those skills required by the nature of the proposed research.

Institute Doctoral Committee

5. (1) The Board shall recommend to Senate the appointment of an Institute Doctoral Committee composed as follows:

The Chairman of the Institute (chairman)

The Director of the Institute

A member selected from the Board of the Institute or from the Institute's academic staff.

(2) In view of the interdisciplinary nature of environmental management, the Board may, on the recommendation of the Institute Doctoral Committee, co-opt up to two other members to form part of the Institute Doctoral Committee.

Applicable for courses commencing in June 2023 or later:

5. The Board shall recommend to Senate the appointment of an Institute Doctoral Committee composed as follows:

The Director of the Institute or his delegate as Chair

The Coordinator of the Division not represented by the Director

Another two members selected from the Board of the Institute or from the Institute's academic staff.

Supervision and Students' Progress

6. Principal Supervisors shall be required to submit a written report to the Board, through the Institute Doctoral Committee, every June for all students under their supervision.

7. Students shall only be allowed to proceed with their studies subject to satisfactory progress reports from their Principal Supervisor. If the report is negative, the Board shall make recommendations to Senate on the student's continuing registration for the Degree.

8. (1) After 12 months of full-time study, students are required to submit a report on their research work for consideration by an *ad hoc* board appointed by the Board. The *ad hoc* board shall be composed of a chairman, who shall be the Director of the Institute or his delegate, and two examiners, one of whom shall be the Principal Supervisor and the other, a specialist in the respective field of research.

(2) The *ad hoc* board shall examine the student orally and shall submit a written report for consideration by the Institute Doctoral Committee in the first instance. The report shall contain recommendations according to the provisions of the Principal Regulations.

9. Students registered at the Institute may be required to participate in the Institute's research and teaching programmes.

Thesis Presentation and Format

10. Six months before the submission deadline students shall be informed that they are required to inform the Institute that they will be submitting their thesis for examination not less than three months before the submission deadline.

11. The Board shall recommend to Senate the appointment of the Board of Examiners in accordance with the Principal Regulations.

12. The Board shall approve and publish guidelines on the format and presentation of the thesis for the Degree.

13. (1) Students shall be required to submit a loose bound copy of their thesis for each member of the Board of Examiners, together with a copy in digital format. The officer in charge of the Institute shall issue a dated receipt.

(2) On successful completion of their studies, students shall be required to submit to the Institute three hard bound copies of the thesis and one copy in digital format within six weeks from the publication of their result. One copy of the thesis shall be kept in the Library of the Institute and another at the

University Library. Students who do not comply with this bye-law shall not be awarded the Degree.