

Legal Notice 298 of 2009 - Malta Government Gazette No.18,498 - 23 October 2009 Amended by: Legal Notice 367 of 2011 – Malta Government Gazette No. 18,804 – 9 September 2011 Legal Notice 340 of 2018 – Malta Government Gazette No. 20,072 – 19 October 2018 Legal Notice 93 of 2023 – Malta Government Gazette No. 21,039 – 18 April 2023
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**EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)**

**Bye-Laws of 2009 in terms of the
Doctor of Philosophy - Ph.D. - Degree Regulations, 2008
for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy
under the auspices of the Faculty of Laws**

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 Laws in virtue of the powers conferred upon it by article 81 (1) 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 2009 in terms of the Doctor of Philosophy - Ph.D. - Degree Regulations, 2008 for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy under the auspices of the Faculty of Laws.

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

“the Board” means the Board of the Faculty of Laws;

“the Degree” means the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy – Ph.D.; and

“the Faculty” means the Faculty of Laws;

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

Applicability

2. These bye-laws shall be applicable from October 2008 onwards.

Requirements for Admission

3. Applicants for the Degree offered by the Faculty must be in possession:

(a) of an LL.D. degree and demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Faculty Doctoral Committee that they are capable of conducting original research of the highest quality; the Board may also require applicants to submit for its perusal copies of their previous work and/or publications; or

(b) of a Master's degree in Law or a degree which the Board considers as equivalent awarded by another university recognised for this purpose by the Senate.

Applicable from 1 October 2023 onwards:
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(b) of a Master's degree in Law including a research component of at least 30 ECTS credits or a degree which the Board considers as equivalent awarded by another university recognised for this purpose by the Senate.

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.

5. When the Board deems it necessary, it may require students to successfully complete a number of study-units during their studies, recommended by the Board, under those conditions that it may impose, after approval by Senate.

Faculty Doctoral Committee

6. The Board shall recommend to Senate the appointment of a Faculty Doctoral Committee composed as follows:

The Dean of the Faculty or delegate (Chairman)
3 – 4 Heads of Department

Supervision and Students' Progress

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

8. 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.

9. (1) After at least 12 months and not later than 24 months of full-time study or the equivalent in part-time study, students are required to submit two chapters of 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 head of the department concerned or his delegate, and two examiners, one of whom shall be the Principal Supervisor and another member.

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

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

Thesis Presentation and Format

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

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

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

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

(2) On successful completion of their studies, students shall be required to submit to the Faculty 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 department and another at the University Library. Students who do not comply with this bye-law shall not be awarded the Degree.

Repeal

15. The Bye-Laws of 1997 for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy under the auspices of the Faculty of Laws, published as Legal Notices 170 and 173 of 1997, shall be deemed to cease to be in force as from 1st October 2008, provided that students registered for this degree before 1st October 2008 shall continue to be

governed by the regulations that were in force at the time of their registration for the degree.