Legal Notice 31 of 2012 - Malta Government Gazette No.18,859 – 24 January 2012
Amended by:
Legal Notice 202 of 2016 - Malta Government Gazette No.19,581 – 26 May 2016
Legal Notice 372 of 2018 - Malta Government Gazette No.20,085 – 9 November 2018

EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)

Bye-Laws of 2011 in terms of the General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards 2008 for the Degree of Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) in Digital Arts under the auspices of the Faculty of Media and Knowledge Sciences

IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred upon him by articles 74 (5) and 75 (6) of the Education Act (Cap. 327), the Chancellor the University of Malta has promulgated the following bye-laws made by the Board of the Faculty of Media and Knowledge Sciences 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 2011 in terms of the General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards 2008 for the Degree of Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) in Digital Arts under the auspices of the Faculty of Media and Knowledge Sciences.

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

"the Board" means the Board of the Faculty of Media and Knowledge Sciences;

"the Course" means the programme of study leading to the degree of Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) in Digital Arts;

"the Degree" means the degree of Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) in Digital Arts;

"the Postgraduate Diploma" means the Postgraduate Diploma of Fine Arts in Digital Arts, and

"the Principal Regulations" means the General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2008.

Applicability

2. These bye-laws shall be applicable for courses commencing in October 2011 or later.

Requirements for Admission

3. (1) The Course is open to applicants in possession of either:

(a) a Bachelor's degree obtained with at least Second Class Honours or with placement in Category II from this or another university, together with a substantial portfolio of recent works; or

(b) a professional qualification/qualifications and/or experience deemed by Senate, on the recommendation of the Board, to satisfy in part the admission requirements to the Course, provided that applicants may be required to complete a preparatory theoretical programme as specified in bye-law 4, together with a substantial portfolio of recent works.

(2) All applicants who are not in possession of a first degree in Art shall be interviewed and evaluated by an interviewing board composed of at least three members. Applicants shall be asked to provide evidence of their professional experience in Art by means of a portfolio.

Preparatory Programme

4. (1) All applicants may be required to follow a preparatory programme as specified by the Board.

(2) The preparatory programme shall comprise study-units to which not less than 30 credits and not more than 60 credits are assigned. It shall include a synoptic assessment and shall be governed by the Principal Regulations.

(3) Students shall be required to successfully complete the preparatory programme of study with an average mark of 55% or better prior to their registration for the Course.

Course Duration

5. The Course shall extend over four semesters of full-time study.

Programme of Study

6. (1) The programme of study shall comprise study-units to which a total of 120 credits are assigned, of which 60 credits are assigned to taught study-units and 60 credits assigned to the dissertation study-unit.

(2) Students who obtain the 60 credits assigned to the taught study-units with an average mark of at least 50% and do not proceed with the Course, or having proceeded do not successfully compete the dissertation, shall be eligible for the award of the Postgraduate Diploma

(3) The programme of study shall be published by the Board after approval by Senate, normally not less than eight months prior to the commencement of the Course

Assessment and Progress

7. (1) The assessment of each taught study-unit shall be completed by the end of the semester in which the teaching of the study-unit is held.

(2) Students who in any academic year fail in the assessment of not more than 20 credits for taught study-units shall be given the opportunity to re-sit the failed assessments during the September supplementary examination session.

(3) Students who fail in more than the number of credits permitted under paragraph (2) of this bye-law, or students who after re-assessment fail to obtain the credits for any study-unit, shall be deemed to have failed the Course.

Dissertations

8. (1) Students shall be required to submit a Final Project within the area of Digital Arts and an individual dissertation of not more than 25,000 words in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Board.

(2) Each dissertation shall be assigned a supervisor who shall provide guidance and advice on a regular basis during the period of study.

(3) A provisional title for the Final Project and the dissertation and a detailed research proposal shall be submitted to the Board for approval by the end of the second semester of the Course.

(4) Students shall be required to organise and curate a public, collective Degree Exhibition, showcasing all the Final Projects at the end of the fourth semester of the Course.

9. (1) Students shall be required to have regular contact with their supervisor.

(2) Supervisors shall submit to the Board a progress report for each student under their supervision a month prior to submission. Such report may include a recommendation to either (a) extend the period of study in order to enable the student to complete the dissertation; of (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 Awards

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