

**EDUCATION ACT  
(CAP. 327)**

**Bye-Laws of 2018 in terms of the  
General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2008 for the  
Degree of Master of Science in Biomedical Engineering (Biomechanics) - M.Sc. -  
under the auspices of the Faculty of Engineering and  
the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery**

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 Boards of the Faculty of Engineering and the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery in virtue of the powers conferred upon them 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 2018 in terms of the General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2008 for the degree of Master of Science in Biomedical Engineering (Biomechanics) - M.Sc. - offered under the auspices of the Faculty of Engineering and the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery.

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

“the Boards” means the Boards of the Faculty of Engineering and of the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery;

“the Board of Studies” means the Board of Studies appointed by Senate for the Course, on the recommendations of the Boards of the Faculty of Engineering and of the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery;

“the Course” means the programme of study leading to the degree of Master of Science in Biomedical Engineering (Biomechanics) - M.Sc.;

“the Degree” means the degree of Master of Science in Biomedical Engineering (Biomechanics) - M.Sc.;

“the Postgraduate Diploma” means the Postgraduate Diploma in Biomedical Engineering (Biomechanics) - P.G.Dip.; 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 2018 or later.

### **Requirements for Admission**

3. The Course shall be open to applicants in possession of one of the following qualifications:

(a) the degree of Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) from this University, or from any other higher education institution recognized by Senate, obtained with at least Second Class Honours; or

(b) the degree of Doctor of Medicine and Surgery from this University or equivalent obtained from any other higher education institution recognized by Senate; or

(c) the degree of Bachelor of Science (Honours) from this University, or from any other higher education institution recognized by Senate, obtained with at least Second Class Honours in one of the following areas: Medical Biochemistry, Applied Biomedical Science (or Medical Laboratory Science), Physiotherapy, Chemistry, Biology, Physics, or in another area of study deemed relevant by the Board of Studies.

### **Course Duration**

4. The Course shall extend over two years (four semesters) of full-time study.

### **Board of Studies**

5. (1) The academic administration of the Course shall be entrusted to a Board of Studies appointed for the purpose.

(2) The Board of Studies, which shall be appointed for a period of two years, shall be composed as follows:

(a) the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery or their respective delegate;

(b) two Course Co-ordinators, one appointed by each Faculty;

(c) at least one academic member of staff from each of the two faculties, representing the departments which contribute towards the delivery of the programme; and

(d) two students elected from amongst the students registered on the Course.

### **Programme of Study**

6. (1) The programme of study shall comprise study-units to which a total of 120 ECTS credits are assigned, of which 90 ECTS credits are assigned to taught study-units and 30 ECTS credits are assigned to the dissertation study-unit.

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

(3) Students shall be eligible for the award of the Degree if they obtain the 120 ECTS credits as outlined in the programme of study for the Course with an average mark of at least 50%.

(4) The programme of study shall be published 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 fail in the assessment of not more than 20 ECTS credits for taught study-units in Year 1, and not more than 10 ECTS credits for taught study-units in Year 2, 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 credit for any study-unit shall be deemed to have failed the Course.

### **Dissertation**

8. (1) Students shall be required to submit an individual dissertation normally not exceeding 20,000 words in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Board of Studies.

(2) Depending on the nature of the research area, students may be allowed to participate in joint research projects where data generated jointly by two

or more students is used for the writing of a dissertation, provided that each student writes a separate dissertation.

(3) Work on the dissertation shall be undertaken during the final year of the Course. Each student or group of students shall normally be assigned two supervisors who shall provide guidance and advice on a regular basis during the period of study.

(4) A provisional title for the dissertation and a detailed research proposal shall be submitted to the Board of Studies for approval before the end of the second semester.

(5) Students shall seek approval from the Board of Studies through their supervisors for any substantial modifications in the title or content of the dissertation.

(6) Students shall be required to have regular contact with their supervisors, who shall submit to the Board of Studies progress reports for the student/s under their supervision at the end of each semester of the second year of study. 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 of Studies may not terminate studies prematurely according to (b) until it has first given the student a chance to be heard.

### **Classification of the Awards**

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