

Legal Notice 25 of 2012 - Malta Government Gazette No. 18,859 – 24 January 2012 Amended by: Legal Notice 372 of 2014 - Malta Government Gazette No. 19,323 – 10 October 2014 Legal Notice 370 of 2015 - Malta Government Gazette No. 19,503 – 20 November 2015 Legal Notice 186 of 2016 - Malta Government Gazette No. 19,579 – 24 May 2016 Legal Notice 52 of 2017 - Malta Government Gazette No. 19,723 – 7 February 2017 Legal Notice 238 of 2019 - Malta Government Gazette No. 20,266 – 17 September 2019
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EDUCATION ACT (CAP. 327)

Bye-Laws of 2016 in terms of the General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2008 for the Degree of Master of Arts in Transcultural Counselling – M.A. (T.Couns.) – under the auspices of the Faculty for Social Wellbeing

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 for Social Wellbeing in virtue of the powers conferred upon it 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 2016 in terms of the General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2008 for the degree of Master of Arts in Transcultural Counselling – M.A (T.Couns.) – under the auspices of the Faculty for Social Wellbeing.

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

"the Board" means the Board of the Faculty for Social Wellbeing;

"the Board of Studies" means the Board of Studies appointed for the Course by of the Board of the Faculty for Social Wellbeing;

"the Course" means the programme of study leading to the degree of Master of Arts in Transcultural Counselling – M.A. (T.Couns.);

"the Degree" means the degree of Master of Arts in Transcultural Counselling – M.A. (T.Couns.);

"the Postgraduate Diploma" means the Postgraduate Diploma in Transcultural Counselling Studies P.G.Dip. (T.Couns. Stud.); 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 shall be open to applicants in possession of a Bachelor's degree with at least Second Class Honours or Category II in one of the human and/or social sciences, subject to the approval of the Board.

Applicable for courses commencing in October 2018 or later:

3. (1) The Course shall be open to applicants in possession of a Bachelor's degree with at least Second Class Honours or Category II in one of the human and/or social sciences, or an area of study deemed relevant by the Board.

(2) All applicants shall be required to demonstrate that they have the necessary aptitude and disposition to follow the Course with profit.

(3) (a) Professional aptitude and disposition shall be measured by means of exercises involving (i) group discussion, and (ii) a personal interview.

Applicable for courses commencing in October 2019 or later:

(3) (a) Professional aptitude and disposition shall be measured by means of exercises involving a personal interview and may include a group discussion.

(b) Applicants who obtain less than 60% for the professional aptitude and the disposition criterion shall automatically not be admitted into the Course.

(4) Senate, on the advice of the Board, may limit the number of students to be admitted to the Course. When the number is so limited and the number of eligible applicants exceeds the number of places available, applicants shall be selected during an interview, according to the following criteria which shall be published at the time of the call for applications:

- (a) degree type and classification – 30%
- (b) experience in the area – 15%; and

- (c) professional aptitude and disposition – 55%.

Applicable for courses commencing in October 2019 or later:

(4) Senate, on the advice of the Board, may limit the number of students to be admitted to the Course. When the number is so limited and the number of eligible applicants exceeds the number of places available, applicants shall be selected during an interview, according to the following criteria:

- (a) degree type and classification – 30%
- (b) experience in the area – 15%;
- (c) other postgraduate qualifications in relevant area – 5%; and
- (d) professional aptitude and disposition – 50%.”

(5) The interviewing board shall be appointed by the Board and shall be composed of at least three members.

(6) For the purpose of selection, applicants whose qualifications as stipulated in paragraph (1) of this bye-law were obtained by 31 August preceding the commencement of the Course shall be considered first.

Course Duration

4. The Course shall extend over a period of four semesters of full-time study.

Programme of Study

5. (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 and practicum study-units and 30 ECTS credits to the dissertation study-unit.

(2) Throughout the Course, students are required to complete 20 hours of personal counselling with a counsellor of their choice from an approved list.

Applicable for courses commencing in October 2019 or later:

(2) Throughout the Course, students are required to complete 50 hours of personal counselling with a counsellor of their choice from an approved list.

(3) 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 Course, shall be eligible for the award of the Postgraduate Diploma.

(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

6. (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 four taught study-units shall be given the opportunity to re-sit the failed assessments at the next scheduled examination session (May or September).

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

(4) Students must maintain a good level of performance in the study-unit/s involving supervised practicum for which the minimum pass mark shall be grade C - 55%.

Applicable for courses commencing in October 2019 or later:

(4) Students must maintain a good level of performance in the study-unit/s involving supervised counselling practicum for which the minimum pass mark shall be grade C – 55%.

(5) Students who fail to pass in the supervised practicum shall not have the right to a supplementary assessment in the same academic year but shall be required to re-do the supervised practicum during an additional year of studies. Such an additional year shall not be counted for the purpose of Course duration.

Applicable for courses commencing in October 2019 or later:

(5) Students who fail to obtain a Pass in the supervised counselling practicum shall not have the right to a supplementary assessment and shall be required to re-do the supervised counselling practicum during an additional year of studies. Such an additional year shall not be counted for the purpose of Course duration.

Dissertation

7. (1) Students shall be required to submit an individual dissertation of approximately 20,000 words, in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Board of Studies.

Applicable for courses commencing in October 2019 or later:

7. (1) Students shall be required to submit an individual dissertation of between a minimum of 18,000 and a maximum of 20,000 words in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Board of Studies.

(2) Work on the dissertation shall be undertaken during the third and fourth semester of the Course. Each student shall be assigned a supervisor who shall provide guidance and advice on a regular basis during the period of study.

(3) A provisional title of the dissertation and a detailed research proposal shall be approved by the Board of Studies not later than the end of the second semester.

Applicable for courses commencing in October 2019 or later:

(4) Students are required to familiarise themselves with, and adhere to instructions and guidelines as set out in the Dissertations Handbook provided by the Department of Counselling.

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

(2) Supervisors shall submit to the Board of Studies progress reports for each student under their supervision. 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 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 Award

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