

Legal Notice 201 of 2016 – Malta Government Gazette 19,581 – 26 May 2016 Amended by: Legal Notice 300 of 2016 – Malta Government Gazette 19,637 – 13 September 2016 Legal Notice 381 of 2016 – Malta Government Gazette 19,681 – 18 November 2016 Legal Notice 218 of 2023 – Malta Government Gazette 21,117 – 19 September 2023
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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 Gender, Society and Culture – M. GSC - 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 Gender, Society and Culture – M. GSC - 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 for the Course as appointed by Senate, on the recommendation of the Board;

“the Course” means the programme of study leading to the degree of Master of Gender, Society and Culture – M. GSC;

“the Degree” means the degree of Master of Gender, Society and Culture – M. GSC;

“the Postgraduate Certificate” means the Postgraduate Certificate in Gender, Society and Culture - P.G.Cert. GSC;

“the Postgraduate Diploma” means the Postgraduate Diploma in Gender, Society and Culture - P.G.Dip. GSC; 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 2016 or later.

### **Requirements for Admission**

3. (1) The Course shall be open to applicants in possession of a Bachelor degree from this University or any other institution recognized by Senate, obtained with at least Second Class Honours or Category II.

#### **Applicable for courses commencing in October 2023 or later:**

(2) Applicants in possession of a Bachelor degree obtained with Third Class Honours or Category III may also be accepted, provided that such applicants are in possession of other qualifications or relevant experience, obtained following the first cycle degree.

(3) The Faculty Admissions Committee may, after thorough examination of documents submitted in support of the qualifications presented, and following an interview, recommend the admission of applicants applying for admission in terms of the University’s Policy for the Recognition and Accreditation of Prior Learning (RPL) who are in possession of other academic or professional qualifications and documented experience if these are deemed to be comparable to the qualifications referred to in paragraph (1) of this bye-law. The admission of such applicants may be made subject to those conditions that may be imposed to address any lacunae in the applicants’ academic preparation.

(4) All applicants shall be required to demonstrate that they have the necessary aptitude and disposition to follow the Course with profit which shall be measured by means of a personal interview conducted by an interviewing board appointed for the purpose.

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

(6) When the number of places is limited and the number of eligible applicants exceeds the number of places available, applicants will be selected using

the following criteria, the weighting of which shall be published at the time of the call for applications:

- (a) degree type and class;
- (b) experience in the area of the proposed study; and
- (c) performance during the interview.

(7) 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.

**Applicable for courses commencing in October 2023 or later:**

**Preparatory Programme**

4. Applicants admitted under paragraphs (2) and (3) of bye-law 3 may be required to complete a preparatory programme, comprising not less than 30 ECTS credits and not more than 60 ECTS credits and obtain an overall average mark of 55% or better, prior to their registration as regular students on the Course.

**Course Duration**

5. (1) The Course shall extend over three semesters of full-time study or the equivalent in part-time study.

(2) Eligible applicants may register as visiting students for individual study-units and obtain credit for them. Should they be accepted to join the Course within seven years from following the first study-unit, the Board may allow the transfer of these credits to the student's academic record for the Course.

**Programme of Study**

6. The programme of study shall comprise study-units to which a total of 90 ECTS credits are assigned, of which 60 ECTS credits are assigned to taught study-units and 30 ECTS credits assigned to a dissertation study-unit.

7. Students who obtain at least 30 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 Certificate.

8. Students who obtain the 60 ECTS 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 complete the dissertation, shall be eligible for the award of the Postgraduate Diploma.

9. 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**

10. (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 ECTS credits, if following the full-time Course, or not more than 10 ECTS credits if following the part-time Course, 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**

11. (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.

(2) Work on the dissertation shall be undertaken during the third 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 for the dissertation and an initial research proposal shall be submitted to the Board of Studies for approval not later than six weeks before the end of the second semester of full-time study, or its equivalent in part-time study.

12. (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 at the end of each semester of study, whether the student is following the Course on a full-time or a part-time basis. 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 may not terminate studies prematurely according to (b) until it has first given the student a chance to be heard.

### **Classification of the Awards**

13. 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 course programme, all credits being weighted equally.

### **Special Provisions for Part-Time Courses**

14. The provisions of the foregoing bye-laws shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to courses followed on a part-time basis, and subject to such changes as may reasonably be deemed by the Board as necessary due to the part-time nature of the Course.