

Legal Notice 294 of 2008 - Malta Government Gazette No.18,342 - 18 November 2008
Amended by:
Legal Notice 124 of 2009 – Malta Government Gazette No. 18,404 – 17 April 2009
Legal Notice 48 of 2013 – Malta Government Gazette No. 19,023 – 29 January 2013
Legal Notice 253 of 2017 – Malta Government Gazette No. 19,867 – 22 September 2017

**EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)**

**Bye-Laws of 2008 in terms of the
General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2008
for the Degree of Master of Arts in Spirituality
under the auspices of the Faculty of Theology**

IN exercise of the powers conferred upon him by sections 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 Theology in virtue of the powers conferred upon it by section 81 (1) of the said Act and which have been approved by the Senate of the University of Malta as required by section 81 (2) of the said Act:

Citation and Interpretation

1. (1) These bye-laws may be cited as the Bye-Laws of 2008 in terms of the General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2008 for the degree of Master of Arts in Spirituality under the auspices of the Faculty of Theology.

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

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

“the Course” means the programme of study leading to the degree of Master of Arts in Spirituality;

“the Degree” means the degree of Master of Arts in Spirituality;

“the Postgraduate Certificate” means the Postgraduate Certificate in Spirituality;

“the Postgraduate Diploma” means the Postgraduate Diploma in Spirituality;
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 2008 or later.

Areas of Specialization

3. The Course shall be offered in areas of specialisation in Spirituality as announced by the Board at the time of the call for applications.

Requirements for Admission

4. (1) The Course shall be open to applicants in possession of:

(a) a Bachelor degree in any area of study obtained with at least Second Class Honours or with at least Category II; or

(b) a Bachelor degree obtained with Third Class Honours, if they are also in possession of other qualifications obtained following the first cycle degree.

(2) In exceptional cases the Admissions Board, on the recommendation of the Board, may admit into the Course applicants not in possession of a Bachelor degree, provided that it is satisfied that such applicants are in possession of other academic or professional qualifications and experience that together are deemed to be comparable to the level of a first degree.

Course Duration

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

Programme of Study

6. (1) The programme of study shall comprise study-units to which a total of 90 credits shall be assigned and shall consist of:

(a) 30 credits assigned to the core study-units;

(b) 30 credits assigned to the taught study-units in an area of specialisation;
and

(c) 30 credits assigned to the dissertation study-unit.

7. (1) Students who obtain the 30 credits assigned to the study-units referred to in paragraph 6(1)(a) which are held in the first semester with an average mark of at least 50% and do not proceed with the Course, shall be eligible for the award of the Postgraduate Certificate.

(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 complete the dissertation, shall be eligible for the award of the Postgraduate Diploma.

8. 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

9. (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, if following the full-time Course, or not more than 10 credits if following the part-time Course, shall be given the opportunity to re-sit the failed assessment during the September supplementary examination session.

(3) Students who fail 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

10. (1) Students shall be required to submit an individual dissertation of approximately 25,000 words in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Board.

Applicable for courses commencing in October 2017 or later:

10. (1) Students shall be required to submit an individual dissertation of approximately 15,000 - 20,000 words in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Board.

(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 of the dissertation and a detailed research proposal shall be submitted to the Board for approval by the beginning of the second semester.

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

(2) Supervisors shall submit to the Board progress reports for each student under their supervision at the end of each semester of studies, whether the student is following the course on a full-time or 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

12. 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 components of the programme of study, all credits being weighted equally.

Special Provisions for Part-Time Courses

13. 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.

MA Spirituality-BL-2008
12 August 2008