

**L.N. 455 of 2014**

**EDUCATION ACT  
(CAP. 327)**

**Bye-Laws of 2014 in terms of the  
General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2008  
for the Degree of Master of Advocacy – M.Adv. – and  
the Degree of Master of Notarial Studies – M.Not.St. –  
under the auspices of the Faculty of Laws**

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 of Laws 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 2014 in terms of the General Regulations for University Postgraduate Awards, 2008 for the degree of Master of Advocacy – M.Adv. – and for the degree of Master of Notarial Studies – M.Not.St. - under the auspices of the Faculty of Laws.

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

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

“the Course” means the programme of study leading to the degree of Master of Advocacy – M.Adv. - or the degree of Master of Notarial Studies – M.Not.St.;

“the Degree” means the degree of Master of Advocacy – M.Adv. - or the degree of Master of Notarial Studies – M.Not.St.;

“the Postgraduate Diploma” means the Postgraduate Diploma in Advocacy – P.G.Dip.Adv. - or the Postgraduate Diploma in Notarial Studies – P.G.Dip.Not.St.;  
and

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

**Applicability**

2. These bye-laws shall apply to courses commencing in October 2016 or later.

### **Requirements for Admission**

3. Applicants for the Degree must be in possession of:

(a) the degree of Bachelor of Laws (Honours) – LL.B. (Hons) - classified with at least Second Class Honours; or

(b) a Bachelor's degree in Law from this university or any other university recognised by the Senate for the purpose, with at least Second Class Honours or Category II; or

(c) the Diploma of Notary Public – N.P., for admission to the degree of Master of Advocacy only.

### **Preparatory Programme**

4. Applicants admitted under sub-paragraph (b) of bye-law 3 shall be required to complete a preparatory programme, to which 60 ECTS credits are assigned, and to obtain an overall average mark of 55% or better in the preparatory programme, prior to their registration as regular students on the Course, provided that applicants who were registered on the course leading to the degree of Bachelor of Laws (Honours) and who did not qualify for the award of the Honours Degree shall not be eligible to join the preparatory programme.

### **Course Duration**

5. The Course for the Degree shall extend over three semesters of full-time study.

### **Employment**

6. Students shall not engage in full-time or substantial part-time employment once registered for the Course, except by special permission of the Board.

### **Programmes of Study**

7. The programmes of study of the Course 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 are assigned to professional practice.

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 professional practice, shall be eligible for the award of the Postgraduate Diploma in Advocacy or in Notarial Studies, as the case may be.

9. The programmes of study shall be published after approval by Senate, normally not less than eight months prior to the commencement of the Courses.

### **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 fail in the assessment of not more than 20 ECTS 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 taught study-unit, shall be deemed to have failed the Course.

### **Professional Practice**

11. (1) Students shall be required to carry out professional practice in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Board.

(2) Students shall be required to pass all the components of the professional practice study-unit. If students fail in, or for a valid reason approved by Senate, do not complete the professional practice study-unit, they shall be allowed to repeat the study-unit or any of its components during an additional year of study.

(3) The Board shall appoint one supervisor from the Faculty and one co-supervisor from the profession, who shall provide guidance and advice on a regular basis during the professional practice.

(4) Students shall be required to have regular contact with their supervisors.

12. Supervisors shall submit to the Board reports for students under their supervision.

13. Students who fail in the re-assessment of any professional practice component or the whole study-unit, shall be deemed to have failed the Course.

### **Classification of the Awards**

14. 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.

