



Présentation

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Symposium RETI

Réseau d'Excellence des Territoires Insulaires

9 -10 juillet 2010, Corte, Corsica

University of Malta



Master of Arts in Island & Small State Studies



UNIVERSITY OF MALTA
L-Università ta' Malta

Lino Briguglio



The University of Malta

- ❑ The University of Malta is the leading higher education institution in Malta. It is mainly financed and is open to all those who have the requisite qualifications.
- ❑ Over the past few years the University has reviewed its structures in order to be in line with the Bologna process which envisages the establishment of the European Higher Education Area by 2010.
- ❑ The supreme governing bodies of the University are the Council and the Senate.
- ❑ There are some 12000 students including over 750 foreign/exchange students from nearly 80 different countries following full-time or part-time degree and diploma courses many of them run on the modular or credit system.
- ❑ Over 2500 students graduate in various disciplines annually.



Faculties Institutes & Centres

Faculties:

- Arts
- Built Environment
- Dental Surgery
- Economics Management Accountancy Public Policy Tourism
- Education
- Engineering
- Information & Communication Technology
- Laws
- Medicine & Surgery
- Science
- Theology



Faculties Institutes & Centres

Institutes:

- Agriculture Institute
- Anglo-Italian Studies Institute
- Baroque Studies Institute
- Confucius Institute
- Criminology Institute
- Environment Institute
- Health Care Institute
- Islands & Small States Institute
- Linguistics
- Maltese Studies Institute
- Public Administration & Management Institute
- Physical Education & Sport Institute
- Sustainable Development Institute
- Sustainable Energy Institute
- Mediterranean Institute Institute
- Edward de Bono Institute for the Design & Development of Thinking.



Faculties Institutes & Centres

Centres:

- Centre for Communication Technology
- Centre for Environmental Education and Research
- Centre for Family Studies
- Centre for Labour Studies
- Centre for Literacy
- European Centre for Gerontology
- European Centre of Educational Resilience & Socio-Emotional Health
- Euro-Mediterranean Centre for Educational Research
- Euro-Mediterranean Centre on Insular Coastal Dynamics
- IOI - Malta Operational Centre
- European Documentation & Research Centre.



Associated Bodies

- ❑ The University of Malta (Gozo Campus) (formerly known as the University of Malta Gozo Centre) was set up in 1992 with the aim of assisting in the logistical aspects of degree and diploma courses which are from time to time offered in Gozo by the University of Malta. The Campus also offers its own short term courses and caters for the needs of Gozitan students following courses in Malta and in Gozo.
- ❑ Associated with the University is the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies which was established by special agreement with the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva.
- ❑ The Malta campus is also home to the IMO International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI) and the International Ocean Institute Malta Operational Centre (IOI-MOC).



Islands and Small States Institute

- The Islands and Small States Institute evolved from the Islands and Small States Programme which had been set up in 1989 at the Foundation for International Studies Valletta, Malta. In 1993 the Programme was restructured as an Institute with the principal aim of enabling the organisation to offer academic courses.
- The Islands & Small States Institute promotes research and training on economic social cultural ecological and geographical aspects of islands and small states. It also offers postgraduate courses on islands and small states studies.
- Since 16th August 2007 the Institute moved from the Foundation for International Studies Valletta to the University of Malta campus at Msida at a dedicated building.

MA ISSS Graduates

- Since 2002 about 70 students have graduated MA (ISSS).





Course Regulations

- **Qualifications for Admission**

Applicants must be in possession of a Bachelor's degree with at least Category II or a first degree recognised by Senate as equivalent to the Bachelor's degree of the University of Malta with at least Category II.

The admission of applicants whose first degree is not in the major area of study chosen by them shall be made after an interview.

- **Course Duration**

The Course is normally spread over two academic years of part-time study.

Course Structure

- The Course has two components:
 - (a) **a taught component** consisting of a number of study-units to which a minimum of 60 ECTS (European Credit Transfer System – each credit requires approximately 7 contact hours) shall be assigned and
 - (b) **a research component** which shall lead to the presentation of a dissertation written under supervision to which 30 ECTS credits shall be assigned.

- Minor and Major Areas of study of the taught component:
Major = 40 ECTS; Minor = 20 ECTS:
 - Economics
 - Management
 - Education
 - Environmental Studies
 - Public Policy
 - Other areas as the Board may stipulate



Dissertation

- **Dissertation**

The dissertation to be submitted by the end of the Course is expected to be of approximately 30000 words on an approved subject. A *viva voce* examination on the dissertation will also be held.

Students are required to obtain a pass for their dissertation in order to qualify for the Degree.

- **Final Result**

The final grade of each student shall take into account all the grades obtained in the assessments of the taught and research components of the Course which shall be weighted according to the number of credits assigned to each.



Recent Dissertation Titles

Mario Camilleri	The Economic Impact of Agriculture on Small Island States
Maryrose Vella	Attitudes Towards the Impacts of Climate Change on Small Island States: Expert Views
Claudine Galea	Regulating the Policies of Medicines in Small States
Selma Gatt	Gozo as an Eco-Island – Analysis of Public Perceptions
Cynthia Caruana	An Economic Valuation of a Beach on the Island of Malta: Pretty Bay B'Bugia



Guidelines for Dissertation Supervisors

1. Supervisors are to meet the student as often as required.
2. It is important that the supervisor guides the student so that the dissertation (a) has as its main theme a subject of interest to a number of small states or small islands (b) is built on a research hypothesis (c) contains a chapter with a literature review on the theme of the dissertation and (d) contains a chapter explaining the methodology that is used for the analysis and (e) presents the results of the analysis as well as a discussion on the results in a separate chapter.
3. The supervisor is to ensure that the style of the dissertation is consistent throughout.
4. Every time a meeting is held between the supervisor and the student regarding the dissertation the supervisor is to sign a form.
5. Only when the supervisor is satisfied that the dissertation is up to standard should the supervisor give permission to the student to submit the dissertation for examination.



Distance Tuition Mode

- ❑ The "Distance Tuition" mode shall consist of tuition and supervision by means of postal deliveries electronic communication and other means of communication.
- ❑ A mentor shall be assigned for every student following the Course by the "Distance Tuition" mode and the student concerned is expected to keep regular contact with his/her mentor.
- ❑ The Moodle Platform (open source) is used in this regard.
- ❑ Distance tuition students will be expected to sit for the same examination papers as the rest of the students but may be granted the possibility of sitting for the examinations at a recognized educational institution in their country of residence
- ❑ However they will be required to sit for a *viva voce* examination on their dissertation at the University of Malta unless teleconferencing arrangements can be organized at the student's expense.



A Possible Student Exchange Project

- I happened to also chair the Small States Network for Economic Development (SSNED) which is funded by the World Bank. Up to June of last year the SSNED was considering funding an project for student exchange between the University members of UCSIS. The idea was for each University to organise a condensed course at Master's level, during the Summer months, to which five students from the other Universities would attend. The funds were intended to pay travelling, accommodation and tuition expenses.



A Possible Student Exchange Project

- Unfortunately the project did not take off and that funding window has been closed, due to the delay in organising an UCSIS meeting of the Board of Trustees. I wish to propose that UCSIS considers funding this project itself, which will cost about US\$75,000 annually, with 25 students benefiting from exchange.

Thank You!

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