

UNIVERSITIES AND UNIVERSITY COLLEGES ACT 1971  
CONSTITUTION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA 1997

UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA  
(DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY) RULES 2007

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ARRANGEMENT OF RULES

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PART 1  
INTRODUCTION

Rule

1. Name, commencement and application
2. Interpretation

PART II  
PROGRAMME OF STUDY AND ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

3. Programme of study
4. Admission requirements

PART III  
REGISTRATION

5. Registration as candidate

PART IV  
PAYMENT

6. Fees and other payments
7. Right to vary fees and other payments

PART V  
DURATION OF PROGRAMME OF STUDY

8. Duration of programme of study
9. Minimum and maximum duration

PART VI  
STRUCTURE OF PROGRAMME OF STUDY

10. Structure of programme of study

PART VII  
LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

11. Bahasa Malaysia requirement

12. English language requirement

PART VIII  
EXAMINATIONS

13. Examinations

PART IX  
GRADUATION

14. Graduation requirements

PART X  
GENERAL

15. Admission of auditing student

16. Termination of candidature

17. Power of the Senate to make regulations

18. Exemptions

19. Compliance with University's statutes, rules and regulations

20. Repeal

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2007

In exercise of the powers conferred under section 31 and subsection 32(1) of the Constitution of the University of Malaya 1997 [P.U. (A) 107], the Board of Directors of the University of Malaya makes the following rules:

PART I  
INTRODUCTION

**Name, commencement and application**

1. (1) These Rules may be cited as the **University of Malaya (Degree of Doctor of Philosophy) Rules 2007** and shall come into force in the academic session 2007/2008.

(2) These Rules shall apply to all candidates of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy admitted prior to and in the academic session 2007/2008 and thereafter.

**Interpretation**

2. In these Rules, unless the context otherwise requires—

“academic session” means the period of study for a programme of study comprising two normal semesters including special semesters;

“academic year” means a period of twelve months duration, the dates for the commencement and the end of which shall be determined by the University

“calendar year” means a period of time the duration of which is twelve months;

“candidate” means a person who has registered for any of the degree Doctor of Philosophy programmes;

“Committee of Examiners” means the committee established in each Faculty for the purpose of considering and assessing the examination results of a candidate pursuant to any regulations made under these Rules;

“Constitution” means the Constitution of the University of Malaya;

“consultant” means a person who is not a member of the academic staff of any university appointed by the Faculty to assist in the supervision of a candidate in his programme of study;

“co-supervisor” means a person appointed by the Faculty from amongst its academic staff who has left the services of the University and whose supervisory services are still required to enable his candidate to complete the programme of study, and may include a duly appointed academic staff from another university;

"course" means a unit of education or training conducted over a prescribed period of time;

"Dean of Faculty" means the Dean of a Faculty of the University and includes any Director or Head of any Academy, Centre, School or Institute, who has been appointed under subsections 21(4) and (5) of the Constitution;

“Degree” means the degree of Doctor of Philosophy of the University;

"Department" means any department of study of the Faculty and includes any division of studies of the Faculty;

“examination room” means the premises for the conduct of an examination for a course or courses;

“external examiner” means a person who is not a full-time or part-time teacher of the University appointed by Senate to examine a course for a Degree programme of study or thesis of a candidate;

"Faculty" means any Faculty of the University and includes any School, Centre, Academy or Institute established under subsection 21(1) of the Constitution;

“Head of Department” means the Head of any Department of studies of a Faculty including the Chairman of any division of studies of any Faculty or the Programme Co-ordinator, as the case may be;

“internal examiner” means person who is a full-time or part-time teacher of the University appointed by the Faculty to examine a course, a part of a course or thesis of a candidate;

“invigilator” means an invigilator and includes a chief invigilator appointed by the Vice-Chancellor from amongst full-time teachers of the University to invigilate an examination of a Degree programme of study;

“normal semester” means Semester I or Semester II as provided in the Semester Schedule;

"place of study" means the University including any other place approved by the University;

“programme of study” means a group of courses, training and research or a combination of such courses, training and research that are planned and offered for purposes of fulfilling the requirements for the award of a Degree;

"programme study by Coursework and Research" means a programme of study as defined under paragraph 3(b);

"programme study by Research" means a programme of study as defined under paragraph 3(a);

"Registrar" means an officer of the University under subsection 13(1) of the Constitution;

"research report" means the result of research conducted by a candidate during the course of his candidature, and includes research paper, project paper, project report and results of the said research by whatever name;

"semester" means a period in an academic session and comprises normal semesters and special semesters;

"Senate" means one of the University Authorities established under subsection 20(1) of the Constitution;

"supervisor" means a person appointed by the Faculty from amongst the academic staff of the University and includes an Emeritus Professor or an Adjunct Professor of the University, post-doctoral researcher or research fellow to supervise a candidate in his programme of study;

"thesis" means the written product from research undertaken in respect of a Degree programme of study;

"University" means the University of Malaya.

"Vice-Chancellor" means the chief executive and academic officer of the University appointed under subsection 12(1) of the Constitution.

## PART II PROGRAMME OF STUDY AND ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

### **Programme of study**

3. The programme of study shall be classified as follows:
  - (a) Degree of Doctor of Philosophy by Research, that is, a programme of study that is conducted by full-time research leading to a thesis; and
  - (b) Degree of Doctor of Philosophy by Coursework and Research, that is, a programme of study that is conducted by a combination of lectures and research. Except where prior written approval has been obtained, the candidate shall conduct the research leading to a thesis only after he has successfully completed all the prescribed lectures in the curriculum of the programme of study.

## Admission requirements

4. (1) The minimum qualifications for admission into a programme of study are as follows:

- (a) A Master's degree; or
- (b) A Bachelor of Medicine or Dentistry; and

evidence of adequate training and ability to undertake the degree programme of study.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraphs (1)(a) and (b), in special cases and subject to the approval of the Senate, the Faculty may at its discretion admit any candidate who possesses qualifications other than those provided for above.

(3) Notwithstanding subrules (1) and (2), the University may consider for admission into any Degree programme of study a person who possesses a Bachelor's degree with distinction (CGPA 3.7 and above or its equivalent), subject to a monitoring of the candidate's progress and a presentation by the candidate on the progress of his research in one semester at a seminar—

- (a) two semesters from the date of registration, for a Degree programme of study by Research; or
- (b) four semesters from the date of registration for a Degree programme of study by Coursework and Research.

(4) If the progress of his study is satisfactory, the candidate may be permitted to continue his candidature as a Degree candidate. However, if the progress of his study is not satisfactory, his candidature will be converted to the relevant Master's degree.

(5) The admission of any candidate shall be at the discretion of the Faculty. Provided always in certain circumstances the Dean of the Faculty may, on the recommendation of the Deputy Dean responsible for postgraduate programme and the Head of Department concerned, admit a candidate who fulfils the following qualifications:

- (a) A Bachelor's degree in the relevant field and a CGPA of not less than 3.0 (or its equivalent); and
- (b) A Master's degree with Distinction in the relevant field or a Master's degree with a CGPA of not less than 3.0 (or its equivalent), whichever is relevant.

## PART III REGISTRATION

### **Registration as a candidate**

5. (1) A person who has been offered a place by the University to pursue a Degree programme of study and who accepts the said offer is required to register in accordance with the University of Malaya (Doctor of Philosophy Degree) Regulations 2007.

(2) Subject to subrule (3), a person registered pursuant to subrule (1) is a student of the University and shall be known as a candidate of a Degree programme of study. The name of the said candidate shall be entered into the University's register of students until such time as the candidate shall have completed successfully his programme of study and the Senate has confirmed that the said candidate is qualified to be conferred the Degree or, for any specific reasons, as the candidate shall have lost his status as a student of the University, whichever is the earlier.

(3) Every candidate who is registered for a programme of study offered to him shall register on a continuous basis with the University.

(4) Any candidate who fails to continue to register as required with the University shall cease to be a student and his name shall be deleted from the register of students.

(5) Notwithstanding subrule (1) and subject to subrule (3), the Senate may at any time terminate the registration of any candidate if in the opinion of the Senate the candidate for any academic reasons as may be determined by the Senate, is not able to continue his programme of study and the name of the said candidate shall be deleted from the register of students and the candidate shall henceforth cease to be a student of the University.

## PART IV PAYMENT

### **Fees and other payments**

6. A candidate shall pay all prescribed fees and other payments as may be prescribed under the University of Malaya (Degree of Doctor of Philosophy) Regulations 2007.

### **Right to vary fees and other payments**

7. The University has the absolute right to vary the prescribed fees and other payments without prior notice to the candidate.

PART V  
DURATION OF PROGRAMME OF STUDY

**Duration of programme of study**

8. A candidate shall commence and end his programme of study within the prescribed period.

**Minimum and maximum duration**

9. (1) The minimum period for any Degree programme of study is four normal semesters unless otherwise approved by the Senate.

(2) The maximum period for any Degree programme of study is sixteen normal semesters.

(3) Notwithstanding subrules (1) and (2) in certain circumstances the Dean of the Institute of Postgraduate Studies or an officer as may be determined by the University may extend the period of candidature beyond the maximum period as prescribed in subrule (2) provided that such extension shall not exceed two semesters.

PART VI  
STRUCTURE OF PROGRAMME OF STUDY

**Structure of programme of study**

10. (1) For the Degree programme of study by Research, the candidate shall undertake full-time research leading to a thesis. Notwithstanding that, a candidate may be required to attend certain courses as may be prescribed by the University or the relevant Faculty.

(2) For the Degree programme of study by Coursework and Research, the candidate shall be required to follow the said programme based on the structure of the programme of study as may be prescribed in any regulations made under these Rules.

PART VII  
LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

**Bahasa Malaysia requirement**

11. (1) A candidate who is a Malaysian citizen shall be required to possess at least a pass in Bahasa Melayu or Bahasa Malaysia at the level of *Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia* or a Level III in the *Sijil Kecekapan Bahasa Malaysia* or a Level III in the *Sijil Intensif Bahasa Malaysia* of the University or an equivalent level before being conferred the Degree.



(2) A candidate who is not a Malaysian citizen shall be required to attend at a satisfactory level a bahasa Malaysia course that is conducted by the University before being conferred the Degree unless he possesses at least a pass in Bahasa Melayu or Bahasa Malaysia at the level of *Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia* or Level III in the *Sijil Kecekapan Bahasa Malaysia* or Level III in the *Sijil Intensif Bahasa Malaysia* of the University or a bahasa Malaysia course recognised by the University.

(3) Notwithstanding subrules (1) and (2), the bahasa Malaysia requirement may be waived for a candidate who has attended a course of study conducted in the national language at a local Higher Educational Institution.

### **English language requirement**

12. (1) A candidate who is not a Malaysian citizen and who possesses a degree or degrees from a university or an institution of higher education where the medium of instruction is not the English language for that degree or degrees as the case may be and who wishes to write his thesis in the English language or where the Degree programme of study he wishes to pursue is conducted in the English language must —

- (a) obtain a score of 550 paper-based total, a score of 213 for computer-based total or a score of 80 for internet-based total for the *Test of English as a Foreign Language* (TOEFL);
- (b) obtain a band of 6 in the *International English Language Testing System* (IELTS).

(2) If a candidate does not possess the qualifications as specified under paragraphs 1(a) and (b), the candidate must attend any English language course and pass any English language test prescribed by the Senate before he commences the writing of his thesis.

(3) Notwithstanding subrules (1) and (2), a Faculty may impose, based on the requirements of its Degree programme of study—

- (a) a higher level of English language proficiency for candidates who are not Malaysian citizens;
- (b) a minimum level of English language proficiency for candidates who are Malaysian citizens; or
- (c) a minimum English language requirement as a condition for admission into any Degree programme of study.

## PART VIII EXAMINATIONS

### **Examinations**

13. There shall be examinations for the Degree programme of study by—

- (a) Research; and
- (b) Coursework and Research

subject to the regulations in the University of Malaya (Degree of Doctor of Philosophy) Regulations 2007.

## PART IX GRADUATION

### **Graduation requirements**

14. A Degree shall be conferred on a candidate who has -

- (a) fulfilled all the requirements of these Rules and any regulations made thereunder;
- (b) satisfied and been recommended to be conferred the Degree by the Committee of Examiners and approved by the Senate; and
- (c) paid all his fees and other payments as prescribed by the University.

## PART X GENERAL

### **Admission of auditing student**

15. (1) An auditing student is any person who has been approved to follow any course that is offered in any Degree programme of study, whether or not for the purpose of obtaining credit. Such student shall not be a student of any programme of study of the University.

(2) The admission of any auditing student shall be at the discretion of the Dean of the Faculty.

### **Termination of candidature**

16. The Senate shall have the power to terminate the candidature of any candidate who is found to have submitted forged or false information in connection with his application for admission into the University.

### **Power of the Senate to make regulations**

17. The Senate shall make any regulations for the purpose of carrying into effect or enforcing the provisions of these Rules.

### **Exemptions**

18. Notwithstanding anything contained in these Rules and any regulations made thereunder, the Senate may exempt the application of any provisions of these Rules.

### **Compliance with University's Statutes, rules and regulations**

19. Every candidate shall be subject to the Universities and University Colleges Act, 1971 the Constitution of the University of Malaya, all other Statutes, rules and regulations currently applicable in the University including the University of Malaya (Discipline of Students) Rules 1999.

### **Repeal**

20. (1) The Doctor of Philosophy Act IX and regulations made thereunder are hereby repealed.

(2) Notwithstanding subrule (1), and subject to the compliance of the Doctor of Philosophy Act IX and regulations made thereunder, the candidature of a candidate registered under the Doctor of Philosophy Act IX and regulations made thereunder, shall upon the commencement of these Rules continue to subsist and have the like effect as if the candidate had been registered under these Rules, but thereafter the candidature of the candidate shall be governed by these Rules.

Made on \_\_\_\_\_

Chairman  
University of Malaya Board of Directors