ISLAMIC COMMUNITY IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA FACULTY OF ISLAMIC STUDIES IN SARAJEVO

POSTGRADUATE STUDY GUIDE

2004/2005

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Academic year 2004/2005

Faculty of Islamic Studies in Sarajevo Postgraduate Study Guide Academic year 2004/2005

Publisher: Faculty of Islamic Studies Ćemerlina 54 71000 Sarajevo Bosnia and Herzegovina Tel: +387 33 232 982

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This publication contains information intended for the students of the Faculty of Islamic Studies in Sarajevo and those expressing interest in this institution.

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FACULTY OF ISLAMIC STUDIES IN SARAJEVO

GENERAL INFORMATION

The Faculty of Islamic Studies in Sarajevo is the oldest and most prestigious institution of higher learning in Islamic education in South-eastern Europe. It is firmly grounded in centuries-old tradition of Islamic education in Bosnia and Herzegovina that began with the building of the first mosques, tekkes and the first primary schools (muallimhana) in the first half of the 15th century. This tradition continued with the building of madrasahs, haniqahs, daru-l-Qur'an and daru-l-Hadith schools in the 16th century and drew closer to the European models of education through the Sharia-Law School, Aliyya - higher level of the Ghazi Husrev-bey's Madrasah and Advanced School of Islamic Theology and Sharia, which today houses the Faculty of Islamic Studies.

The Faculty of Islamic Studies in Sarajevo was founded in 1977 by the decision of the Supreme Council and the Supreme Islamic Committee of the Islamic Community of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. The Riyaset of the Islamic Community in Bosnia and Herzegovina assumed the rights of the founder.

The Faculty commenced operation on 15 shavval 1397 / 29 September 1977 under the name of Islamic Theological Faculty in Sarajevo. In the past the Faculty had adapted itself to the needs of community and met the challenges of time, which in turn resulted a number of changes and amendments to the programme of study and an expansion of the academic programme, so that in the academic year 1992/1993 the Department of Religious education was added to the existing ones.

In the academic year 1994/1995 a postgraduate programme of study was introduced to the Faculty.

In the academic year 2002/2003 a comprehensive reform of the entire undergraduate programmeme of study was implemented and different chairs were established.

According to article 17 of the Law on Universities, the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Physical Education of the Socialist Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina verified the functioning of the Faculty of Islamic Studies in Sarajevo by having issued a formal approval: No. UP-I-03-612-227 on 5 December 1991.

PROGRAMMEME OF STUDY

The Faculty of Islamic Studies in Sarajevo is a degreegranting institution of higher education that offers undergraduate and postgraduate programmes of study and undertakes academic research in the field of Islamic studies and other closely related disciplines.

Theology Programme

The postgraduate programme aims to stimulate a more intensive study and research in the field of Islamic studies. A candidate who successfully completes his postgraduate diploma and prepares and defends his MA thesis is awarded an MA in Islamic Studies, with the added designation of the area of specialty. Specialization is acquired through research and the completion of an MA thesis.

The postgraduate programme is four semesters in length and is comprised of courses, research and an MA thesis. The first two semesters include all the courses, the third semester involves research and research presentation in a form of a seminar, done under the supervision of a thesis advisor, and the fourth semester includes the writing and the defence of an MA thesis (70-120 double-spaced pages where a single page contains 1800 characters).

Instruction for every course includes lectures, seminars, discussions and presentation of research assignments by students. Assessment of students is performed on continuous basis and includes participation and the final exam for every course, given by the course professor at the end of every semester.

Religious Education Programme

The objective of this programme is to provide graduate students with a deeper insight into the theoretical and practical solutions for quality teaching, as well as the humanistic and legal views which promote quality and high standard in schooling. Established on principles of epistemology, logic of Islamic teachings and the theory and practice of creativity, this programme will, in particular, set the guidelines for students in the study and research of creative compilation of school textbooks and in the development of children creativity. This postgraduate specialization aims to produce the future experts who will be able to successfully participate in the development and the processes of globalization/democratization of the educational processes in general and, especially, in the modernization of Islamic education.

The programme will be organized in the following way: lectures, seminars, tutorials, counselling, independent projects and the preparation of a research MA thesis supervised by a thesis advisor. The postgraduate programme is four semesters in length.

The postgraduate programme is distributed over four semesters and is comprised of courses, research and an MA thesis. The first two semesters include all the courses, the third semester involves research and research presentation in a form of a seminar, done under the supervision of a thesis advisor and the fourth semester includes the preparation and the defence of an MA thesis (70-120 double-spaced pages, where a single page contains 1800 characters).

Student assessment in the postgraduate programme will be performed on continuous basis and will include several elements (analysis of sources, critical way of thinking towards the analysed research sources, the quality of seminar paper, essay, summary or any other form of writing and presentation skills for each of them, participation in discussions, seminars, the skill of discerning and identifying the topic of research and having the ability to formulate it and define it, oral examination).

A candidate who successfully completes the postgraduate programme is awarded an MA in the field of religious education.

COURSE DISTRIBUTION

Theology Programme

Semester I

SUBJECT CONTACT HOURS
1. Islam and Modernity 2(30)
2. Contemporary Approaches to the Qur'an and Sunna 2(30)
3. Sharia in Contemporary Societies 2(30)

Semester II

I. Islamic Thought in Bosnia and Herzegovina
 2(30)

2. Islamic Culture in Bosnia and Herzegovina
 2(30)

3. Research Methods
 2(30)

Semester III

1. Research
2. Seminar
2(30)

Semester IV

1. MA Thesis Preparation

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Islam and Modernism

The objective of this course is to continuously examine the relationship between Islam and the modern world in its complex theoretical and practical manifestations. More precisely, its aim is to search for the answer on how to, within the cultural/historical or cultural/civilizational epoch of the modern world, understand the Islamic spiritual, religious and cultural tradition.

Through diverse religious, theological, philosophical, sociological, politological, ethical and aesthetic themes, the postgraduate students should, in a series of lectures, deal with the challenges of the two powerful developments of modern thought, in other words, with *individualism* — which is opposed to every unity founded on Tradition (chiefly religious and cultural), and which starts the process of crisis of authentic intellectuality (science, technology and power), and pluralism — which no longer only refers to a multitude of people of different colour, language, religion, customs and behaviour; but above all, it refers to a new and changed awareness of a modern man who, when it comes to *politics*, it is democracy that suits him, concerning *economy*, it is the idea of free market and, as far as *religion* is concerned, it is the idea of ecumenism that he/she finds appropriate.

In addition, this course will also examine all of the more frequent occurrences of uncritical and excessively static understanding and presentation of Islamic spiritual, cultural and intellectual tradition. Based on the nature of relationship towards *Tradition*, as well as towards the modern world, it is

possible to speak more explicitly about the quality of future development, rises and falls, more precisely, about the one's own tradition and history. In this respect, this course should offer the postgraduate students a good insight into the intellectual life and the spiritual strength of Islam and, at the same time, allow them to master the means of expression, so they could be able to, in a new form and language, present the eternal wisdom which undoubtedly resides within the Islamic spiritual and intellectual tradition. And such a demand is to be found in the foundations of every form of responsible thought and speech.

Contemporary Approaches to the Qur'an and Sunna

This course deals with the modern trends in the interpretation of the Qur'an and Sunna. The period of Muslims coming under colonial rule left an impact on Qur'anic studies from Indonesia to Morocco, from South Africa to Bosnia, as well as the Muslim diaspora. The world of classic *mufassirs* was stable, while the world of modern commentators of the Qur'an and Sunna was turbulent. Next on the scene were the political, social, psychological, sectarian, ideological interpretations of the Qur'an and Sunna. Qur'an is also read as a text of national liberation. Sunna is also interpreted as a special defence from the onslaught of modernity.

The objective of this course is to present to the postgraduate students all the diversity of this literature.

Sharia Law in Contemporary Societies

This course deals with the question of the place of *sharia* law in contemporary Muslim societies, its relevance to Muslim minorities, the main trends in modern Islamic legal thought and the most frequently discussed issues. Also included are the following topics: normative foundation of *sharia*, law, institutions, normative culture, secular state, constitutionality, codification, human rights, violence, etc.

Islamic Thought in Bosnia and Herzegovina in Modern Times

This course deals with Islamic ideas of reformation and regeneration which found their way into Bosnia in the 19th and 20th century.

In addition, the objective of this course is to present the main centres, schools, newspapers, associations and personalities who pondered the reformative course of Islam in Bosnia and Herzegovina or who were against it.

Islamic Culture in Bosnia and Herzegovina

In this course students will acquaint themselves with the current state of Islamic culture in Bosnia and Herzegovina; origins and the direction of further research; its position in respect to modern developments and those taking place in the culture of Islamic world and the rest of the world; interinfluences; challenges of modernity; problems and possibilities of future developments.

Research Methods

This course deals with the study of theoretic questions which involve research in the field of Islamic studies, selection of adequate theoretic settings and methods, and research techniques, writing and presentation. It includes the following issues: the nature of research in Islamic studies, the basic concepts, general theoretic setting, main methods (textual analysis, historical, comparative and ethnographical method), library research, field research, research project preparation, research project writing, presentation of results.

Research/Seminar

Postgraduate students have to conduct their own research and present it in a form of a seminar in which they will display the skill of finding their way in literature and the ability to use research and methodological instruments.

COURSEWORK DISTRIBUTION Religious Education Programme

Semester I

COURSE
CONTACT HOURS
1. Islamic Concept of Education 2(30)
2. History of Islamic Education 2(30)
3. Developmental Curriculum 2(30)

Semester II

1. Children and Creativity 2(30)	
2. Textbooks and Creativity 2(30)	
3. Research Methods 2(30)	

Semester III

1. Research	
2. Seminar	
	2(30)

Semester IV

1. MA Thesis Preparation

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Islamic Concept of Education

This course deals with the fundamental principle of Islamic theory of knowledge, the concept of education, the meaning and purpose of education and the content and methods of teaching by which the Islamic concept of education is carried out. Topics included are: definition of knowledge (*al-ilm*), types and hierarchy of knowledge, knowledge and Islamic belief, education (*el-edeb*), goals of education, methods of acquiring and disseminating knowledge, the role of a leading figure, etc.

History of Islamic Education

This course focuses on the origins and the development of the most important Islamic educational institutions and examines their characteristic models in the main cultural areas of the Muslim world. Topics included are: formal and informal education in Muslim history, mosques, madrasaHs, libraries, colleges and universities; educational institutions and waqf, professors and students, ethical aspect of the search for knowledge and the dissemination of knowledge, curricula of the most famous Islamic universities, modernization and modern knowledge.

Developmental Curriculum

This course treats the curriculum theories and issues in the methodology of curriculum preparation with a special emphasis on the methodology of preparation developmental curriculum. All the elements of curriculum will be analysed (goals, contents, methods, social forms, evaluation, study and teaching organisation) on all levels of education (from makhtab, religious instruction at primary and high school level to university), with an emphasis on the first three levels. Developmental curriculum is based on the dynamic composition of educational qualities which correspond to the gradual development of personality. For this reason, the postgraduate students will be introduced to the theories of cognitive, social and moral personality development. In accordance with these requirements the postgraduate students will set the pedagogical/didactical field of developmental curriculum. Therefore, it is important to introduce the postgraduate students to the multi-criterion shaping of developmental curriculum.

Children and Creativity

Processes and products of creativity can be observed in artistic expression, dramatic games, playing of music, word games, literary works and mathematical sets. For this reason, this course will examine the issues and problems such as: Nature and types of human creativity; Criterion used in recognizing creativity; Basic characteristics and principles of creative education and creative conduct of a person; Creative playing by children as a kingdom of spatial shapes; the kingdom of colours and shapes, tones, spiritual shapes,

thoughts, etc. The postgraduate students will also be introduced to the techniques of production of ideas or the "Brainstorming" technique and other procedures of development creativity and methods of creative solutions of the cognitive, social and moral life problems. Naturally, this module will also include the topic of "The techniques of research and evaluation" of the products of creativity, which is the theme of the course *Research Methods*.

Textbooks and Creativity

This course will include the following topics: Textbook as a special teaching method; religious instruction textbooks and other teaching methods; A modern textbook and the principles of its compilation; Multi-methodical and multimethod approach to textbook compilation; Textbooks and social forms of learning; Differences complementarity between the makhtab (Sunday school) programme and that of religious instruction in schools. Textbooks and reference books for professors; Experimental testing of textbooks, teaching and technical materials. This part of the course is related to the course Children and Creativity.

After the postgraduate students are introduced to the phenomena of creativity, they will apply that knowledge in their examination of various textbooks which have been produced in different parts of the world. For the needs of postgraduate students the Faculty will purchase textbooks from those countries which have achieved the best results in the production of textbooks. The postgraduate students will analyse their content in the context of developing creative powers among students. Following their analysis, the

postgraduate students will practice the methodology of compilation of modern textbooks for the appropriate levels of Islamic education.

The postgraduate students will be placed in teams which will work on the preparation of the starting points, criteria and instructions for the compilation of textbooks for religious instruction, notebooks and handbooks for primary and high school level. These teams will also work on the compilation of stimulative and appealing parts of textbooks, audio and video cassettes, CD's, materials for individual work which would accompany the textbooks and everything else that can contribute to the authenticity, creativity and the quality of religious education and religious instruction teaching.

Research Methods

The content of this course will include those issues which are related to the importance and the purpose of research in the field of education. In order to enable the postgraduate students to conduct their own study of pedagogical phenomena, the main methodological issues will be examined, such as: types of education research, the process of scientific research, methods and techniques and instruments used in gathering data, methods of presenting research results, application of statistical procedures in the processing of research results, making of preliminary designs, etc. Special attention will be given to the qualitative and action research and methods of testing and "assessing" the products of creativity.

Research / Seminar

Postgraduate students have to conduct their own research and present it in a form of a seminar in which they will display the skill of finding their way in literature and the ability to use research and methodological instruments.

RULES AND REGULATIONS OF STUDIES

Excerpts from the rules and regulations of the Faculty of Islamic Studies in Sarajevo

Postgraduate Studies

Article 76

The Faculty organizes postgraduate studies in the following fields of Islamic studies: Qur'an, tafsir, Arabic, aqaid, Islamic philosophy, tasawuff, comparative religion, hadith, fiqh-sharia, Islamic culture and civilization, and other fields studied at this Faculty.

Article 77

Postgraduate programme of study is carried out in accordance with the programme of study devised by the Faculty Council.

Postgraduate programme of study is an integral part of the Faculty Rules and Regulations.

Article 78

Book of regulations on the organization of postgraduate studies is issued by the Faculty Board of Trustees at the proposal of the Faculty Council.

Rules and regulations on the organization of postgraduate studies determine the following:

- programme of study and general programme of instruction devised by the Faculty Council;
- length of study;
- MA degree designation which is awarded upon successful completion of the postgraduate programme;
- list of professors and lecturers who are entrusted with the delivery of lectures;
- materials and the classroom space necessary for the realization of the programme;
- sources of funds for the financing of the postgraduate programme of study.

Article 80

Public Announcement for admission of students into the postgraduate programme includes the following:

- description of a scholarly field for which the postgraduate programme is organized and a designation for the degree awarded upon completion of the programme;
- number of candidates who are being admitted;
- general requirements which the candidates have to fulfil in order to be admitted (appropriate qualifications, an average mark of 8 in the system of grades ranging from 5 10 in the core subject of the undergraduate degree, knowledge of Arabic and one other major language to the extent of being able to use technical/professional literature in

that language. Language assessment is performed by the suitable professors of the Faculty.

- number of students who are not paying tuition expenses;
- amount of initial deposit for the rest of the students, methods of payment and payment deadlines;
- starting dates for lectures and other postgraduate programmes.

Public Announcement for admission is made public in the newspapers of the Islamic Community at least three months before the start of academic year.

Article 81

If a number of candidates who fulfil the general requirements exceeds the number of candidates that were predetermined for admission, preference will be given to candidates:

- who have graduated with high honours (9), or who have received special recognition from the higher institutions of learning in the country and abroad;
- who are working as instructors at this Faculty or are associates in the institutions and administrative organs of the Islamic Community;
- who are foreign citizens and fulfil the conditions determined by the special decision of the Riyaset of the Islamic Community.

Instruction at the postgraduate level is organized in semesters in accordance with the regulations of the general programme of study found in Article 78, paragraph 1.

Programme of study for every course is determined by the Faculty Council made up of professors and lecturers of the postgraduate study from the Faculty who have been entrusted with delivering lectures.

The organization of the programme of instruction is managed by the Faculty Board of Postgraduate Studies (Head, secretary and members of the Faculty Board of Postgraduate Studies).

Article 83

Programme of study of the postgraduate programme at the Faculty, is published in the Collected Papers of the Faculty following its adoption, and no later than two months before the start of academic year.

Article 84

A student of the postgraduate programme of the Faculty who successfully completes all of the requirements from the Programme of study and passes the prescribed examinations, may submit and defend his MA thesis.

MA thesis proposal is approved when the candidate successfully fulfils all the requirements from the first two semesters of study.

MA thesis topic is approved by the Faculty Council at the proposal of the Committee of Experts whose members are chosen from among the professors of the postgraduate programme of study.

Faculty Council appoints one of the professors of the postgraduate studies for an adviser during the preparation of an MA thesis, while keeping in mind the topic of study.

Article 86

MA thesis must be an individual treatment of a chosen topic through the use of a scientific method, which is typically a research method.

Article 87

The candidate has to submit his MA thesis no later than two years following the completion of the second semester.

The Faculty Council may, for legitimate reasons, grant an extension which is not to exceed six months.

MA thesis is submitted in at least seven copies in Bosnian, type-written in Latin script.

The Faculty Council can allow a foreign student to submit and defend his/her MA thesis in Arabic or English, in exceptional extenuating circumstances.

MA thesis is defended before a three or a five-member committee appointed by the Postgraduate Faculty Council. At least two of the members of the committee must be in the field of study from which the MA thesis is defended.

During the assessment of the MA thesis the Committee can return the MA thesis to the candidate and give him/her the deadline for resubmittal.

Within a period of three months the Committee submits a report to the Faculty Council, containing a short review and a mark for an MA thesis, along with a proposal for a defence approval or refusal.

The time and the place of defence of an MA thesis must be announced at least 30 days before the MA thesis defence on the Faculty notice-board and in the daily newspapers.

Notice about the MA thesis defence contains the full title of the Faculty, first and last name of the candidate, title of the MA thesis, date and place of defence and a notice that those interested in the MA thesis can examine it at the Faculty premises no later than five days before the MA thesis defence.

Article 89

A candidate has successfully defended his MA thesis if the majority of the Committee gives issues a positive assessment for the submitted thesis and the defence.

If the MA thesis receives a failing mark or if the candidate has not successfully defended it, it is sent back for revision in accordance with the instructions of the Committee. If the MA thesis is still not satisfactory, the candidate can submit a new MA thesis no sooner than six months and no later than one year from the day of the announcement of a failing mark for the previous MA thesis.

Article 90

A candidate who has successfully defended his MA thesis is awarded a Master's Degree in Islamic Studies with a designation of his/her area of specialized study and research.

Article 91

Following the defence of the MA thesis and the conferring of a Master's Degree, the Faculty secretary delivers one copy of the MA thesis to the National and the University Library of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Ghazi Husrev-beg's Library in Sarajevo. One copy of the MA thesis is deposited into the documentation of the Faculty.

A short review of the MA thesis, along with the mention of the appropriate information about the author, date of defence and the date of degree conferral is published in the Collected Papers of the Faculty.

Article 92

If following the defence of the MA thesis, or conferral of the degree, there arises a suspicion that the MA thesis was not an individual effort by the candidate, the Faculty Council of the postgraduate study appoints a three-member committee

which examines the basis for suspicion of whether the candidate is the author of the MA thesis in its entirety.

The committee from the previous paragraph cannot accept appointments of those professors who have sat in for the defence of the MA thesis.

If the Committee determines that the MA thesis is not an individual effort of the candidate, it will propose to the Faculty Council that the master's degree be revoked, and the Head of the postgraduate study will inform the candidate whose right to the conferral of a master's degree is challenged. No later than 30 days after it has received the report by the Committee, the Faculty Council has to schedule a meeting to which the person, whose authorship of the MA thesis is challenged, is invited. At the Council meeting, after a member of the Committee presents a short report and the Committee proposal, the person whose MA thesis is challenged has the right to express his opinion and his objections about the Committee report.

The meeting of the Faculty Council can be held without the presence of the invited person if he does not excuse his absence in a timely manner.

By a majority vote of its members the Faculty Council is able to pass a decision to revoke a master's degree.

The Head of the postgraduate study informs the Dean of the Faculty about the decision of the Faculty Council and the Dean of the Faculty makes a decision to revoke the degree and to remove all the information from the Record Book of the conferred degrees for postgraduate studies.

The decision to revoke a master's degree is published in the Collected papers of the Faculty.

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

Article 93

A doctorate, PhD, is awarded in accordance with the standards and in a manner determined by the Statute and these rules and regulations.

A doctorate, PhD is the highest degree awarded by the Faculty from the fundamental Islamic disciplines.

Doctoral dissertation is a result of an independent researchwork which offers new scholarly results and an original contribution to the development of scholarly thought.

Article 94

A candidate submits an application for the initiation of proceedings to obtain a doctorate to the Faculty Council.

Along with the application, the candidate submits evidence indicating that he fulfils the general legal requirements for obtaining the doctorate and proposes a preliminary title for the dissertation along with an explanation in which he/she is to give the basic indication of the content, the aim of the research and the methods he/she intends to use in the defence of the subject matter, and possibly, which elements of originality and novelty he/she expects upon completion of the dissertation.

A doctorate can be awarded to a candidate with appropriate university level qualifications in his/her field who fulfils the following requirements:

- that the candidate is a holder of a master's degree in an appropriate subject,
- that the candidate has performed research work in the appropriate field,
- that the candidate has passed an oral examination at a doctoral level in accordance with the predetermined thesis questions.
- that the candidate has successfully defended a doctoral dissertation.

Article 96

Acting in accordance with the application of the candidate the Faculty Council can, if it should determine that the application is incomplete or that the appropriate evidence is not enclosed, request that the application be made complete, or that the necessary documentation be enclosed in a time period that cannot exceed 15 days from the day the candidate was informed of the Council's request in writing.

If the candidate does not act in accordance with the Council's request in a given time period, his/her application will be considered withdrawn.

Following the application for the initiation of proceedings to obtain a doctorate, the Faculty Council first determines whether the proposed topic for the dissertation and its basic informative indications are related to a scholarly field offered by the Faculty, and then within 30 days it forms a committee whose task is to determine whether the candidate fulfils the general requirements needed to obtain a doctorate and whether the proposed dissertation topic can be accepted as appropriate for independent research-work.

Members of the committee from the previous paragraph are professors, holders of a doctorate, PhD, and most of them are from the scholarly field for which the doctoral dissertation is submitted.

The Faculty Council appoints a chairperson, members of the committee and their substitutes.

Article 98

Upon submittal the committee's course of action is considered urgent and must be concluded no later than 30 days from the day the committee was set up.

When the committee makes an assessment of whether the candidate fulfils the general requirements needed to obtain a doctorate, PhD, it especially needs to determine the following:

- whether the candidate possess a master's degree and from which scholarly field, and whether that scholarly field

is related to the scholarly field in which the candidate wishes to obtain a doctorate, PhD;

- whether the candidate has published works from a specific scholarly field in our publications and when the works were published.

When it assesses the appropriateness of the submitted theme for a doctoral dissertation, the committee especially needs to determine the following:

- whether the dissertation topic, with its preliminary title and basic content-related indications and with what has been assigned, can be considered appropriate for individual research-work;
- whether there exist needed requirements for the completion of the programme of research which the candidate plans to complete in his proposed programme.

The Committee submits its report, along with the appropriate suggestions, to the Faculty Council for verification.

Article 99

If it issues a positive assessment for the dissertation topic and the candidate, the Faculty Council, at the proposal of the Department Council, assigns to the candidate an advisor to assist him in the preparation of his/her dissertation.

A full professor or an associate professor who has published works in the scholarly field in which the dissertation is being prepared can act in the capacity of an advisor.

If the Faculty Council should decide to accept the report by the committee in which it is proposed that the application be rejected for the reason that the candidate does not fulfil the general requirements needed to obtain a doctorate or because it has determined that it cannot accept the submitted dissertation topic, it will inform the applicant of his/her right to, within 8 days from the receipt of a negative decision, appeal this decision.

The decision of the Faculty Board of Trustees is final.

Article 101

The doctoral dissertation is submitted to the Faculty in seven copies. Dissertation must be written in Bosnian. All the copies must contain a summary in Bosnian. All the copies must have a summary in Arabic or English. The summary should include the topic, method and the main scholarly results of the doctoral dissertation.

The Faculty Council can allow a foreign student to submit and defend his/her doctoral dissertation in Arabic or English, in exceptional extenuating circumstances.

Article 102

Upon the submittal of a dissertation the Faculty Council appoints a doctoral dissertation committee.

A professor who has performed the duty of an advisor cannot be appointed chairperson of the committee for the assessment and the defence of a doctoral dissertation.

During the standard procedure of assessment the committee must examine the dissertation and submit a report along with the appropriate attachments to the Faculty Council in a period which has been determined during the appointment of the committee and which cannot exceed six months.

At the proposal of the committee the Faculty Council can accept or return the dissertation to the candidate for changes or revisal, or it can reject it. Should the Faculty Council return the dissertation, a deadline for re-submittal will be determined by the Faculty Council. In special extenuating circumstances this deadline can be extended for another six months.

A rejected dissertation cannot be resubmitted again in order to obtain a doctorate, PhD.

Article 104

A notice about the dissertation defence is announced on the Faculty notice-board, and if possible, in the daily press. A notice about the scheduled dissertation must be announced at least 30 days before the set date for the dissertation defence.

Article 105

Dissertation defence is public and is done in a location that allows for the presence of all those interested in the defence. The session and the dissertation defence is directed by the committee chairperson.

The committee president opens the session and presents the biographical information about the candidate, his previous research work, as well as all the relevant information which indicated that the candidate fulfils the requirements for the dissertation defence.

A member of the committee chosen by the chairperson reads a report on the assessment of the dissertation based on which the Council has accepted the dissertation and the decision to accept the dissertation, and announces the members of the committee before which the candidate is to defend his dissertation.

At the invitation of the Chairperson from paragraph 2 of this Article the candidate presents the topic, method and the main research results of the dissertation.

The candidate answers all the questions separately.

The committee chairperson will inform the candidate of the questions and the comments that have been submitted by the interested professors and other scholars if he deems them important for clearing up and establishing all the facts important for the topic, the applied methods and conclusions that were presented in the dissertation.

Article 106

At the request of the candidate, the committee chairperson will allow the candidate a one final comment in response to the comments on the dissertation made by the members of the committee.

Following the candidate's final comment the committee chairperson will announce that the procedure of the dissertation defence is concluded, and the committee will retire in order to deliberate on the dissertation assessment.

If in the course of the dissertation defence the committee arrives at a conviction that it is necessary to verify whether the dissertation was an individual effort by the candidate, it can postpone the decision on the result of the dissertation defence for a period of three months, after which it has to reach a final decision.

If following the defence of the doctoral dissertation there arises a suspicion that the doctoral dissertation was not an individual effort by the candidate, the doctorate can be revoked in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the University of Sarajevo.

Article 108

Following the presentation by the candidate the committee decides whether the candidate has defended his/her dissertation, by a unanimous or a majority vote decision.

The committee chairperson announces the decision and concludes the session.

Article 109

During the dissertation defence the minutes are taken and signed by all the members of the committee and the recording secretary.

Evidence of all the accepted, rejected and defended doctorates is kept by the Faculty.

Article 111

The Faculty is able to award an honorary doctorate. The criteria and the procedure in awarding an honorary doctorate are determined by a separate book of regulations.

ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATION

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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