Directions to Candidates

By Friday 11\textsuperscript{th} March 2016, candidates should have handed in their Portfolio, Personal Study and Visual Journal at the MATSEC Support Unit, University of Malta, or the Examinations Department, Victoria, Gozo.

\textbf{In the case of candidates who will not be sitting for the examination for the first time,} the coursework mark obtained previously – up to a maximum of five years from the candidate’s first sit of the examination – may be carried forward to the May 2016 session upon request. Such a request may be made by sending an e-mail to matsec@um.edu.mt

Candidates are to take their Thematic Project Work with them when sitting for Paper 1 Extended Thematic Project to be used for reference purposes only. The Thematic Project Work is to be complete and final, and will be checked at the examination venue.

On Monday 30\textsuperscript{th} May 2016, candidates are to insert their Thematic Project Work in the same folder submitted at the MATSEC Support Unit, University of Malta or the Examinations Department, Victoria, Gozo on the 11\textsuperscript{th} March 2016. The work is to be handed in between 8.00 am and 12.00 noon or between 2.00 pm and 4.00 pm at the MATSEC Support Unit, University of Malta or the Examinations Department, Victoria, Gozo.

The candidates’ name, signature, photographs, self-portraits or any material that might disclose their identity \textbf{must not} feature in any part of what is submitted for assessment.

Each part of the folder must be separated from the other sections and be clearly distinguished by being marked accordingly, that is:

- PORTFOLIO
- PERSONAL STUDY
- VISUAL JOURNAL
- THEMATIC PROJECT WORK

The number and title of the starting point chosen for the Thematic Project Work are to be clearly written.

All submitted sheets are to be duly numbered and a \textit{List of Contents} indicating all the works must be included in the folder.

Work in progress can be discussed with the tutors but it has to be developed in a personal way. The work should be entirely the candidate’s.
The candidates may submit work in any medium. However, media such as hypodermic needles, syringes, broken glass, barbed wire, raw plaster, unfired clay, fresh organic matter, razor blades and any media that might constitute a potential hazard are not permissible and must not be included.

Heavy or decorative mounting, boards thicker than 3mm, frames and canvas stretchers must not be included in the folder, while excessive mounting is not recommended.

Folders not adhering strictly to the rules and regulations indicated in the syllabus will not be accepted or assessed. The syllabus can be accessed through the following link:

Coursework shall remain the property of the MATSEC Examinations Board, but may be returned to the candidates at the discretion of the Board. Should the Coursework, including the Thematic Project Work, be returned to the candidates, it is only done so on the date/s stipulated by the MATSEC Support Unit. It is therefore suggested that prior to submitting their work at the MATSEC Support Unit or the Examinations Department, Victoria, Gozo, candidates keep digital records of their work, particularly if they wish to exhibit their work to other institutions.

**Thematic Project Work**

Candidates are required to choose ONE starting point from the following list:

1. **Buildup.** Great things grow from small beginnings.
2. **Rouault:** The misery of war. Produce a work based on your studies of Georges Rouault’s reflections on the devastation and suffering created by international conflicts.
3. **Bathers:** lazily basking in the sun or actively enjoying a dip.
4. **“Please, Sir, could I have some more?”** (Oliver Twist). The world is marked by a huge disproportion in the distribution of food.
5. Create a work which analyses the forms, textures and contrasting spatial relationships between boulders and pebbles.
6. **Mussorgsky:** “Paintings from an Exhibition”. A visual experience transformed into music… a musical experience transformed into painting.
7. **Burden sharing.** Finding a helping hand in life is always welcome.
8. **Blocked and refused at the frontier.**

Emphasis should be placed on investigative research and the development and realization of ideas.

The Thematic Project Work must include one final piece as well as other preparatory studies. The work presented must show the candidates’ focused investigation, development, critical analysis, and realization of the selected theme. The preparatory work may also suggest other valid directions of investigation of the theme selected other than that leading to the final piece.
Candidates are required to communicate their understanding and thinking process through integrated images and brief annotations.

All two-dimensional work pertaining to the Thematic Project Work (final piece, research, preparatory studies, etc.) must be presented on five A2 sheets (420 mm x 594 mm). The works and relevant annotations can be carried out directly or pasted onto the presentation sheets. Photographs which document large works, three dimensional works, installations and other works can also be included. The candidates may use their discretion as to whether to use one or both sides of each of the said sheets.