Directions to Candidates

By Tuesday 16th August 2016, candidates must hand in all the work pertaining to Part I A – Coursework at the MATSEC Support Unit, University of Malta, or the Examinations Department, Victoria, Gozo.

In the case of candidates who will not be sitting for the examination for the first time:

i) 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 September 2016 session upon request. Such a request may be made by sending an e-mail to matsec@um.edu.mt.

ii) Candidates who sat for the examination during the May 2016 session have their coursework mark automatically carried forward to the September 2016 session unless a request stating otherwise is received from the candidate.

iii) new inserts (not exceeding the number stipulated by the syllabus) may be added to the coursework submitted during the May 2016 session by Tuesday 16th August 2016.

iv) a new coursework altogether may be submitted by Tuesday 16th August 2016.

All new inserts should be marked clearly as ‘September 2016 Session’ and should be submitted to the MATSEC Support Unit, University of Malta, Msida, or the Examinations Department, Victoria, Gozo.

On Tuesday 6th September 2016, candidates are to insert Part I B – Thematic Project Work in the same folder submitted at the MATSEC Support Unit or the Examinations Department Victoria, Gozo on Friday 11th March 2016 (if the candidate sat for the examination during the May 2016 session). The Thematic Project Work is to be handed in at the MATSEC Support Unit, University of Malta, Msida, or the Examinations Department, Victoria, Gozo between 8.00 a.m. and 12.00 noon.

The candidates’ name, signature, photograph/s, self-portrait/s or any material that might disclose their identity must not feature in any part of what is submitted for assessment.

The Thematic Project Work (Part IB) must be separated from the other sections of the coursework and must be clearly distinguished by being marked accordingly.

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

All submitted sheets are to be duly numbered and a ‘List of Contents’ indicating all the works must be included in the folder.

Work in progress can be discussed with the tutor/s 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 3 mm, 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 by 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.

B – Thematic Project Work

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

2. Wigs and hats... past and present.
3. The Four Seasons, Antonio Vivaldi. Produce a composition which captures the mood of this outstanding musical piece.
4. The Valetta waterfront is a hub of activity where people socialise in a relaxing environment.
5. The fiddler on the roof ... Marc Chagall.
6. Beach umbrellas.

Emphasis should be placed on investigative research and the development and realisation 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 chosen theme.

Candidates are required to communicate their understanding and thinking process through integrated images and brief annotations.

All work pertaining to the Thematic Project (final piece, research, preparatory studies, etc.) must be presented on four A2 sheets (420 mm x 594 mm). The works and the relevant annotations can either 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. The sheets should be clearly marked and numbered accordingly.