UNIVERSITY OF MALTA

CERTIFICATE
IN
FOUNDATION STUDIES

COURSE PROSPECTUS

2012-2013
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Certificate in Foundation Studies

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1. Introduction

1.1 The Course leading to a Certificate in Foundation Studies is a full-time programme of studies at pre-tertiary level. It is specially designed to enable international high school students who have completed their secondary or high school education overseas to qualify for admission to an undergraduate degree course at the University of Malta.

1.2 The Course extends over one academic year of full-time study. An academic year consists of two semesters of 14 weeks of teaching each, two weeks of recess at Christmas and Easter, and examination periods of two weeks and of four weeks at the end of the first and the second semester respectively. Supplementary assessments are held during the first weeks of September. Students are expected to remain in Malta until the end of the examination period in June and to return to Malta in time for the September supplementary session if required.

1.3 The Course is open only to non-EU applicants who:

   (a) have completed their secondary and/or high school education abroad; and

   (b) are in possession of one of the following qualifications in English at the required level:

      i. Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) 500 or 61 Internet-based; (minimum score of 17 points (IBT) in Reading and Writing is required)

      ii. International English Language Testing System (IELTS) 5.5; (minimum score of 5.0 in the Reading and Writing component is required)

      iii. Cambridge First Certificate at grade C or better;

      or any equivalent qualification approved by the Board of Studies for the Course; and

   (c) are in possession of qualifications allowing access to higher education in the country where such qualifications were obtained; but

   (d) are deemed to require further study to be admitted to undergraduate degree courses at the University of Malta.
2. Course Structure

2.1 The Course comprises a number of study-units. Each study-unit may consist of lectures, tutorials, laboratory work, fieldwork and private study. Two ECTS\(^1\) credits are assigned for a study-unit which all together requires around 50 hours of study, of which 14 hours are normally lectures with, in some cases, from 2 to five hours of tutorials, for a total of 16 to 19 hours of tuition.

2.2 Students **must register** for study-units to which a total of **60 ECTS credits** are assigned per year. Students are advised to register for study-units to which about 30 ECTS credits are assigned in each semester. This will entail around 14/16 hours of lectures/tutorials per week, plus private study.

2.3 The programme of study comprises:

(a) **Study-units in English Language**, to which 28 ECTS credits are assigned. These study-units have a “General English” orientation (reading, writing, listening, speaking, grammar, academic and scientific usage, essay writing, etc). The objective is to improve students’ ability to handle the English language in a variety of contexts.

(b) **Study-units in subjects designated as Special Course Requirements** for undergraduate degree courses. Students are normally required to take a minimum of 24 ECTS credits in subjects required at Advanced Level and a minimum of 16 ECTS credits in subjects required at Intermediate Level. These study-units will help students prepare for the content and level of the areas of study to be followed in their degree course, as well as to familiarise themselves with the methods of teaching at the University of Malta.

Study-units are offered in various subjects, including Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics, Computer Studies, Information Technology, Economics, Accountancy, French and History.

**Note:** Extra tuition is provided for those students whose Special Course Requirements include Accountancy, Economics, Computer Studies, Chemistry and Biology. This is done with the aim of deepening learning in key areas of study crucial to the chosen undergraduate courses. This arrangement is in line with the requirements of the Faculties concerned.

(c) **Optional study-units** which are offered to provide students with other basic skills necessary for taking up undergraduate courses at the University. These include study-units on Study Skills, Mediterranean History and Culture, Introduction to Philosophy, Marketing, Management, etc. They are of

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\(^1\) ECTS: European Credit Transfer System
particular interest to students whose preferred course does not indicate any Special Course Requirements.

The University reserves the right not to offer areas of study for which there is not a sufficient number of qualified applicants. Applicants will be notified whether the area/areas of study they opt for is/are being offered.

3. Attendance for Teaching Sessions and Assessments

3.1 Attendance at all lectures, tutorials, seminars, practicals, etc. is **obligatory**. Students are required to justify any absence (even for just one session) in writing to the Director of Studies.

3.2 The results of those students who are eligible to take a study-unit and who, for any reason, absent themselves for the study-unit assessment shall be indicated as either 0 (zero) **FAIL** or 0 (zero) **INCOMPLETE** in the case of absence for a justifiable reason (see 3.5) on the result sheets. Such students shall, however, be allowed to sit for the supplementary assessment (see 3.5 below).

3.3 Students who attend for **less than 11 teaching sessions of a particular study-unit for whatever reason** (including personal and medical reasons) shall not be eligible to take the study-unit assessment. Neither shall they be allowed to sit for the supplementary assessment. The result of such students shall be indicated by F (Fail) on the result sheets. The students’ total number of absent sessions will also be taken into consideration where the method of assessment includes coursework.

3.4 Any absence for medical reasons must be covered by a medical certificate which should reach the Director of Studies:

(a) in the case of teaching sessions: within a week from the first session missed; and

(b) in the case of study-unit assessments: within 24 hours from when the assessment is scheduled.

3.5 If, for some **justifiable reason**, medical or otherwise, students are absent during a **study-unit assessment**, they are to inform the Foundation Studies Course office not later than one hour from the commencement of the assessment. As noted in 3.4 (b), students are to present a medical certificate and/or other relevant documents within 24 hours from when the assessment was scheduled. The Board of Studies shall then decide whether the reasons presented by the students are justified or not. In those cases where the reasons presented are deemed to be justifiable, the students shall be allowed to take the supplementary assessment as their first sit. In those cases where the reasons presented are not deemed to be justifiable, the students shall be indicated as Abs on the attendance sheet and shall be allowed to take the supplementary assessment under re-sit conditions.
4. **Assessment**

4.1 Assessment of study-units may be through coursework and/or end-of-semester test on completion of the study-units, as indicated in the catalogue of study-units.

4.2 On passing the assessment for a particular study-unit, students are awarded the corresponding number of credits and a percentage mark and grade which will be used in determining the overall grade for the award of the Certificate in Foundation Studies.

4.3 End-of-study-unit assessments for study-units held during the first semester shall take place during the last two weeks of January and the first week of February, while those for the second semester shall take place in the first three weeks of June. Supplementary assessments for first semester study-units are normally held in May/June, while those for the second semester shall take place in the first weeks of September *(In special cases, supplementary sessions may be held within three weeks from the date of the test or examination).*

4.4 Regulations related to *Marking and Grading, Calculating an Average Mark, Assessment Methods, and Supplementary Assessments* (re-sits) are to be found in the General Undergraduate Regulations 2004, Regulations 41-57.

5. **Discipline**

5.1 Cases of students who, after due warning, persistently fail to attend lectures, tutorials, etc. or whose general conduct, on and off campus, does not meet the University’s expectations, shall be referred to the Board of Studies. The Board of Studies may take any disciplinary measures, including dismissal, it deems fit.

6. **Award of Certificate**

6.1 In order to be eligible for the award of the Certificate in Foundation Studies, students must obtain 24 ECTS credits in study-units in English Language as well as 24 ECTS credits in those study-units in subjects designated as Special Course Requirements and/or in those subjects designated as optional by the Board of Studies, provided that, if students obtain two credits less than the forty-eight required, this may be compensated for by an overall grade of not less than B.

6.2 Once they are eligible for the award of the Certificate in Foundation Studies, students may then proceed to register for undergraduate courses. In order to be eligible to register for the undergraduate course of their choice, students must obtain the number of ECTS credits at the required grade as prescribed by the Board of Studies in order to satisfy the Special Course Requirements (see also 6.4 below).
6.3 The Certificate shall show an overall grade ‘A+’, ‘A’, ‘B+’, ‘B’, ‘C+’, ‘C’, ‘D+’ or ‘D’, ‘A+’ being the highest and ‘D’ the lowest, indicating the standard attained by the students and taking into account all the marks obtained during the course.

6.4 Students who obtain an overall grade ‘C’ or better and, where applicable, the appropriate grade in the subjects required as Special Course Requirements for the undergraduate course of their choice, shall be eligible for admission to a University undergraduate course.

7. Special Course Requirements for Undergraduate Degree Courses

7.1 The attention of all students is drawn to the Special Course Requirements for the various undergraduate degree courses at the University. In order to be admitted to a degree course, it is not enough to satisfy the University General Entry Requirements. Students are advised to consult the Director of Studies if they have any difficulty concerning the Special Course Requirements.

8. Admission to University Undergraduate Degree Courses

8.1 Students who obtain the Certificate in Foundation Studies are required to complete the University admission procedure for international students and their application will undergo the usual admission process.

9. Undergraduate Degree Courses with designated Special Course Requirements

9.1 Students intending to apply for the following undergraduate degree courses are required to register for study-units in the Foundation Studies Course in the areas of study indicated.

Please note that all credit values assigned to the various study-units in the following tables refer to ECTS credits.

For a number of courses, some areas of study are suggested as guidance to students when making their choice.
(a) FACULTY OF ARTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Arts (Honours)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English Language (24 credits)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Foundation Studies Course offers only English, Economics and History up to the required level where an Advanced Level at Grade C or better is requested as a Special Course Requirement.

Some subjects - German, Italian, Maltese, Spanish, Music and Sociology – are not offered on the Foundation Studies Course.

(b) FACULTY FOR THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

NOTE: Following the restructuring of the courses offered by the Faculty for the Built Environment, students who wish to read for Bachelor degree courses leading to careers in architecture, civil and structural engineering, planning, construction management, and conservation architecture/engineering will first follow a course leading to a Diploma in Design Foundation Studies. Once students have successfully completed the Diploma, they may then proceed to read for the Bachelor degree and eventually professional Masters courses. The Course leading to the Certificate in Foundation Studies enables students to obtain the Special Course Requirements for the Bachelor degree. (Please note that the Bachelor degree can only be followed after successful completion of the Diploma in Design Foundation Studies.)

i. Diploma in Design Foundation Studies

ii. Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Built Environment Studies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English Language (24 credits)</th>
<th>Diploma in Design Foundation Studies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mathematics (12 credits) at Grade C or better</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Physics (12 credits) at Grade C or better</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A pass (8 credits) in ONE of the following:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Not offered on the Foundation Studies Course
** Not offered at the required level on the Foundation Studies Course
*** Offered on the Foundation Studies Course only if there is a sufficient number of applicant
(c) FACULTY OF ECONOMICS, MANAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTANCY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bachelor of Commerce (areas: Economics, Management)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English Language (24 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A pass in Mathematics (8 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For guidance only: Economics, Accountancy, Management, Marketing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Note</strong>: The Foundation Studies Course does not offer students the possibility of following Accountancy as a main area of study.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bachelor of Science (Business &amp; Computing)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English Language (24 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 credits at Grade C or better in ONE of Accounting, Computing*** or Information Technology*, Economics, Mathematics and 8 credits EACH in Accounting and either Computing*** or Information Technology*, if not taken above.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>* Not offered on the Foundation Studies Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>** Not offered at the required level on the Foundation Studies Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*** Offered on the Foundation Studies Course only if there is a sufficient number of applicants</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(d) FACULTY OF EDUCATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bachelor of Education (Honours) (Secondary Education Only)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English Language (24 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Level at C or better in EACH of the TWO areas of study chosen as areas of specialization. Different combinations are possible. Consult the Director of Studies for further guidance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Note</strong>: Since not all subjects are offered at the required level on the Foundation Studies Course, students have to satisfy the Board of Studies that they are in possession of certificates at the required level in the areas of study chosen if these are not offered at the required level on the Foundation Studies Course. Consult the Director of Studies for further guidance.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(e) FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) (Electrical and Electronic Engineering or Mechanical Engineering)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| English Language (24 credits) | Physics (12 credits) at Grade C or better  
Mathematics (12 credits) at Grade C or better |

(f) FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bachelor of Science (Honours) in</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English Language (24 credits at Grade C or better)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applied Food and Nutritional Sciences</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Communication Therapy | Biology*** (12 credits) at Grade C or better and English or Maltese* (8 credits)  
OR  
English or Maltese* (12 credits) at Grade C or better and Biology (8 credits) at Grade C or better |
| Mental Health Nursing | Biology*** (12 credits) |
| Midwifery (max. 15 students) | Biology*** (12 credits) |
| Nursing | Biology*** (12 credits) |
| Occupational Therapy | Biology*** (12 credits) at Grade C or better |
| Physiotherapy (max. 30 students) | Biology*** (12 credits) at Grade C or better and Physics (8 credits) |
| Podiatry | Biology*** (12 credits) at Grade C or better and either Chemistry*** (8 credits) or Physics (8 credits) |
| Radiography (max. 12 students) | Biology*** (12 credits) |

* Not offered on the Foundation Studies Course  
*** Offered on the Foundation Studies Course only if there is a sufficient number of applicants
(g) FACULTY OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Information Technology

| English Language (24 credits) | A: Mathematics (12 credits) at Grade C or better  
|                              | C: A pass in Physics (8 credits) and Computing (8 credits) or Information Technology* (8 credits) if not chosen under Section B.  

* Not offered on the Foundation Studies Course  
** Not offered at the required level on the Foundation Studies Course  
*** Offered on the Foundation Studies Course only if there is a sufficient number of applicants

NOTE: Please refer to the University of Malta Undergraduate Courses 2012 for details about course requirements relating to the area of specialisation chosen.

(h) FACULTY OF LAWS

Bachelor of Laws (Honours)

| English Language (24 credits) | 12 credits at Grade C or better in TWO subjects chosen from Groups 1, 2, 3 or Computing Information Technology (Group 4) of the Matriculation Certificate Examination.  

Note 1: Since not all subjects are offered at the required level on the Foundation Studies Course, students have to satisfy the Board of Studies that they are in possession of certificates at the required level in the areas of study chosen if these are not offered at the required level on the Foundation Studies Course.

Note 2: Candidates wishing to follow the N.P. or LL.D. courses must also be in possession of passes at Intermediate level in English and Maltese*. Consult the Director of Studies for guidance.  

* Not offered on the Foundation Studies Course
## (i) FACULTY OF MEDIA AND KNOWLEDGE SCIENCES

### Bachelor of Communications / Bachelor of Communications (Honours)

#### Bachelor of Library, Information and Archive Studies / (Honours)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English Language (24 credits)</th>
<th>If either English, French, German*, History, Italian*, Maltese*, Music Studies (Music)<em>, or Spanish and Latin American Studies (Spanish)</em> is chosen, 12 credits at Grade C or better in the subject.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>If Computer Information Systems is chosen, 12 credits at Grade C or better in Computing*** or Information Technology* and 8 credits at Grade C or better in Pure Mathematics or 12 credits at Grade C or better in Pure Mathematics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>If International Relations is chosen, 12 credits at Grade C or better in either Economics or History.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>If Social Studies is chosen, 8 credits at Grade C or better in either Economics, History, Philosophy**, or Sociology*.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>If Sociology is chosen, 12 credits at Grade C or better in either Economics, History, Philosophy**, or Sociology*.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>If European Studies or Library Information and Archive Studies is chosen, 8 credits in English.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Not offered on the Foundation Studies Course

** Not offered at the required level on the Foundation Studies Course

*** Offered on the Foundation Studies Course only if there is a sufficient number of applicants

## (j) FACULTY OF SCIENCE

### Bachelor of Science (Honours)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English Language (24 credits)</th>
<th>EITHER ONE area of study from the following: Chemistry*** / Chemistry*** with Materials</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OR TWO areas of study chosen from the offered Combinations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Banking and Finance 8 credits in Pure Mathematics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Course Combinations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Biology</strong></td>
<td>Biology*** (12 credits) and Chemistry*** (8 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(must be taken with another area of study)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chemistry</strong></td>
<td>Chemistry*** (12 credits) and either Physics or Pure Mathematics (8 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry / Chemistry with Materials</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Computer Science</strong> and Artificial Intelligence</td>
<td>Either Pure Mathematics (12 credits) and Computing*** (8 credits) Or Computing*** (12 credits) and Pure Mathematics (8 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(must be taken with another area of study)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Computer Information Systems</strong></td>
<td>Either Pure Mathematics (12 credits) Or Computing*** (12 credits) or Information Tech.* (12 credits) and Pure Mathematics (8 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(must be taken with another area of study)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mathematics</strong></td>
<td>Pure Mathematics (12 credits)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(must be taken with another area of study)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Physics</strong></td>
<td>Either Physics (12 credits) and Pure Mathematics (8 credits) Or Pure Mathematics (12 credits) and Physics (8 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>(must be taken with another area of study)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Statistics and Operations Research</strong></td>
<td>Either Pure Mathematics (12 credits) Or Applied Maths** (12 credits) Or Computing*** / Information Technology* (12 credits) and Pure Mathematics (12 credits at Grade D or better) Or Computing*** or Information Technology* (12 credits) and Applied Mathematics** (12 credits at Grade D or better)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(must be taken with another area of study)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Not offered on the Foundation Studies Course
** Not offered at the required level on the Foundation Studies Course
*** Offered on the Foundation Studies Course only if there is a sufficient number of applicants

**NOTE:** Please consult University of Malta website for undergraduate courses for 2012-2013 to see which combinations of subjects are allowed.
(k) FACULTY FOR SOCIAL WELLBEING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bachelor of Psychology (Honours)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English Language (24 credits)</td>
<td>Biology at Intermediate level (8 credits) at Grade C or better.</td>
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(l) FACULTY OF THEOLOGY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Theology with a subsidiary area</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English (24 credits)</td>
<td>One of the following areas:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maths 12 credits at Grade C or better</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Philosophy No Special Course Requirements</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Physics either 12 credits at Grade C or better in Physics and 8 credits at Grade C or better in Maths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>or 12 credits at Grade C or better in Maths and 8 credits at Grade C or better in Physics</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bachelor of Arts in Theology and Human Studies</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English (24 credits)</td>
<td>If either English, German*, History, Italian*, Maltese*, Music Studies (Music)<em>, or Spanish and Latin American Studies (Spanish)</em> is chosen, 12 credits at Grade C or better in the subject.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>If Social Studies is chosen, 8 credits at Grade C or better in either Economics, History, Philosophy**, Sociology*.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>If Sociology is chosen, 12 credits at Grade C or better in either Economics, History, Philosophy**, or Sociology*.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>* Not offered on the Foundation Studies Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>** Not offered at the required level on the Foundation Studies Course</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
(m) INSTITUTE FOR EUROPEAN STUDIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bachelor of European Studies / Bachelor of European Studies (Honours)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English: 24 credits</td>
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(n) INSTITUTE OF EARTH SYSTEMS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Earth Systems</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English (24 credits)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Mediterranean Agro-ecosystems Management</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English (24 credits)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diploma in Agriculture</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English (24 credits)</td>
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</table>
For a comprehensive list of courses offered at undergraduate level, please consult the University of Malta website and the *University of Malta Undergraduate Courses 2012*.

**Undergraduate courses with no Special Course Requirements**

The following undergraduate courses do not have any Special Course Requirements indicated apart from a pass in English at the requested grade. The Certificate in Foundation Studies at Grade C is sufficient for admission. For more information about these courses please consult the University of Malta website.

**FACULTY FOR SOCIAL WELLBEING**

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Social Policy / Social Work: General Entry Requirements

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Criminology: General Entry Requirements

**FACULTY OF THEOLOGY**

Bachelor of Theology: General Entry Requirements if Theology is the single main area of study

**INSTITUTE FOR TOURISM, TRAVEL AND CULTURE**

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) (Tourism Studies): General Entry Requirements

**MEDITERRANEAN INSTITUTE**

Bachelor in Dance Studies (Honours): General Entry Requirements and in possession of dance experience to at least intermediate level of a recognised dance institution
For registration and further information, please contact:

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Foundation Studies Course
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University of Malta
Msida, Malta
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E-mail: arthur.j.bezzina@um.edu.mt

Ms Jennifer Vella
Course Secretary
Foundation Studies Course
Room 102, Administration Building
University of Malta
Msida, Malta
Tel (+356) 2340 2175
E-mail: jennifer.vella@um.edu.mt

International Admissions Office
Room 103, Administration Building
University of Malta
Msida, Malta
Tel. (+356) 2340 3332/4, 2340 2225
E-mail: intadmissions@um.edu.mt
Website: www.um.edu.mt

Ms Anna Callus
Deputy Director
International and EU Office
Room 106, Administration Building
University of Malta
Msida, Malta
Tel. (+356) 2340 2591
E-mail: int-eu@um.edu.mt
# List of Study-units

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>ECTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Accounting</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACC 0165</td>
<td>Basic Financial Accounting</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACC 0265</td>
<td>Basic Cost Accounting</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FST 0434</td>
<td>An Introduction to More Complex Accounting Statements</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FST 0435</td>
<td>An Introduction to Budgeting and Budgetary Control</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chemistry</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHE 0013</td>
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<td><strong>Others</strong></td>
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<td>Study Skills</td>
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<td>Introduction to Maltese Culture</td>
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\(^1\) ECTS stands for *European Credit Transfer System*
Study-units in ENGLISH LANGUAGE

The study-units in English Language are taught by highly qualified and experienced ELT practitioners utilising the very latest approaches in English Language Teaching as well as modern resources including print, audio, video and CALL materials, as well as a state-of-the-art language laboratory.

Students are required to take the English Language compulsory study-units FST0101-0107 in the first semester, and FST0108-0114 in the second semester. There is a qualitative difference between the study-units offered in the first semester and those of the second semester: first semester study-units have a “general English” orientation, while those offered in the second semester focus much more closely on the use of English in the context of academic study.

Class size is limited to a maximum of twenty students per group. Each study-unit is held over one class-hour per week while, in some study-units, students meet for additional small-group tuition in tutorial sessions. The style of teaching is a mix of presentation, workshop, group/pair work and student-led sessions.

Director of Studies:  Mr Arthur Bezzina
Lecturers:                  Mr Arthur Bezzina, Mr Anthony Caruana Smith, Ms Olga Cachia, Dr John Portelli, Ms Caroline Sciriha, Mr Vincent Vella, and others.

FST 0101 - English Reading  Semester I

This study-unit exercises the students in the skills and strategies involved in reading a variety of text-types in English. Practice is provided in the text-attack skills of significance and cohesion (text and discourse, meaning, vocabulary and sentence structure, cohesive devices, discourse markers and understanding sentence syntax); discourse (functional value, rhetorical organisation – sentence, sequence of sentences and organisation above paragraph level) and questioning (purpose, forms, types).

Method of Assessment  Examination 70%, Oral and Written exercises 30%

Credit Value  2 credits
FST 0110 - English Academic Reading  

This study-unit applies the skills acquired in FST 0101 to academic study texts with added attention given to the special characteristics of academic / technical texts and the skills needed to be able to exploit them fully.

**Method of Assessment**  Examination 60%, Oral and Written exercises 40%

**Credit Value**  2 credits

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FST 0102 - English Writing 1  
FST 0103 - English Writing 2  

These two study-units aim to teach adolescent and adult learners of English the skills necessary for effective written communication. These include functional skills: suiting a specific purpose or subject matter; organisational skills such as clear and logical organisation of ideas; linking techniques and paragraphing; stylistic skills such as choice of the right degree of formality and emotive tone; and using narrative, description, exposition and argument. Students receive individual attention in the context of small-group tutorial sessions.

**Method of Assessment**  Examination 60%, Oral and Written Exercises 40%

**Credit Value**  2 credits for each study-unit

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FST 0111 - English Academic Writing 1  
FST 0112 - English Academic Writing 2  

In addition to receiving further practice in writing well-structured texts, students are introduced to the norms of academic writing. Special emphasis is placed on report writing; the development of analytical, presentation and argumentation skills; the avoidance of plagiarism; and the proper utilisation of reading (credited citation/quotation).

**Method of Assessment**  Examination 60%, Oral and Written Exercises 40%

**Credit Value**  2 credits for each study-unit
FST 0104 - English Listening  

Students are introduced to the phenomenon of connected speech in English, including intonation, and are exposed to a variety of types of authentic listening extracts (transactional, narrative, etc.). The following language functions are given special attention: listening to confirm expectations, listening to extract specific information, listening for communicative tasks, listening for general understanding, recognising function, deducing meaning and inferring opinion and attitude.

**Method of Assessment**  Examination 80%, Oral and Written exercises 20%

**Credit Value**  2 credits

FST 0105 - English Speaking 1  

Besides introducing students to the skills and knowledge relevant to good pronunciation, this study-unit provides practice in the context of discussions, brief presentations and information-gap activities, and exercises aimed at developing good compensatory and pragmatic skills.

**Method of Assessment**  Examination 60%, Oral and Written exercises 40%

**Credit Value**  2 credits

FST 0113 - English Speaking 2  

This study-unit builds on what was done during the first semester and offers students the opportunity to research, construct, and present spoken presentations on study matters making use of support (e.g. visual) material. This study-unit also exercises students in discussion skills, including presenting different sides of an argument, reaching a consensus, relaying instructions, problem solving and summarising.

**Method of Assessment**  Presentation 100%

**Credit Value**  2 credits
FST 0106 - Grammar 1  Semester I
FST 0108 - Grammar 2  Semester II

These two study-units provide a wide choice of language practice material concentrating on specific areas of English which, in all probability, students are familiar with but which may need additional practice and reinforcement. Special attention is paid to the tense/aspect system, modality, conditional structures and in/definiteness. Students receive individual attention in the context of small-group tutorial sessions.

Method of Assessment  Examination 60%, Oral and Written Exercises 40%
Credit Value  2 credits for each study-unit

FST 0107 - Integrated Skills in English Language Learning 1  Semester I
FST 0109 - Integrated Skills in English Language Learning 2  Semester II

Through the use of visual and audio material as well as reading books, these study-units provide students with the opportunity to increase their exposure to written and spoken English. Coursework includes listening, comprehension tasks (oral and written), as well as preparing write-ups on set topics and giving presentations.

Method of Assessment  Oral and Written exercises 30%, Presentation 40%, Essay 30%
Credit Value  2 credits for each study-unit

FST 0114 - English for Specific Study Areas  Semester II

In this study-unit students are expected to read, analyse, discuss and write about chosen texts and themes directly relevant to the areas of study they intend to take up in their undergraduate course. Special attention is paid to area-specific terminology and language skills. Students are also introduced to journals in their areas of interest.

Method of Assessment  Examination 50%, Oral and Written Exercises 50%
Credit Value  2 credits
Study-units in Subjects designated as
SPECIAL COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. ACCOUNTANCY

Lecturer: Mr George Vella

ACC 0165 – Basic Financial Accounting  
Semester I

This study-unit provides students with a suitable background in Financial Accounting with the aim of preparing them for the more advanced work they are likely to encounter during their undergraduate studies. This study-unit is particularly useful for those students who do not have any prior knowledge of accounting and who intend to eventually join the Bachelor of Commerce or the B.Sc. (Business and Computing) courses and need to satisfy the Special Course Requirements as stipulated in the regulations for these courses.

Method of Assessment  Examination 100%

Credit Value  4 credits

ACC 0265 – Basic Cost Accounting  
Semester II

This study-unit takes the discussion a step further and seeks to provide a broad introduction to the fundamentals of cost/management accounting for those who have not studied the subject before. The subject-matter is presented in a clear, straightforward fashion without too much technical jargon or unnecessary detail. Theoretical issues are illustrated by reference to practical examples and are supplemented by exercises in both classroom situations and small tutorial groups.

Method of Assessment  Examination 100%

Credit Value  4 credits
FST 0434 – An Introduction to More Complex Accounting Statements  
Semester I

Business enterprises differ greatly in size and complexity, ranging from the simplest form of business entity (the sole trader) to business entities that are owned by more than one individual. This study-unit aims to familiarize students with the advantages and disadvantages of each of these organizational set-ups. Moreover, it seeks to provide a deeper insight into the accounting requirements of multi-owner organizations i.e. partnerships and, more particularly, limited liability companies. It should provide students with an even sounder basis for their first-year studies in financial accounting.

Method of Assessment  Examination 100%
Credit Value  2 credits

FST 0435 – An Introduction to Budgeting and Budgetary Control  
Semester II

In order to be successful, a business must attempt to look into the future and prepare plans, which are quantified in monetary terms, in respect of budgeted revenues, costs, assets, liabilities and cash flows. Subsequently, control information is obtained by comparing actual costs and revenues with budgeted costs and revenues. This study-unit will discuss these two inter-related aspects of planning and control by examining how budgets are prepared and how a budgetary control system is established. Students who follow this study-unit should be better equipped to cope with their first-year studies in financial control.

Method of Assessment  Examination 100%
Credit Value  2 credits
2. CHEMISTRY

Co-ordinator: Dr Emmanuel Sinagra

CHE 0013 - States, Quantity and Structure of Matter  
Semester I
States of matter; fundamental particles and structure of the atom; isotopy, mass spectrometer; radioactivity and nuclear equations; electrovalent, covalent and dative bonding; lattice structures and co-ordination numbers; intermolecular forces; quantity of matter: moles and the Avogadro Constant; molar concentrations; formulae and equation writing including half equation method for redox reactions; calculations involving molar amounts and concentrations; concept of limiting reagent.

Method of Assessment  Examination 85%, Assignment 15%

Credit Value  3 credits

CHE 0021 - Energetics and Kinetics of Chemical Change  
Semester I
Energy change accompanying phase and chemical changes; Bomb calorimetry; thermometric titrations; concept of dynamic chemical equilibrium; Ionic equilibria; Redox equilibria; reaction kinetics; phase equilibria.

Method of Assessment  Examination 85%, Assignment 15%

Credit Value  3 credits

CHE 0033 - Introduction to Organic Chemistry  
Semester II
Functional groups and homologous series in organic chemistry; alkanes, alkenes, alkynes, benzene and aromatic hydrocarbons, alcohols, ethers and phenols; halogenalkanes; aldehydes and ketones; carboxylic acids and derivatives, amines including phenylamine and diazonium salts; an introduction to mechanisms of organic reactions; isomerism in organic molecules: structural and stereoisomerism.

Method of Assessment  Examination 85%, Assignment 15%

Credit Value  3 credits
CHE 0041 - Introduction to Inorganic Chemistry   Semester II

Principles of chemical periodicity; Chemistry of the s-Block Elements; Chemistry of Group IV Elements; Chemistry of Group VII Elements; Chemistry of selected elements: hydrogen, nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur; Chemistry of Transition Elements: general overview and more detailed chemistry of chromium, manganese, copper and iron.

Method of Assessment   Examination 85%, Subject Tests 15%
Credit Value   3 credits

CHE 0052 - Foundation Practical Chemistry   Semesters I & II

12 x 3-hour laboratory sessions. Students will manipulate chemicals and simple apparatus in quantitative and qualitative exercises; they will be expected to record their results and to draw inferences to interpret the data obtained.

Method of Assessment   Practical 100%
Credit Value   4 credits
3. ECONOMICS

Lecturer: Mr Jeffrey Magro

The overall objective of the Economics component on the Foundation Studies Course is to provide an introduction to the subject for those students who intend to take up undergraduate studies in business, commerce and other related areas.

FST 0215 – An Introduction to Economics Semester I

The topics covered in this study-unit include: the economic problem; economic systems; the price mechanism; and elasticities.

Method of Assessment Assignment 100%
Credit Value 3 credits

FST 0216 – Intermediate Theory of Demand and Supply Semester I

This study-unit builds on the concepts studied in FST 0215. The main areas to be studied include: the basic theory of cost and production; price and output determination under different market conditions; and the role of profits in the economy.

Note: This study-unit includes an Applied Economics Area which provides instances of practical application of the basic theoretical concepts covered in FST 0215 and FST 0216.

The Applied Economics Area covers such areas and issues as:
- Taxation, agriculture and housing
- Firms, mergers and acquisitions
- Different types of markets
- Worked examples

Method of Assessment Examination 70%, Assignment 30%
Credit Value 4 credits
FST 0217 – Introduction to Macro Economics  

This study-unit introduces students to basic macro-economic concepts. These include: the circular flow of income; national income measurement; national income equilibrium; determination of national income; deflationary and inflationary gaps; and monetary and fiscal policy.

*Method of Assessment*  
Assignment 100%

*Credit Value*  
3 credits

FST 0218 – Economic Objectives and Issues  

This study-unit addresses some broad social issues from the point of view of Economics. These include: the role of government in managing the economy; and major economic problems and issues such as inflation, unemployment, balance of payments and economic growth.

*Note:* This study-unit includes an *Applied Economics Area* which provides instances of practical application of the basic theoretical concepts covered in FST 0217 and FST 0218.

The *Applied Economics Area* covers such areas and issues as:
- The role of fiscal and monetary policy in managing the economy
- International trade and international debt
- International economic comparisons
- International institutions (for example, the European Union, the World Trade Organization, and the International Monetary Fund).

*Method of Assessment*  
Examination 70%, Assignment 30%

*Credit Value*  
4 credits
4. HISTORY

Co-ordinator: Prof. Francis Ciappara

FST 0329 – An Introduction to the History of Europe I Semester I
FST 0332 – An Introduction to the History of Europe II Semester II

These study-units are drawn up for an audience of foreign students originating from different geographical, ethnic, cultural, and religious backgrounds. The aim is to provide an overview of the main events and transformations which shaped European and Mediterranean history during the past 500 years. The information provided makes for a useful backdrop to the other study-units in History which treat particular topics and events in greater depth.

The first half of these study-units (1500-1800) covers the period from the Renaissance epoch up to the French Revolution of 1789, with particular focus on the religious changes, the formation of the modern state and the rise of absolutism, the Muslim-Christian divide in the Mediterranean, and the conditions of eighteenth-century France leading to 1780.

The second study-unit (1800-1989) covers the period from the Napoleonic Wars up to the fall of the Berlin Wall of 1989. Mention will be made of the Industrial and Russian revolutions, the rise of nationalism, the spread of colonialism, the two World Wars, regional conflicts in the Mediterranean, and the Cold War. Please note that study-unit FST 0332 can only be taken if a pass grade has been obtained in study-unit FST 0329.

Method of Assessment Examination 100%

Credit Value 2 credits for each study-unit

FST 0319 – Revolutions and Nationalism Semester I

This study-unit examines the relation between these two topics. It starts with the French Revolution which ushered in the concept of nationalism. Other examples of revolution are also considered – Greece, Belgium, Poland, Italy, ‘Germany’, ‘Austria’, ‘Turkey’, France and Russia. In each case, emphasis is laid on how these concepts affected each other. The study-unit ends with a study of World War One and its aftermath.

Method of Assessment Assignment 100%

Credit Value 2 credits
FST 0430 – Background Study of the Formation of 19th and Early 20th Century Russia and America  
Semester I

This study-unit provides an in-depth analysis of the evolution of both the Russian and the American political, economic and social systems. It traces the development of urbanisation and the impact of economic and technological changes which led to the formation of conflicting ideologies. Special reference is made to the American War of Independence and the new Republican Spirit as well as the American Civil War and its effects on Europe and Russia. The study-unit also takes a closer look at Russian Monarchism and the resulting Communist Revolution. The roles of protagonists like Benjamin Franklin, Woodrow Wilson, Theodore and Franklin Roosevelt, Nicholas II, Lenin and Trotsky, among others, will also be studied.

Method of Assessment  Examination 50%,  Assignment 50%

Credit Value  2 credits

FST 0321 - Decolonisation: The Aftermath of World War I  
Semester II

This study-unit first analyses the results of World War I. It emphasises why the ‘war to end all wars’ led up to the Second World War. It also examines the failure of the League of Nations to prevent yet another more terrible catastrophe. This study-unit explains how mandates set up after 1918 achieved independence but it is also a study of decolonisation in general, with particular attention to North Africa (Algeria and Tunisia) and to Palestine.

Method of Assessment  Assignment 100%

Credit Value  2 credits

FST 0431 – An Introduction to Western European Integration and to International Organizations  
Semester I

This study-unit looks at post-World War II Europe and the historical development of the European Union and its recent enlargement with special reference to the theme of European integration.

The role and effectiveness of International Organisations such as the United Nations within the arena of international relations is also examined.

Method of Assessment  Examination 50%,  Assignment 50%

Credit Value  2 credits
FST 0322 – The Cold War

This study-unit examines the rise of the United States and the Soviet Union to the level of super-power status in the 19th and 20th centuries. It examines the effects of the two World Wars on the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. and their eventual dominance of international relations up to the 1990s. It examines the different ideological perspectives and major issues like the Cuban crisis, the division of Germany, the space and arms race, Korea, Vietnam, Afghanistan, and the final breakdown of the U.S.S.R.

Method of Assessment  Examination 50%, Assignment 50%
Credit Value  2 credits

FST 0331 – Conflicts in the Balkans and the Middle East

This study-unit takes a look at some recent and not so recent events and conflicts while attempting to find an answer to some very important questions. The topics covered include: The Creation of Israel, The Palestine Question, The Arab League, Iraq and the Gulf Wars, and Are Arab Wars Religious Wars?

Method of Assessment  Examination 50%, Assignment 50%
Credit Value  2 credits
5. INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

Co-ordinator: Dr. Ernest Cachia

CCE 0011- Foundation Course in Computer Systems Engineering  
Semester I

The objectives of this study-unit are to introduce students to Computer Systems Engineering by explaining the basic building blocks and architecture of a computer system.

Syllabus

- Data representation and number system
- Computer Logic
  - Logic gates
  - Simplification of Boolean expressions using Boolean Algebra and Karnaugh maps
- Computer Architecture
  - CPU, Memory, I/O Subsystem
  - I/O Peripherals

Laboratory Work

Design and testing of simple logic circuits.

Method of Assessment  Examination 90%, Practical 10%

Credit Value  3 credits

CSA 0012 – Foundations of Logic  
Semester I

This study unit will introduce the student to the following concepts in the areas of Logic and Mathematics:
Syllabus

Logic:
  • Propositional logic:
    - Translation from natural language to formal formulae.
    - The use of truth tables to reason about propositions (including the concepts of tautologies, contradictions, etc).
    - Basic use of Boolean algebra to reason about logic statements.
    - Basic concepts of axioms and rules of inference.
  • Predicate logic:
    - Translation from natural language to formal formulae.
    - Basic concepts of axioms and rules of inference.

Mathematics:
  • The concept of proofs, including proofs by construction, proofs by contradiction, and proofs by induction.
  • Basic concepts of combinatorics, including permutations and combinations.

Method of Assessment
Examination 80%, Assignment 20%

Credit Value
3 credits

Textbooks:
  • Notes and other reading material will be made available during the course.

CSA 0013 – Foundations of Programming

This study unit will introduce the student to the following Programming Fundamentals concepts:

Syllabus
  • What is a programming language and why do we need it (Java, C, etc)
  • Brief introduction to how computer memory works
  • File I/O in general
  • Primitive Data Types
  • Variables and the Assignment Statement
• How control moves across a program (Control Statements)
• Evaluation of arithmetic and Boolean expression (arithmetic and Boolean operators)
• Conditional statements (if then else)
• Loops (while)
• Counting Loops (for)
• Function and Procedures (how to organise your code)
• Algorithms (how to implement useful stuff with expressions and statements)
• Plenty of small programming exercises.

Method of Assessment  Examination 80% , Assignment 20%

Credit Value 3 credits

Textbooks

• Notes and other reading material will be made available during the course.

CIS 0011 - ICT Concepts and Technologies from the Business and Societal Perspectives  Semester II

The main aim of this study-unit is to allow students to familiarise themselves with ICT concepts and technologies ranging from applied Database Systems to Internet Technologies. A business perspective will be taken through an analysis of the benefits businesses can obtain through the right strategic infrastructural decisions, together with the adoption of technology in different non/functional areas. Database concepts, ERPs and Support Systems at all organizational levels will feature in the above discussion through case studies (where possible). In addition to the above, this unit aims at providing students with a glossary of generic internet and computing terms. This unit will also allow for a discussion on ICT’s effect on Society as a whole, including the role of ICT, misconceptions, e-Government/Learning/Business and Risk, amongst others.

Method of Assessment  Examination 70%, Classwork 30%

Credit Value 3 credits
MNE 0010 - Elementary Ideas in Microelectronics  

Objectives

The study unit presents a brief introduction to micro and nanoelectronics.

Syllabus

Semiconductors, conductors and insulators; silicon as starting material for integrated circuits.

Integration of components: basic description of integrated components: - resistors, capacitors, inductors, active devices. Process materials required for their integration.

Micro and Nanoscale: evolution of technologies, Moore’s Law.

Qualitative description of discrete and integrated electronic devices: applications, specific features. Technical and economic advantages of integration.

Typical integrated circuit design flow: digital, analogue, mixed-mode circuits.

Laboratory Work

Demonstration lab.

Method of Assessment  
Examination 90%, Assignment 10%

Credit Value  
3 credits

FST 0436 - Basic Computer Skills 1  
FST 0437 - Basic Computer Skills 2  

These study-units teach basic skills and provide enough theory and practice for students to be able to use a computer in an office/academic environment. They also provide a hands-on practical introduction to applications such as Windows, word processing, presentation packages, spreadsheet, database, and some graphics.

Method of Assessment

Basic Computer Skills 1  Project 80%, Classwork 20%
Basic Computer Skills 2  Examination 80%, Classwork 20%

Credit Value  
2 credits for each study-unit
6. MATHEMATICS

Co-ordinator: Mr Joseph Sciriha

FST 0002 - Maths Core  Semester I

This study-unit aims to provide students with the knowledge and practice in a number of basic topics necessary for them to proceed to further studies in Mathematics. The topics covered include:

- Indices
- Logs
- Surds
- Polynomial quadratic equations
- Partial fractions
- Differentiation of functions
- Matrices
- Elementary statistics

Method of Assessment  Examination 100%

Credit Value  4 credits

FST 0004 - Calculus  Semester II

The topics covered include:

- Differentiation
- MacLaurin series
- Integration
- Differential equations

Method of Assessment  Examination 100%

Credit Value  4 credits
FST 0006 – Analysis I  

Semester I

The topics covered include:
- Functions I: definition, domain and range
- Functions II: onto functions
- Functions III: one-to-one functions
- Functions IV: Composition of functions
- Functions V: Inverse functions
- Exponential Functions
- Logarithmic Functions
- Trigonometrical Functions
- Pascal’s Triangle and Coefficients
- Arithmetic Progressions and Series
- Geometric Progressions and Series
- Binomial I: Expansion of \((1+x)^n\) for positive and integral powers
- Binomial II: Expansion of \((1+x)^n\) when \(n\) is not a positive integer
- Binomial III: Expansion of \((1-x)^{-1}\) and \((1+x)^{-1}\) and approximations

Method of Assessment  Examination 100%

Credit Value  2 credits

FST 0007 – Analysis II  

Semester II

The topics covered include:
- Real and Imaginary Numbers
- Real roots of polynomial equations
- Complex I: Basic Principles
- Complex II: Points of interest
- Complex III: Complex Roots
- Complex IV: Modulus, argument and Polar Form
- Complex V: Products, Integral Powers and Quotients in Polar Form
- Complex VI: Exponential Form and De Moivre’s Theorem
- Complex VII: Problems on De Moivre’s Theorem
- Complex XIII: More Problems on De Moivre’s Theorem
- Hyperbolic Functions I
- Hyperbolic Functions II
- Hyperbolic Functions III
- Revision

Method of Assessment  Examination 100%

Credit Value  2 credits
FST 0008 – Co-ordinate Geometry and Vector Methods  
Semester I

The topics covered include:

- The Cartesian System: line and gradient
- Finding equation of line and perpendicular distance of point from line
- Angle between two lines; triangles and quadrilaterals
- Image of point in line, dividing line in given ratio, equations of angle bisectors
- The Circle: definition, centre and radius, circle equation characteristics
- Tangential Lines, Tangential Circles, Orthogonal Circles
- Vectors I: Introduction and Scalar Product
- More on Scalar Product, Direction Ratios and Direction Cosines
- Equations of Line: Vector, Parametric and Cartesian
- Intersecting Lines, angle between two lines, perpendicular from point to line
- The Vector Product
- The Plane
- Cartesian Eqn of Plane, Perpendicular distance of point from plane, lines & planes
- Intersecting Planes and Triple Scalar Product

Method of Assessment  Examination 100%

Credit Value  2 credits

FST 0009 – Matrices  
Semester I

The topics covered include:

- The Cartesian System: line and gradient
- Equations of Line and Plane
- Matrices I: Basic Principles
- Matrices II: Finding Inverse from characteristic equations
- Matrices III: Determinant of 3 x 3 matrix
- Matrices IV: Inverse Using Adjoint
- Matrices V: Inverse Using Reduction
- Matrices VI: Matrix solution of equations
- Matrices VII: Gauss Elimination Method
- Matrices VIII: Transformations in Two Dimensions
- Matrices IX: More on Rotations
- Matrices X: More on Reflections
- Matrices XI: Transformations in Three Dimensions
- Revision

Method of Assessment  Examination 100%

Credit Value  2 credits
FST 0010 – Applied Mathematics

Semesters I & II

The topics covered include:

- **Vectors**: Unit vectors; i-j notation; scalar product; vector product
- **Forces**: resultant and components of forces; equilibrium
- **Vector equations**: vector equation of a line; vector equation of the path of a moving particle; position vector of the point of intersection of two lines
- **Moments**: moment of a force; parallel forces and couples; non-parallel forces equivalent systems of forces
- **Momentum**: conservation of linear momentum; elastic impact; law of restitution
- **Impulse**: impulsive tensions
- **Elasticity**: elastic strings and springs; Hooke’s Law; energy stored in an elastic string
- **Frameworks**: smoothly jointed rods; thrust or tension in rods

**Method of Assessment**

Examination 100%

**Credit Value**

4 credits
7. PHYSICS

Co-ordinator: Mr Paul Xuereb

FST 0438 – Mechanics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>Physical quantities Basic and derived quantities Units of the S.I. System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>Scalar and vector quantities Definition. Finding the resultant of two or more vectors which may act an angle to each other. Resolving vectors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>Projectiles The independence of horizontal and vertical motion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>Newton’s laws of motion The use of free-body diagrams to represent forces acting on bodies. Force = ( \frac{d(mv)}{dt} ). Problems where both mass and velocity change are excluded. Definition of the Newton. Students should be able to identify appropriate pairs of Newton third law forces. Impulse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>Conservation of linear momentum Problems on oblique collisions are excluded.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>Energy, work and power The joule as the unit of energy. Conservation of energy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>Collisions Elastic and inelastic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>Equilibrium The turning effect of a force Conditions for equilibrium.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.10</td>
<td>Circular motion Angular velocity. Body moving in a circle is necessarily accelerating, ( a = \frac{v^2}{r} ) (no need for derivation). Centripetal force.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.11</td>
<td>Elastic properties Hooke’s law. Force-extension graphs for metals. The elastic limit, yield point and plastic flow are included. Stress, strain and Young’s modulus.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Method of Assessment** Examination 80%, Assignment 20%

**Credit Value** 2 credits
# FST 0439 – Optics and Waves

**Semester 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit 2: Optics and Waves</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.1 Simple harmonic motion</td>
<td>Use of the equations for $x$, $v$, and $a$, but their derivation will not be examined. Velocity-time and acceleration-time graphs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2 Free and forced oscillations.</td>
<td>Energy in SHM.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3 Mechanical resonance.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.4 The progressive wave</td>
<td>Amplitude, speed, wavelength, frequency and phase interpreted graphically.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.5 Longitudinal and transverse progressive waves.</td>
<td>Displacement-position and displacement-time graphs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.6 Electromagnetic waves.</td>
<td>Main properties.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.7 Superposition of waves</td>
<td>The principle of superposition and the formation of stationary waves. Use of the formula $f = 1/2L (\sqrt{T/\mu})$ and the associated harmonics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.8 Diffraction of waves</td>
<td>Effect of relative size of slit and wavelength on diffraction pattern. Derivation of $\theta = \lambda/a$ for a slit of width $d$ is not required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.9 Interference of waves</td>
<td>Conditions for interference Interpretation of interference pattern Use of $\lambda = sd/D$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.10 Reflection of light</td>
<td>Laws of reflection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.11 Refraction of light</td>
<td>Refractive index. Snell’s law in terms of the ratio of velocities in different media. Use of $n_1 \sin \theta_1 = n_2 \sin \theta_2$ and $n_2 = v_1/v_2$. Total internal reflection and critical angle.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.12 Refraction of light by thin converging and diverging lenses.</td>
<td>Use of $1/f = 1/u + 1/v$, real is positive (or in Cartesian form) and magnification = $v/u$. Single lens problems only.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Method of Assessment**  Examination 80%, Assignment 20%

**Credit Value**  2 credits
### FST 0440 – Current Electricity

#### Semester I

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit 3: Current Electricity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.1</strong> Charge and current</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.2</strong> Intrinsic and extrinsic semiconductors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.3</strong> Potential difference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.4</strong> E.m.f. of a cell.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.5</strong> Kirchoff’s laws.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.6</strong> Resistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.7</strong> Resistivity and conductivity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.8</strong> The effect of temperature on electrical resistance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.9</strong> Internal resistance of a cell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.10</strong> Resistors in series and in parallel.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.11</strong> Balance of potentials and the principle of null methods.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.12</strong> Energy and power in d.c. circuits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.13</strong> Basic ammeter and voltmeter principles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Method of Assessment**  Examination 80%, Assignment 20%

**Credit Value** 2 credits
## FST 0441 – Magnetic Fields

### Semester II

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit 4: Magnetic Fields</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.1 Magnetic effect of a steady current.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2 Force on a straight current-carrying conductor in a uniform magnetic field.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.3 Magnetic flux density; the tesla.</td>
<td>B defined from $F = BIl$. Vector nature of $B$.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.4 Force between current-carrying straight conductors.</td>
<td>Definition of the ampere.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.5 Force on a charged particle moving in a circular orbit through a magnetic field.</td>
<td>Derivation of $F = BQv$.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.6 Magnetic flux and flux linkage.</td>
<td>The rate of change/cutting of flux induces an emf in a circuit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.7 Faraday’s and Lenz’s laws of electromagnetic induction.</td>
<td>$e = -N\frac{d\Phi}{dt}$. Lenz’s law and energy conservation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.8 Mutual inductance and self inductance.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.9 The simple generator.</td>
<td>The e.m.f. produced when a rectangular coil rotates in a uniform magnetic field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.10 Electricity distribution.</td>
<td>Advantages of high voltage and low current transmission (the role of the transformer). Knowledge of typical voltages is expected.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.11 Alternating currents</td>
<td>Peak and r.m.s. values and their relationship for sinusoidal currents and p.d.s. Knowledge of $I_{rms} = I_r/\sqrt{2}$, and $V_{rms} = V_r/\sqrt{2}$. Derivation of these equations is not expected.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.12 Half-wave and full-wave rectification circuits.</td>
<td>Single diode and bridge circuits including the use of the smoothing capacitor.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Method of Assessment**  
Examination 80%, Assignment 20%

**Credit Value**  
2 credits
### FST 0442 – Electric Fields  
#### Semester II

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit 5: Electric Fields</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.1 Simple electrostatic phenomena.</td>
<td>Charging conductors by induction.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.2 Use of lines of force and equipotentials to describe electric fields qualitatively.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.3 Electric field strength defined as ( E = \frac{F}{Q} ).</td>
<td>( E ) for uniform and radial fields</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.4 Electric potential and potential difference.</td>
<td>( V ) for uniform and radial fields</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.5 Relation between ( E ) and ( V ).</td>
<td>( E = -\frac{dV}{ds} ).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.6 Acceleration of charged particles moving along the field lines of a uniform electric field.</td>
<td>Use of ( QV = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 ). Definition of the electron volt.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.7 Deflection of charged particles in uniform electric fields.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.8 Factors affecting the capacitance of a parallel plate capacitor.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.9 Relative permittivity.</td>
<td>( Q = VC; \ \varepsilon_r = \frac{C}{C_{oi}}; \ \varepsilon_r = \varepsilon_r \varepsilon_0 \frac{A}{d}. ) No experimental determination of the listed parameters is expected.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.10 Different types of capacitors.</td>
<td>Structure of the electrolytic capacitor may be examined.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.11 Charge stored on a capacitor.</td>
<td>( Q = VC. ) Use of high resistance voltmeter to measure charge.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.12 Exponential growth and decay of charge stored in a capacitor in series with a resistor. Time constant.</td>
<td>Exponential form of graph to be understood and related to the decay of radioactivity. Use of graph to determine ( RC ). Use of equations for the growth and decay of charge, current and voltage in ( R-C ) circuits. Derivation of these equations is not required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.13 Energy stored in a capacitor.</td>
<td>( \frac{1}{2} CV^2 ) from area under a ( Q-V ) graph.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.14 Capacitors in series and in parallel</td>
<td>Simple circuits.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Method of Assessment**  Examination 80%, Assignment 20%

**Credit Value** 2 credits
# FST 0444 – Thermal Physics

## Unit 6: Thermal Physics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.1</td>
<td>Relationship between temperature, heat and internal energy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>Definition of temperature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>Heat defined as energy transfer due to a temperature difference.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.4</td>
<td>Changing the internal energy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>Change of state</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>The gas laws</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>The ideal gas equation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.8</td>
<td>The ideal gas model.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>Energy transfer by mechanical and electrical processes, or by heating.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.10</td>
<td>Zeroth law of thermodynamics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>First law of thermodynamics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.11</td>
<td>Isothermal and adiabatic changes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.13</td>
<td>Conduction, convection, radiation and evaporation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.14</td>
<td>Thermal conductivity. Simple problems in one dimension</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.15</td>
<td>U-values</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Method of Assessment**  Examination 80%, Assignment 20%

**Credit Value** 2 credits
FST 0447 – Foundation Practical Physics

This study-unit consists primarily of laboratory sessions where the students will learn to:
- conduct simple experiments
- measure basic physical quantities
- analyse experimental data
- present the results obtained.

Some introductory lectures will be delivered to introduce the subject to the students.

By the end of the study-unit the student will be able to:
- set a given equation to the form of $y = mx + c$
- follow basic instructions in order to perform an experiment
- use basic instrumentation to measure quantities
- use precautions to minimise the effect of errors on the experimental results
- write in a concise way the steps followed in order to conduct an experiment
- plot a graph using the data set
- determine the gradient and intercept from a graph
- analyse data sets so as to relate them to given equations and hence calculate quantities
- manipulate and handle equipment while conducting experiments.

Method of Assessment  Practical 100%

Credit Value  6 credits
8. OPTIONAL STUDY-UNITS

FST 0423 – Study Skills  
(may be repeated in Semester II)

Lecturer: Mr Joseph Gravina

This study-unit aims to help students improve their academic performance by first identifying weaknesses in their study techniques. It then sets out the main tasks students will be expected to perform, providing advice on problem solving, note-taking, preparing essays, reading for different purposes, etc.

Method of Assessment  Examination 50%, Classwork 50%
Credit Value  2 credits

FSA 0424 – Introduction to Maltese Culture  
Semester I

Lecturer: Mr Ivan Grech

This study-unit offers an overview of the varied cultural heritage of the Maltese Islands. Among the topics covered are national characteristics, the history of the island (from its megalithic culture to modern times), the Maltese language, natural history, the economy, education, folklore and architecture.

Method of Assessment  Assignment 100%
Credit Value  2 credits

FST 0426 – An Introduction to Philosophy  
(may be repeated in Semester II)

Lecturer: Dr Clive Zammit

This study-unit will offer the student the opportunity to reflect and consider the basis of culture as manifest in the uniquely human attempt to address the question ‘why?’ Texts will be chosen according to the inclination of the particular groups as they convene.

Method of Assessment  Examination 100%
Credit Value  2 credits

FST 0427 – Mediterranean History and Culture  
Semester II

Lecturer: Mr Ivan Grech

As in the case of study-unit FST 0329, this study-unit provides students originating from different geographical, ethnic, cultural, and religious backgrounds with an overall assessment of the enormous contribution of the Mediterranean to Western civilisation, particularly in philosophy, art, religion and law.

Method of Assessment  Assignment 100%
Credit Value  2 credits
FST 0428 – Introduction to Management (may be repeated in Semester II)

Lecturer: Mr Brian Mifsud

This study-unit aims to familiarise students with the basic concepts and principles of management. The study-unit touches upon planning, decision making, organisation, direction, control, human resource management, marketing and production.

*Method of Assessment* Assignment 100%

*Credit Value* 2 credits

FST 0266 – Introduction to Marketing (may be repeated in Semester II)

Lecturer: Mr Brian Mifsud

This study-unit aims to introduce the basic concepts of marketing. The areas covered consumer buying behaviour, market segmentation, the marketing mix and the general business environments that effect marketing decisions.

*Method of Assessment* Assignment 100%

*Credit Value* 2 credits

FST 0432 – French for Adult Beginners I Semester I

Lecturer: Mr Saviour Minuti

This study-unit aims to provide a basic introduction to the French language while at the same time leading students to be able to make use of the language in day-to-day needs. The course will give due importance to all basic skills. A communicative approach will be utilised to learn speaking, listening and reading, but writing will feature prominently throughout the course. Cultural knowledge about France will be provided as part of the study-unit. Assessment will be formative and continuous, and active participation during classes will be encouraged and assessed.

*Method of Assessment* Examination 75%, Classwork 25%

*Credit Value* 4 credits

FST 0433 – French for Adult Beginners II Semester II

Lecturer: Mr Saviour Minuti

This unit is available to students who have successfully completed FST 0432. This unit will build on the work covered in FST 0432.

*Method of Assessment* Examination 75%, Classwork 25%

*Credit Value* 4 credits
Appendix

EDUCATION ACT
(CAP. 327)

Certificate in Foundation Studies Course (Amendment) Regulations, 2001

In exercise of the powers conferred upon him by sections 30 (5) and 31 (6) of the Education Act (Cap. 327), the Chancellor of the University of Malta has promulgated the following regulations made by the Senate of the University of Malta by virtue of the powers conferred upon it by sections 31 and 35 of the said Act:

Citation

1. These regulations may be cited as the Certificate in Foundation Studies Course (Amendment) Regulations, 2001 and shall be read and construed as one with the Certificate in Foundation Studies Course Regulations, 2000, published as Legal Notice 1925 of 2000, hereinafter referred to as “the principal regulations”.

Applicability

2. These regulations shall be applicable for courses starting in October 2003 or later.

Eligibility for the Certificate

3. To be eligible for the award of the Certificate, students must:

(a) be registered as students in the Course in terms of regulation 4;

(b) complete the course of studies, qualify in the assessments and satisfy any other requirements prescribed in these regulations; and

(c) satisfy any other requirements prescribed in any other relevant Statutes, Regulations and Bye-laws of the University.

Registration for the Course

4. The Course is open only to non-EU applicants who:

(a) have completed their secondary and/or high school education abroad; and

(b) are in possession of one of the following qualifications in English at the required level:
   (i) Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) 500 or 61 Internet-based;
   (ii) International English Language Testing System 5.5;
   (iii) Cambridge First Certificate at grade C or better;
   or any equivalent qualification approved by the Board of Studies; and

(c) are in possession of qualifications allowing access to higher education in the country where such qualifications were obtained; but

(d) are deemed to require further study to be admitted to degree courses at the University of Malta.
Duration of Course

5. The Course extends over a period of one academic year of full-time study.

Board of Studies

6. The general administration of the Course shall be entrusted to a Board of Studies, approved by the Senate.

Course of Studies

7. (1) The Course aims to bridge differences between the Maltese educational system and other systems. It shall consist of a number of study-units to each of which a number of credits is assigned. The study-units shall be divided into two areas of study:

   English Language Proficiency area; and

   Special Subject and Optional area. Study-units in this area shall be determined by the Special Course Requirements of the degree course students intend to apply for.

   (2) Students may register for study-units to which a total of not less than 60 credits and not more than 70 credits are assigned.

Catalogue of Study-units

8. The Board shall draw up a catalogue of study-units for each areas of study. The catalogue shall indicate the level, code, title, description and type of each study-unit, the credits assigned to each study-unit, which study-units are compulsory, concurrent or pre-requisites for other study-units, and the methods of teaching and assessment. The Board shall publish the catalogue prior to the commencement of each Course, following the approval of Senate.

Attendance and Assessment

9. (1) Students must attend at least 75% of the lectures/seminars or practical sessions in a study-unit before being allowed to sit for the assessment of a study-unit. Absences for the remaining 25% of lectures, seminars or practical sessions must be justified and approved by the Board.

   (2) Credits shall be assigned according to the following grades in descending order of merit: A, B, C, and D. Failure shall be indicated by F. Incomplete work due to justifiable reasons (illness, approved absences, etc.) shall be indicated by I. In all other cases the results of uncompleted study-units shall be indicated as F. The grades awarded shall take into account the students' performance in one or more of the following elements, as deemed appropriate by the Board: coursework, written and/or oral assessments.

   (3) In each of the areas of study, students may be re-assessed for study-units to which not more than four credits are assigned.

Award of the Certificate

10. (1) The Certificate shall be awarded to students who complete the Course and obtain at least forty-eight credits, twenty-four of which must be in the English Language area of study, and another twenty-four in the Special Subject and Optional area of study, provided that, if students obtain two credits less than the forty-eight required, this may be compensated for by an overall grade of not less than B.
(2) The Certificate shall show a grade A, B, C or D (grade A being the highest and D the lowest) indicating the standard attained by students, and shall take into account the best grades obtained in the study-units indicated in paragraph (1) of this regulation to which 48 credits are assigned.

Access and Admission to University Undergraduate Courses

11. (1) Students who obtain the Certificate with an overall Grade C or better shall have obtained the general entry requirements for undergraduate courses at the University of Malta.

(2) In order to satisfy the Special Course Requirements for particular undergraduate degree courses, students must be in possession of the Certificate with an overall Grade C or better and must have obtained the credits assigned to study-units in the Special Subject area of study and at the grade indicated by the Board at the commencement of the Foundation Studies Course.

1st August 2012