

AM 04/c.17m

MATRICULATION AND SECONDARY EDUCATION CERTIFICATE EXAMINATIONS BOARD  
UNIVERSITY OF MALTA, MSIDA  
MATRICULATION EXAMINATION  
ADVANCED LEVEL  
MAY 2017

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**SUBJECT:** ART  
**PAPER NUMBER:** Thematic Project Work (50 marks)

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**Directions to Candidates**

By Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2017, candidates should have handed in their Portfolio, Personal Study and Visual Journal at the MATSEC Support Unit, University of Malta, Msida or the Examinations Department, Victoria, Gozo.

**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 2017 session upon request. Such a request should be made by sending an e-mail to [matsec@um.edu.mt](mailto: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 FOLDER WITH THE THEMATIC PROJECT WORK MUST BE HANDED IN AT THE END OF THE ADVANCED ART PAPER 1 (EXTENDED THEMATIC PROJECT) EXAMINATION SESSION.**

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.

Each part of the folder must be separated from the other sections and must 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 *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.

## AM 04/c.17m

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:

[http://www.um.edu.mt/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0004/259357/AM\\_04.pdf](http://www.um.edu.mt/__data/assets/pdf_file/0004/259357/AM_04.pdf)

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. **Wedges.** The word *wedges* can have different meanings in different contexts. Create a composition that expresses your own personal interpretation.
2. **Cranes in the morning mist.** The appearance of simple metal structures of industrial cranes may differ according to light and different atmospheric conditions in which they are observed. Create a composition inspired by your studies of industrial cranes in a dockyard or building site.
3. **Soap bubbles.** The hollow spheres of soap bubbles with their iridescent surfaces reflecting light and colour have magical qualities that fascinate children and adults alike. Produce a work inspired by this ephemeral object.
4. **Cobwebs.**
5. **Escher and Piranesi.** Maurits Cornelis Escher (1898-1972) and Giovanni Battista Piranesi (1720-1778) share a sense of fantasy and illusion in their architectural graphic works. Carry out studies from direct observation of the local environment and explore your personal sense of fantasy and illusion in an original work of your own.
6. **Nature untamed.** While the forces of nature can be exploited by Man to enhance the quality of life, these same forces of nature can also cause disasters and suffering. Explore this subject and create work that illustrates your response.
7. **Overcrowded.** The rapid increase in the island's population in the last decades has given rise to a highly overcrowded environment with often suffocating conditions. Carry out studies of congested spaces and create a work to illustrate these phenomena.
8. **Light at the end of the tunnel.** This metaphorical expression describes the end of a difficult situation or task, or the solution to a difficult problem. Create work in response to this metaphor.

**AM 04/c.17m**

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. The sheets should be clearly marked and numbered accordingly.