

## MCAST PROGRAMMES - PUBLIC INFORMATION TEMPLATE (FULL TIME)

Programme Title	Master in Vocational Education Applied Research				
Course Code <i>To be filled in by Admissions Dept.</i>	CS7-W20-21p		If the programme includes a WBL element, How is it accredited?		Placement / Internship
MQF/ EQF Level	Level 7	Type <i>(refer to Appendix 1 for Parameters)</i>	Qualification	Awarding Body	MCAST – Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology
Accreditation Status		Accredited via MCAST’s Self Accreditation Process (MCAST holds Self-Accrediting Status as per 1st schedule of Legal Notice 296/2012)			
Mode of Delivery	Blended Learning	Duration <i>(Academic Years or Semesters)</i>	3 Years’ Part-Time, as per schedule published by Institute covering all Themes forming part of this programme	Mode of Attendance	Part-time
Total Number of Credits	120 credits	Total Learning Hours <i>(25 Total Learning Hours for each ECTS)</i>		3000 hours	
Target Audience	Ages 16 - 65	Target Group <i>(the type of learners that the educational institution anticipates joining this programme)</i>	-		
Programme Fees	There are no fees applicable to Maltese and other EU Nationals (as will be evidenced by their Identity Document)  Fees apply for other International Applicants... for fee information and any related updates it is best to communicate with MG2i International through <a href="mailto:applyinternational@mcast.edu.mt">applyinternational@mcast.edu.mt</a>  One may consider checking about possible eligibility or otherwise for any exemption from fees by contacting the relevant section within MEYR (Floriana) – or visit the <a href="http://servizz.gov.mt">servizz.gov.mt</a> website <a href="#">here</a>				
Date of Next Student Intake	For further information regarding upcoming student intake and applications time windows for same kindly <a href="#">click here</a>				
Language of Instruction	The official language of instruction at MCAST is English. All notes and textbooks are in English (except for language courses, which will be in the respective language being instructed). International candidates will be requested to meet English language certification requirements for access to the course.				
Application Method	Applications to full-time courses are received online via the College Management Information System. Applicants can log-in using Maltese Electronic ID (eID) in order to access the MCAST Admissions Portal directly and create one’s own student account with the identity being verified electronically via this secure service.  Non-EID applicants need to request account creation through an online form after that they confirm that their local Identification Document does not come with an EID				

	<p>entitlement. . Once the identity is verified and the account is created on behalf of the applicant, one may proceed with the online application according to the same instructions applicable to all other applicants.</p> <p>For more information about how to apply online for a course at MCAST, please visit: <a href="https://mcast.edu.mt/how-to-apply-online-2/">https://mcast.edu.mt/how-to-apply-online-2/</a></p>
<b>Information for Non-EU Citizens</b>	<p>Non-EU candidates require a study visa in order to travel to Malta and join the course applied for (on a Full Time delivery mode). For further information re study-visa please access <a href="https://www.identitymalta.com/unit/central-visa-unit/">https://www.identitymalta.com/unit/central-visa-unit/</a>.</p> <p>Further information International / TCN applicants should take note of before requesting to being considered for a programme of studies at MCAST, can be obtained through the respective FAQ found on <a href="https://mcast.edu.mt/important-information/">https://mcast.edu.mt/important-information/</a></p>
<b>IMPORTANT note to Non-EU Nationals / TCNs</b>	<p>In instances where a TCN is applying for an MCAST programme of studies which includes Apprenticeship / Placement / Internship, it is the applicant's responsibility to check with the relevant Maltese Authority whether one would be eligible to have the necessary permits to be able to carry out the accredited Apprenticeship / Placement / Internship, success from which is expected in order to be able to successfully complete the selected programme of studies. Further information can also be obtained through the respective FAQ found on:</p> <p><a href="https://mcast.edu.mt/important-information/">https://mcast.edu.mt/important-information/</a></p>
<b>Address where the Programme will be Delivered</b>	<p><i>MCAST has four campuses as follows:</i></p> <p><b>MCAST Main Campus</b> Triq Kordin, Paola, Malta</p> <p><i>All courses except for courses delivered by the Institute for the Creative Arts, the Centre of Agriculture, Aquatics and Animal Sciences and the Gozo Campus are offered at the Main Campus address (above).</i></p> <p><i>Courses delivered by the Institute for the Creative Arts, the Centre of Agriculture, Aquatics and Animal Sciences, or the Gozo Campus, are offered in one of the following addresses as applicable:</i></p> <p><b>Institute for the Creative Arts</b> Mosta Campus Misraħ Ġhonoq Tarġa Gap, Mosta</p> <p><b>Institute of Applied Sciences</b> Centre of Agriculture, Aquatics and Animal Sciences, Luqa Road, Qormi</p> <p><b>Gozo Campus</b> J.F. De Chambray Street MCAST, Ġhajnsielem Gozo</p> <p><i>In the case of courses delivered via Online Learning, students will be following the programme from their preferred location/address.</i></p>

	<p><i>Programmes delivered via Blended Learning, and which therefore contain both an online and a face to face component shall be delivered as follows:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Face to Face components – as per above address instructions</li> <li>○ Online components – from the student's preferred address.</li> </ul>
<b>Course Description</b> <i>(Refer to Programme Specification)</i>	<p>The Master in Vocational Education Applied Research brings with it a variety of streams. The following are the streams which are recognised for Warranting purposes by the Council for the Teaching profession;</p> <p>Master in Vocational Education Applied Research (Agribusiness)  Master in Vocational Education Applied Research (Engineering Technology)  Master in Vocational Education Applied Research (Fashion and Textiles)  Master in Vocational Education Applied Research (Hairdressing and Beauty)  Master in Vocational Education Applied Research (Health and Social Care)  Master in Vocational Education Applied Research (Hospitality)  Master in Vocational Education Applied Research (Information and Communication Technology)  Master in Vocational Education Applied Research (Media Literacy)  Master in Vocational Education Applied Research (Retail)</p> <p>Warranting upon successful completion of this Level 7 programme, two years of full time practice in the teaching profession, as well as any other requirement as set by the CTP (such as be in possession of an MQF Level 6 Degree programme in the area related to the selected MVEAR Stream), is totally at the discretion of the Council for the Teaching Profession (CTP).... and is typically granted where the chosen MVEAR stream is offered in Secondary Schools as a Vocational Education Subject. Further info: <a href="https://education.gov.mt/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Eligibility-for-a-Teachers-Warrant.pdf">https://education.gov.mt/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Eligibility-for-a-Teachers-Warrant.pdf</a>   <a href="https://www.dsvp.mt/accredited-programmes/avc/">https://www.dsvp.mt/accredited-programmes/avc/</a></p> <p>Those interested to be considered for this MVEAR programme, are invited to get in touch with the Council for the Teaching Profession prior to applying for this MVEAR programme, in order to verify their particular position.</p> <p>MCAST Academic Staff applying for this programme, are invited to get in touch with the MCAST HR Department in view of any clarification regarding their position in view of applying for this MVEAR programme. An Internal MCAST Circular which will be published annually by the Institute when the Intake for MVEAR will be launched, will provide the necessary information which is specific to MCAST Staff considering embarking upon MVEAR studies.</p> <p>The Master in Vocational Education and Training Applied Research 4.0 is intended for professionals who are involved in education . It provides pedagogical training through an experiential approach . Participants are provided with opportunities to extend their knowledge, thinking and behaviours to become effective educators within their area of expertise. The Master is a proactive response, shifting from the traditional education programmes to innovative practices, linking teaching and action research based on the Scholarship of Teaching This course includes two practice placements within an educational institution.</p> <p><b>FEES:</b>  Fees apply for external applicants and in certain particular instances for MCAST staff (as will be directed by MCAST HR Department and MG2i) - Further information through MG2i (MCAST Gateway to Industry)</p>
<b>Deskrizzjoni tal-Kors</b>	<p>Il-Master fl-Edukazzjoni Vokazzjonali u t-Taħriġ Riċerka Applikata 4.0 huwa maħsub għal professjonisti li huma involuti fl-edukazzjoni. Jipprovdi taħriġ pedagoġiku</p>

<p><i>(Refer to Programme Specification)</i></p>	<p>ibbażat fuq l-esperjenza. Il parteċipanti jingħataw opportunitajiet biex jestendu l-għarfien, il-ħsieb u l-imġieba tagħhom biex isiru professjonisti aktar effettivi fil-qasam tal-kompetenza tagħhom. Il Master huwa rispons proattiv, li jbidel mill-programmi edukattivi tradizzjonali għal prattiċi innovattivi, li jgħaqqad it-tagħlim u r-riċerka ta' azzjoni bbażati fuq it-tagħlim fil-kuntest tal-edukazzjoni vokazzjonali fl-Edukazzjoni Avanzata u Għolja. Dan il-kors jinkludi żewġ work placements fi hdan istituzzjoni edukattiva.</p>
<p><b>Career Opportunities:</b></p>	<p>Teacher in Vocational Education and Training, Teacher of Vocational and Applied Subjects in Secondary Education</p>
<p><b>Entry Requirements</b> <i>(Refer to Prospectus / Course Page on MCAST website)</i></p>	<p>Be a full-time academic member of staff at the Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology – in such instances, applicants are to be guided by the Internal MCAST Circular which will be published for the purpose.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Be in possession of an MQF Level 6 (minimum 180 credits) Bachelor's Degree awarded by a recognised Institution, in the subject area relevant to the MVEAR Stream being selected. Whilst being a full-time academic member of academic staff in a vocational education institution (other than MCAST) with at least one (1) full year, full time experience which can be well-documented upon request.</p> <p>Entry to the programme and eventual warranting outcome, is strictly governed by clearly established requirements as set by the Council of the Teaching Profession – as explained earlier.</p>
<p><b>Other Notes related to this Programme, and which are to be taken note of</b></p>	<p>Once found eligible for programme, and registered as an MCAST student on same, as part of the programme one must successfully complete two practice placements where the student leads learning for a total of 13 weeks in a Vocational Educational Institution, as well as an industrial placement of 40 hours where the student will fulfil duties in an area relevant to the MVEAR area specialization.</p> <p>All eligible applicants shall follow the PostGraduate Certificate in Vocational Education unless already in possession of another teaching qualification equally recognised by the Admissions Board towards Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL).</p>
<p><b>Programme Learning Outcomes</b> <i>(Refer to Programme Specification)</i></p>	<p>At the end of the programme the student will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A systematic understanding of knowledge and a critical awareness of the disciplinary-based perspectives of the field of education in general and Further and Higher Vocational Education;</li> <li>2. A comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to the teaching profession within the context of Vocational, Further and Higher Education environment;</li> <li>3. An originality in the application of knowledge showing how established, researched and newly discovered techniques can be used to advance their knowledge and understanding as well as further develop their teaching-learning skills to propose new innovative effective high level approaches reflecting the challenges of the 4th Industrial Revolution;</li> <li>4. A conceptual understanding that enables the learner: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To evaluate critically current education research and advanced studies on the scholarship of teaching and learning with special focus on the requirements of the emerging Vocational Education 4.0;</li> <li>• To evaluate and critique methodologies through grounded research cycles in vocational contexts;</li> <li>• To propose new hypothesis / models promoting the scholarship of teaching and learning.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

<b>Teaching, Learning and Assessment Procedures</b>	<p>The programmes offered are vocational in nature and entail both theoretical lectures delivered in classes as well as practical elements that are delivered in laboratories, workshops, salons, simulators as the module requirements dictate.</p> <p>Each module or unit entails a number of in person and/or online contact learning hours that are delivered by the lecturer or tutor directly (See also section 'Total Learning Hours').</p> <p>Access to all resources is provided to all registered students. These include study resources in paper or electronic format through the Library and Resource Centre as well as tools, software, equipment and machinery that are provided by the respective institutes depending on the requirements of the course or module.</p> <p>Students may however be required to provide consumable material for use during practical sessions and projects unless these are explicitly provided by the College.</p> <p>All Units of study are assessed throughout the academic year through continuous assessment using a variety of assessment tools. Coursework tasks are exclusively based on the Learning Outcomes and Grading Criteria as prescribed in the course specification. The Learning Outcomes and Grading Criteria are communicated to the Student via the coursework documentation.</p> <p>The method of assessment shall reflect the Level, credit points (ECTS) and the schedule of time-tabled/non-timetabled hours of learning of each study unit. A variety of assessment instruments, not solely Time Constrained Assignments/Exams, are used to gather and interpret evidence of Student competence toward pre-established grading criteria that are aligned to the learning outcomes of each unit of the programme of study.</p> <p>Grading criteria are assessed through a number of tasks, each task being assigned a number of marks. The number of grading criteria is included in the respective Programme Specification.</p> <p>The distribution of marks and assessment mode depends on the nature and objectives of the unit in question.</p> <p>Coursework shall normally be completed during the semester in which the Unit is delivered.</p> <p>Time-constrained assignments may be held between 8 am and 8 pm during the delivery period of a Unit, or at the end of the semester in which the Unit is completed. The dates are notified and published on the Institute notice boards or through other means of communication.</p> <p>Certain circumstances (such as but not limited to the COVID-19 pandemic) may lead Institutes and Centres to hold teaching and assessment remotely (online) as per MCAST QA Policy and Standard for Online Teaching, Learning and Assessment (Doc 020) available via link <a href="https://www.mcast.edu.mt/college-documents/">https://www.mcast.edu.mt/college-documents/</a></p> <p>The Programme Regulations pertaining to this Programme's MQF/EQF level available at: link <a href="https://www.mcast.edu.mt/college-documents/">https://www.mcast.edu.mt/college-documents/</a>, apply.</p>
<b>Grading System</b>	<p>All MCAST programmes adopt a Learner-centred approach through the focus on Learning Outcomes. The assessment of MCAST programmes is criterion-referenced and thus assessors are required to assess learners' evidence against a pre-determined set of Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria.</p>



	<p>For a student to be deemed to have successfully passed a unit, a minimum of 50% (grade D) must be achieved.</p> <p>All full time units are individually graded as follows:  A* (90-100)  A (80-89)  B (70-79)  C (60-69)  D (50-59)  Unsatisfactory work is graded as 'U'.</p> <p>Work-based learning units (where applicable) are graded on a Pass/Fail basis only.</p> <p>Some units which follow industry standards and regulations may also be graded on a Pass/Fail basis as per programme regulations referred below.</p> <p>Detailed information regarding the grading system may be found in the Programme Regulations pertaining to this programme's MQF/EQF Level available at:  <a href="https://www.mcast.edu.mt/college-documents/">https://www.mcast.edu.mt/college-documents/</a> (Refer to DOC 003, 004 and 005)</p>
<b>Exit Point (where and as applicable)</b>	<p>Where a student will not make it to the Final Certification achievable from this Programme of Studies (as per Programme Regulations), one might wish to look into Exit Point possibilities as may be applicable to this programme for studies. Further information, is available at <a href="https://www.mcast.edu.mt/college-documents/">https://www.mcast.edu.mt/college-documents/</a>, kindly refer to <i>DOC 077 Procedure for the processing of Claims for Certificates at Interim Exit Points</i>.</p>
<b>Contact details for Further Learning Opportunities</b>	<p>The MCAST Career Guidance Team, offers the service of qualified and experienced Career Advisers who will be very willing to discuss with potential applicants the course which best achieves one's career ambitions, as well as exploring one's education route, or similar.</p> <p><b>MCAST Career Guidance</b>  Tel: 2398 7135/6  Email: <a href="mailto:career.guidance@mcast.edu.mt">career.guidance@mcast.edu.mt</a></p>
<b>Regulatory Body/ Competent Authority Contact Details</b> <i>(where applicable - in the case of a programme leading to Regulated Profession)</i>	<b>Council for the Teaching Profession</b>

<b>Programme Structure</b>	<b>Unit Code</b>	<b>Unit Title</b>	<b>ECTS</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Semester</b>
	CDVET-715-2101	Educational Philosophy - The Reflective Professional: Creating Knowledge in Action	6	1	-
	CDVET-715-2101	Teaching, Learning and Assessment in VET 1 (including teaching practice Mar - May)	6	1	-
	CDVET-715-2101	Research	3	1	-
	CDVET-715-2102	Educational Sociology – Social Inclusion and Equality	6	1	-

		in Education for the 4 <sup>th</sup> Industrial Revolution			
	CDVET-715-2102	Engaging with Digital Education toward Industry 4.0	6	1	-
	CDVET-715-2102	Pedagogy and Andragogy in Practice in a Work-Based Learning Context	3	1	-
	CDVET-715-2106	Teaching, Learning and Assessment in VET 2 (including teaching practice Feb-Mar)	6	2	-
	CDVET-715-2106	Educational Psychology – Harnessing the potential of all	6	2	-
	CDVET-715-2106	Mentoring: Emotional and Social Intelligence for Continuous Personal and Professional Growth	3	2	-
	CDVET-715-2104	Building Quality Teaching and Learning supported by a Quality Management System	6	2	-
	CDVET-715-2104	Area Specialisation I	6	2	-
	CDVET-715-2104	The Contribution of a Dynamic Vocational Curriculum to the Process of Education	3	2	-
	CDVET-715-2103	Fundamentals of Research for Innovation in Vocational Education 4.0	6	2	-
	CDVET-715-2103	Applied Research: Group Project in a Work-Place Environment	6	2	-
	CDVET-715-2103	Pedagogy and Andragogy in Practice in an Industrial Context	3	2	-
	CDVET-715-2105	Teaching for Employability	6	2	-
	CDVET-715-2105	Area Specialisation 2	6	2	-
	CDVET-715-2105	Policy and Practices in Education for the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century	3	2	-
	CDDIS-730-1803	Dissertation	30	3	-

<b>Allocation of Total Learning Hours (per Unit)</b>	The total learning hours required for each unit or module are determined as follows:			
	<b>Credits (ECTS)</b>	<b>Indicative contact hours<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Self-Learning and Assessment Hours<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>Total Student workload (hrs)<sup>2</sup></b>
	1	5 – 10 hrs	20 - 15 hrs*	25 hrs
	2	10 – 20 hrs	40 - 30 hrs*	50 hrs
	3	15 – 30 hrs	60 - 45 hrs*	75 hrs
	4	20 – 40 hrs	80 - 60 hrs*	100 hrs
	6	30 – 60 hrs	120 - 90 hrs*	150 Hrs
	9	45 – 90 hrs	180 - 135 hrs*	225 hrs
	12	60 – 120 hrs	240 - 180 hrs*	300 hrs
<i>Note: The 'Self-Learning and Assessment Hours<sup>3</sup>' amount to the difference between the 'Indicative Contact Hours<sup>1</sup>' and the 'Total Student Workload<sup>2</sup>'</i>				



**APPENDIX 1****MINIMUM CREDITS FOR QUALIFICATIONS AT DIFFERENT LEVELS**

MQF Level	Minimum ECTS Required for a Qualification*
8	
7	30
6	180
5	30
4	30
3	60
2	60
1	40

\* Programmes assigned fewer ECTS than indicated will be classified as Awards.

*Reference: Fig.1: p48, Malta Further and Higher Education Authority (MFHEA) (October 2024).  
Referencing Report, 5<sup>th</sup> Revised Edition.*

## APPENDIX 2

### EXAMPLES OF QUALIFICATION TYPES AT A SPECIFIC MQF LEVEL

MQF Level	Examples of qualification types at a specific MQF level (The list in this column is not exhaustive)	Number of ECTS *
8	Doctoral Programmes:	
	PhD	N/A
	Professional Doctorate	180
7	Master's Degree	90
	Postgraduate Diploma	60
	Postgraduate Certificate	30
6	Bachelor's Degree	180
	Bachelor's Honours	240
5	Undergraduate Higher Diploma	90
	Undergraduate Diploma	60
	Undergraduate Certificate	30
	VET Level 5	60
4	Advanced Diploma	120
	Pre-Tertiary Certificate	30 - 60
	MATSEC Matriculation Certificate (Advanced and Intermediate)	N/A
	VET Level 4	120
3	Certificate	60
	MATSEC Secondary Education Certificate	N/A
	VET Level 3	60
2	Foundation Certificate	60
	MATSEC Secondary Education Certificate	N/A
	VET Level 2	60
1	Introductory Certificate	40
	VET Level 1	40

\* Programmes assigned fewer ECTS than indicated will be classified as Awards.

Reference: Fig.2: p48, Malta Further and Higher Education Authority (MFHEA) (October 2024).  
Referencing Report, 5<sup>th</sup> Revised Edition.