



MCAST

MQF/EQF Level 2

CS2-02-21
CS2-02-21G

Foundation Certificate in Hairdressing,
Beauty and Well Being

Course Specification

Course Description

This programme provides an overview of hair and beauty practices in preparation for a career in the industry. The modules on offer provide learners with basic knowledge in health and safety practices used in hairdressing and beauty salons. Other modules focus on an understanding of the basic scientific concepts related to all hair and beauty services and treatments, while introducing the learners to basic business concepts. The course also provides learners with real-life scenarios which will enable them to progress to further studies in hairdressing and beauty programmes. Learners are required to purchase the necessary hairdressing and beauty accessories at the beginning of the academic year.

Programme Learning Outcomes

At the end of the programme the students are able to -

1. *Develop the basics of hairdressing skills and beauty skills;*
2. *Develop the basic skills and techniques required to follow general salon procedures and processes, including adequate health and safety practices at the workplace;*
3. *Acquire knowledge of fundamental biological concepts, with special focus on the workings of the human body;*
4. *Understand the basic business concepts required to run a micro business.*

Entry Requirements

MCAST Introductory Certificate

OR

Finished Compulsory Education

Initial Assessment Tests (as may be applicable)

Key Information

Awarding Body - MCAST

Accreditation Status - Accredited via MCAST's Self Accreditation Process (MCAST holds Self-Accrediting Status as per 1st schedule of Legal Notice 296/2012)

Type of Programme: Qualification

MQF Level	Examples of Qualifications	'Qualification' Minimum Credits Required	'Award' Credits Required
Level 8	Doctoral Degree Third Cycle Bologna Process	NA	NA
Level 7	Masters Second Cycle Bologna Process	90-120	Less than 30
	Post-Graduate Diploma	60	
	Post-Graduate Certificate	30	
Level 6	Bachelor ²³ /Bachelor (Hons.) ²⁴ First Cycle Bologna Process	180-240	Less than 180
Level 5	Short Cycle Qualification	120	Less than 60
	Undergraduate Higher Diploma	90	
	Undergraduate Diploma	60	
	Undergraduate Certificate	30	
	VET Level 5 Programme ²⁵	60-120	
Level 4	Pre-Tertiary Certificate	30	Less than 120
	VET Level 4 Programme ²⁶	120	
	MATSEC Certificate	NA	
Level 3	VET Level 3 Programme ²⁷	60	Less than 60
	General and Subject Certificate	NA	
Level 2	VET Level 2 Programme ²⁸	60	Less than 60
	General and Subject Certificate	NA	
Level 1	VET Level 1 Programme ²⁹	40	Less than 40
	General and Subject Certificate	NA	
Introductory Level A	Preparatory Programme	30	Less than 30
Introductory Level B	Pre-entry Basic Skills Course	30	Less than 30

Table 1: Minimum number of credits for 'Qualifications' and parameters for 'Awards'

Fig.1: p56, Ministry for Education and Employment & National Commission for Further and Higher Education Malta (2016). *Referencing Report, 4th Edition*. NCFHE.

Total number of Hours: 1500 hours

Mode of attendance: Fully Face-to-Face Learning

Duration: 1 Year

Target audience for MCAST full-time courses is 16 to 65+

Target group: Learners who have completed compulsory education.

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.

This course will be offered at

MCAST has four campuses as follows:

MCAST Main Campus

Triq Kordin, Paola, Malta

All courses except for the Institute for the Creative Arts, Centre of Agriculture, Aquatics and Animal Sciences are offered here.

Institute for the Creative Arts

Mosta Campus

Misraħ Ghonoq Targa Gap,

Mosta

**Institute of Applied Sciences,
Centre of Agriculture, Aquatics and Animal Sciences,
Luqa Road, Qormi**

Gozo Campus

J.F. De Chambray Street

MCAST, Ghajnsielem

Gozo

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

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.

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').

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.

Students may however be required to provide consumable material for use during practical sessions and projects unless these are explicitly provided by the College.

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.

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.

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.

The distribution of marks and assessment mode depends on the nature and objectives of the unit in question.

Coursework shall normally be completed during the semester in which the Unit is delivered.

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.

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 <https://www.mcast.edu.mt/college-documents/>

The Programme Regulations referenced below apply. (DOC 003 available at: link <https://www.mcast.edu.mt/college-documents/>)

Total Learning Hours

The total learning hours required for each unit or module are determined as follows:

Credits (ECTS)	Indicative contact hours	Total Student workload (hrs)	Self-Learning and Assessment Hours
1	5 - 10 hrs	25 hrs	20-15 hrs*
2	10 - 20 hrs	50 hrs	40-30 hrs*
3	15 - 30 hrs	75 hrs	60-45 hrs*
4	20 - 40 hrs	100 hrs	80-60 hrs*
6	30 - 60 hrs	150 Hrs	120-90 hrs*
9	45 - 90 hrs	225 hrs	180-135 hrs*
12	60 - 120 hrs	300 hrs	240-180 hrs*

* The 'Self-Learning and Assessment Hours' amount to the difference between the contact hours and total student workload.

Grading system

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.

For a student to be deemed to have successfully passed a unit, a minimum of 50% (grade D) must be achieved. In case of part time programmes, the student must achieve a minimum of 45% to successfully pass the unit.

All 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'.

Work-based learning units are graded on a Pass/Fail basis only.

Detailed information regarding the grading system may be found in the following document: DOC 003 available at: link <https://www.mcast.edu.mt/college-documents/>

Intake Dates

- MCAST opens calls for application once a year between July and August of each year for prospective applicants residing in MALTA.
- Applications to full-time courses from international students not residing in MALTA are accepted between April and Mid-August.
- For exact dates re calls for applications please follow this link <https://www.mcast.edu.mt/online-applications-2/>

Course Fees

MCAST course are free for Maltese and EU candidates. International candidates coming from outside the EU need to pay fees for the respective course. Course fees are set on a per-level and course duration basis. For access to course fee structure and payment methods please visit <https://www.mcast.edu.mt/fee-payments-for-non-eu-candidates/>.

Method of Application

Applications to full-time courses are received online via the College Management Information System. Candidates can log in using Maltese Electronic ID (eID) or European eIDAS (electronic identification and trust services) to access the system directly and create an account as the identity is verified electronically via these secure services.

Non-EU candidates need to request account creation through an online form by providing proof of identification and basic data. Once the identity is verified and the account is created the candidate may proceed with the online application according to the same instructions applicable to all other candidates.

Non-EU candidates require a study visa in order to travel to Malta and join the course applied for. For further information re study-visa please access <https://www.identitymalta.com/unit/central-visa-unit/>.

For access to instructions on how to apply online please visit <https://www.mcast.edu.mt/online-applications-2/>

Contact details for requesting further information about future learning opportunities:

MCAST Career Guidance

Tel: 2398 7135/6

Email: career.guidance@mcast.edu.mt

Current Approved Programme Structure

Unit Code	Unit Title	ECTS	Semester
CSBTY-206-1905	Basic Skills in Beauty and Safe Practices in the Salon	6	Yearly
CSBUS-206-1900	Basic Business Concepts for Micro Business	6	Yearly
CSHRD-206-1909	Basic Skills in Hairdressing	6	Yearly
CSPHY-206-1902	Understanding Basic Human Body Functions	6	Yearly
CDKSK-206-2004	English	6	Yearly
CDKSK-206-2005	Maltese	6	Yearly
CDKSK-206-2006	Mathematics	6	Yearly
CDKSK-206-2107	Information Technology	6	Yearly
CDKSK-206-2008	Science	6	Yearly
CDKSK-206-2102	Community Social Responsibility	6	Yearly
Total ECTS		60	/

CSBTY-206-1905: Basic Skills in Beauty and Safe Practice in the Salon

Unit Level (MQF/EQF): 2

Credits: 6

Delivery Mode: Fully Face-to-Face Learning

Total Learning Hours: 150

Unit Description

The aim of this unit is to provide an introduction to the beauty industry sector. This by enabling the learner to become familiar with basic skills required in a beauty salon, with appropriate guidance where needed.

The unit encompasses the learning of pre-treatment preparation procedures to the different skin care treatments and services required by the client in the salon under supervision. Such treatments include deep skin cleansing, hand care and basic make-up application. Emphasis is also given to the importance of being organised before starting the treatment, and ensuring a good working environment with all the necessary tools, equipment and products.

The unit will provide the learners with the opportunity to identify the main skin types through good consultation practice, and develop the practical skills needed to perform basic treatments under supervision.

This unit will also provide the learners with health and safety practices considerations that one needs to cater for in order to provide a safe, clean and healthy salon work-environment to clients and other team members. The learner will understand the impact of working in a salon, which also includes sterilisation, ventilation, good posture, PPE and PPC. The learner will also gain knowledge of the safety legislation pertaining to this sector.

An opportunity to work independently and with appropriate guidance, and to appreciate working within a team will be provided and emphasised.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit the learner will be able to:

1. *Recognise the importance of skin care and provide basic skin consultation;*
2. *Perform basic hand care;*
3. *Apply the use of the colour spectrum in make-up;*
4. *Understand the health and safety legislation that may impact the work environment.*

CSBUS-206-1900: Basic Business Concepts for Micro Businesses

Unit Level (MQF/EQF): 2

Credits: 6

Delivery Mode: Fully Face-to-Face Learning

Total Learning Hours: 150

Unit Description

Micro business in Malta form the majority of the businesses, they are defined as enterprises which employ fewer than 10 persons and whose annual turnover and/or annual balance sheet total does not exceed EUR 2 million. Most of the entrepreneurs opening up their micro business would be highly specialized in their area of expertise but not necessarily conversant with business and financial aspects.

This unit aims to provide students who are not specializing in business areas a good overview of the basic business practice required to run a micro business. The content of this unit implies that it not only target students who aim to open up their own business but also those students who will eventually be employed by micro businesses.

Students will gain an understanding of basic business concepts such as the importance of customer service in meeting the needs and wants of customers, principles of stock management and payment practices accepted from retail customers.

The unit will also give the students awareness of their rights and responsibilities as employees within a work environment.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit the learner will be able to:

- 1. Identify the methods of payment accepted from retail customers;*
- 2. Understand the principles of basic stock management used by a small retail outlet;*
- 3. Describe the importance of customer service to different stakeholders;*
- 4. Identify a range of employee rights and responsibilities and how to respect the rights of others in the workplace.*

CSHRD-206-1909: Basic Skills in Hairdressing

Unit Level (MQF/EQF): 2

Credits: 6

Delivery Mode: Fully Face-to-Face Learning

Total Learning Hours: 150

Unit Description

The aim of this unit is to provide an introduction to the hairdressing sector by enabling the learner to perform the basic skills in a hairdressing salon with appropriate guidance where needed.

The unit will enable learners to develop the skills of: preparing the client for services; shampooing and conditioning; massage techniques; and blow-drying with rollers on mannequin head and with client that are not only effective but also safe to clients. Practical activity sessions are supplemented with the knowledge and understanding of salon products; equipment and tools, as to enable learners become familiar and accustomed to the Hairdressing industry-working environment.

The unit introduces the learner to the fundamentals of the hair structure and the effects of humidity on the hair; the effects of the drying process on the hair cuticle and how the incorrect application of heat can affect the hair and scalp, The learner will also gain an understanding of the non-infectious diseases and conditions of the hair and scalp, as to enable the learner to provide the necessary consultation recommendations with the customers' basic requirements and demands under supervision.

Further to this the unit also introduce the learner to the concept of design principles, with an emphasis on line, shape, texture, form, balance and harmony. The learner will gain insight on the importance of creativity in this industry and its impact on the desired outcomes.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit the learner will be able to:

1. *Perform shampooing and conditioning on hair and make use of appropriate massage techniques;*
2. *Perform blow dry, scrunch and roller winding on a clients' hair;*
3. *Provide basic consultation through an effective communication approach;*
4. *Create a stylish image using design principles for the hair/beauty sector.*

CSPHY-206-1902: Understanding Basic Human Body Functions

Unit Level (MQF/EQF): 2

Credits: 6

Delivery Mode: Fully Face-to-Face Learning

Total Learning Hours: 150

Unit Description

The hair and beauty industries are becoming increasingly popular in this day and age. Focus is being placed on portraying overall health and well-being through a well-polished, pampered and groomed appearance, together with a strong and well-nourished body.

To help learners understand that health and beauty walk hand-in-hand, this unit will first give the learners a basic insight into how the human body works. Focus will be placed on the integumentary system which comprises the skin and its appendages (hair and nails). Nutrition and lifestyle will be described as one approach of maintaining the overall health and function of the human body.

The first topic within this unit focuses on the organisational levels found within the body. The learners will start to identify the cell as the primary building block of life, which can build more complex structures like organs and organ systems. Looking at some different types of specialised cells and tissues, learners will understand that adaptations are necessary for the body to carry out the various functions that it does to keep us alive and healthy.

Learners will also understand the importance of proper nutrition in keeping the body functioning properly, and what constitutes a balanced diet. They will also understand why proper hydration and exercise are important in keeping the body healthy and functioning well.

Delving into the integumentary system, learners will discover the basic structure and functions of skin, some factors that affect the skin, and different skin conditions that can be encountered in a salon. At this level, learners will familiarise themselves with the structure, functions and growth cycle of skin appendages (hair and nails). They will also be introduced to some of the contagious and non-contagious conditions that they may encounter in this sector.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit the learner will be able to:

1. *Distinguish between the different organisational levels within the human body;*
2. *Understand the impact of nutrition and lifestyle on overall health and beauty;*
3. *Describe the structure and functions of the integumentary system;*
4. *Identify different conditions that might affect the integumentary system.*

CDKSK-206-2102: Community and Social Responsibility

Unit Level (MQF/EQF): 2

Credits: 6

Delivery Mode: Fully Face-to-Face Learning

Total Learning Hours: 150

Unit description

This key skill presents the opportunity for MQF level 2 learners to explore their individual self and their social environment whilst also reflecting about future goals. Learners will identify and understand different aspects of their personal self, whilst reflecting upon what composes their self-confidence. Learners will also become familiar and grasp different life skills that would empower them to explore their surroundings and become responsible and inclusive members in society.

The learners will also be presented with tools and techniques, which will assist them in becoming more employable whilst honing their organisational skills. Through the completion of a compulsory community work experience, learners will recognise the benefits of self-management skills towards the acquisition of balance within one's lifestyle. The completion of the compulsory community work project will also present the ideal opportunity for the learners to analyse their experience and evaluate their own performance.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit the learner will be able to:

- 1. Identify personal attributes and experiences that influence the development of the self.*
- 2. Examine ways and means towards becoming more employable.*
- 3. Recognise responsible interactions between the individual and the surrounding communities.*
- 4. Explain duties and requirements for engaging in a community work experience.*

CDKSK-206-2004: English

Unit Level (MQF/EQF): 2

Credits: 6

Delivery Mode: Fully Face-to-Face Learning

Total Learning Hours: 150

Unit description

In all Foundation Certificate programmes across MCAST, the ability to communicate in our second language becomes both a necessity for life as well as education and work.

The speaker of English should be aware of the importance and daily use of English as a tool for interacting in the immediate community, whether domestic, public or professional. English is also the main language of instruction in higher education nowadays.

Communicating in English takes into account all the four language skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing according to the prescribed level. Emphasis is placed on knowing how to use a language, rather than just knowing about a language.

This unit is targeted at learners proceeding from Level 1 (therefore taking into account successful completion of Level 1 English) as well as those whose entry level is directly at Level 2.

It is assumed that no entry qualifications such as SEC English (Ordinary Level) are necessary for learners to undertake this unit.

This unit is internally assessed and verified. Assessment is carried out through assignments based on the Learning Outcomes below.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit the learner will be able to:

1. *Listen to connected speech on a range of vocational topics;*
2. *Speak clearly during interactive communication scenarios and deliver a clear message;*
3. *Read to identify and comprehend information presented textually in formal, vocational and familiar contexts;*
4. *Organise and write text in paragraphs of simple, complete and syntactical sentences.*

CDKSK-206-2005: Malti

Il-Livell tal-Unità: (MQF/EQF): 2

L-Għadd ta' Kreditu: 6

Mod ta' Tagħlim: Preżenti

Total ta' Sigħat ta' Tagħlim: 150

Deskrizzjoni tal-Unità

Fil-korsijiet preliminari tat-Tieni Livell tal-Kulleġġ Malti tal-Arti, ix-Xjenza u t-Teknoloġija, l-ilsien Malti jintgħallem għax:

1. ninqadew bih biex nikkomunikaw u nirrelataw man-nies ta' madwarna;
2. nużawh biex b'mod kreattiv nesprimu ħsusna, ħsibijietna u xewqatna;
3. jintuża fl-oqsma vokazzjonali u għandu registru tekniku Prattiku u funzjonali;
4. jiġbor fih l-identità lingwistika u kulturali ta' ġensna.

L-Għanijiet

Biex l-istudenti jiksibu din l-unità jridu juru li kapaci:

1. *jwieġbu mistoqsijiet, jikkellmu b'Malti tajjeb kif ukoll jieħdu sehem f' taħditiet u f'diskussjonijiet;*
2. *jifhmu dak li jisimgħu;*
3. *jaqraw u jifhmu testi varji;*
4. *jiktbu b' Malti tajjeb skont ir-regoli tal-ortografija u s-sintassi.*

CDKSK-206-2006: Mathematics

Unit Level (MQF/EQF): 2

Credits: 6

Delivery Mode: Fully Face-to-Face Learning

Total Learning Hours: 150

Unit description

This unit aims to develop basic mathematical knowledge and skills needed in real-life situations. In a supportive environment, the student will be challenged to understand mathematical problems, reflect on different plans that could be used to solve the given problem, attempt an answer and check the validity of an answer to the problem. By the end of this unit, students will be able to describe orally or in writing the reasons behind the mathematical arguments used and to break down complex problems into smaller and simpler problems. These problems will involve:

- (a) numerical calculations,
- (b) classification of shapes,
- (c) understanding and simple application of symbolic notation,
- (d) communication in graphical form,
- (e) manipulating simple algebra, and
- (f) extraction and interpretation of information from statistical tables and charts.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit the learner will be able to:

1. *Compute numerical calculations by showing all the necessary working;*
2. *Carry out harder numerical calculations;*
3. *Collect data and represent it graphically;*
4. *Use simple algebraic formulae;*
5. *Draw and work with lines, shapes and objects;*
6. *Read and use measurement scales.*

CDKSK-206-2107: Information Technology

Unit Level (MQF/EQF): 2

Credits: 6

Delivery Mode: Fully Face-to-Face Learning

Total Learning Hours: 150

Unit description

This unit is made up of a number of competences including the competence to use personal computers; the competence to manage efficiently a personal computer; the competence to operate effectively within the operating system and the competence to make productive, creative, and efficient use of the main office application software packages: word processing software, spreadsheet software, presentation software, web-browsing software & e-mail management software.

This unit is designed to ensure that learners are not only taught the knowledge and skills associated with productive, creative, and effective use of personal computers but should be given sufficient opportunities to find, exchange and share information. This should also ensure that learners develop the proper and correct attitudes associated with the use of information and ICT.

This unit should guide the learners to have a broad understanding of how ICT can help their learning, their work, and their social life. Learners will start to develop the ability to decide when and how to use ICT and be aware of the limitations associated with this use.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit the learner will be able to:

1. *Identify the main concepts of ICT and computer management.*
2. *Use a word processing application to accomplish basic everyday tasks.*
3. *Use a spreadsheet application to input, format data and prepare charts.*
4. *Create basic presentations using presentation software.*
5. *Apply essential web browsing and electronic communication concepts and skills.*

CDKSK-206-2008: Science

Unit Level (MQF/EQF): 2

Credits: 6

Delivery Mode: Fully Face-to-Face Learning

Total Learning Hours: 150

Unit description

In this Level 2 key skill, learners will enhance their knowledge on the aspect of natural sciences, mainly via focusing on three different areas which consist of the living world, the physical world and the world of technology.

As part of the living world, learners will learn about the basic unit of which all living things are composed of - the cell and its components. Furthermore, they will become familiar with the differences and similarities between plants, animals and fungi based on their physical characteristics and the way they obtain food. Learners will also enhance their knowledge on the organisation of the human body - different organs that carry out different functions, are located in different areas of the body and are grouped forming body systems. Also, learners will increase their awareness on factors that affect the overall well-being of an individual, including diet and lifestyle.

In the case of the physical world, learners will become familiar with different materials found in the immediate environment. They will observe and describe their physical properties and then be able to compare and classify objects/materials/tools based on their physical properties. It is strongly suggested that lectures refer to objects/materials/tools that are related to the learners' area of study so as to increase the relevance of the topic. Learners will discuss advantages and disadvantages of local energy sources, combustion of fuels, associated hazards and action to prevent accidents, methods via which heat is transferred and the importance of insulation.

The main focus of the area 'the world of technology' will be on health and safety whereby the learner will describe and explain ways of reducing exposure to threats to health and safety at home and in the workplace, discuss how one can increase the

body's resistance to disease, and recognise situations of risk to safety and increase awareness about how to avoid accidents.

The remainder of the unit will consist of an investigation related to the environment; with one of these investigations completed in collaboration with Birdlife Malta.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit the learner will be able to:

- 1. Communicate scientific information by using the scientific process skills of observing and grouping;*
- 2. Apply science to enhance the quality of everyday life;*
- 3. Promote sustainable living by exploring the link between the natural world and human behaviour;*
- 4. Investigate the impact of anthropogenic activities on the environment.*