

Vocational Education and Training Award in Principles of Gardening and Landscaping

Applying for this course

To apply for this course, you should be 16 years of age or older and ideally have an MQF Level 1 qualification in Mathematics, English and Maltese languages. If you do not have these qualifications but possess other qualifications or relevant experience, kindly contact us on ga.jobsplus@gov.mt, stating your ID card number, attaching copies of your qualifications and a copy of your CV highlighting your work experience. Alternatively, you can send the requested information by post addressed to: Quality Assurance Unit, Jobsplus Training Complex, Triq Birżebbuġa, Ħal Far BBG3000.

Course Duration

This course is of 144 hours duration and consists of five Modules

- Module 1 is of 41 hours duration - (including 1-hour assessment)
- Module 2 is of 41 hours duration - (including 1-hour assessment)
- Module 3 is of 21 hours duration - (including 1-hour assessment)
- Module 4 is of 20 hours duration - (including 1-hour assessment)
- Module 5 is of 21 hours duration - (including 1-hour assessment)

General pedagogical guidelines and procedures for this course:

The delivery of this Course will be mainly held through a series of discussions, class work exercises and hands-on training. The trainer will be holding lessons during which learners' will be exposed to the theoretical aspect. Sessions will consist of various presentations, including demonstrations. The practical sessions will be held at Jobsplus' workshop so that the learners are given the opportunity to practice what they are learning.

General assessment policy and procedures for this course:

Please provide information regarding methods of assessment: Learners will be assessed through a series of oral exercises and practical/hands-on sessions throughout the entire course. A written or oral examination will take place to ascertain learner's competence (depending on the learners' literacy competence), which will form part of an ongoing assessment.

Module 1 Learning Outcomes – Soil Management

<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Deal with soil structural problems in an effective manner✓ Ensure the best way to build compost heaps is applied at the place of work✓ Carry out simple experiments, in order to evaluate fertilisation rates and methods✓ Advise how soil properties and processes work✓ Carry out simple tests on soil, so as to determine its quality✓ Be responsible for overcoming nutrient deficiencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Be responsible for using mulches, if and when applicable✓ Ensure a thorough understanding is gained on the impact of machinery on landscapes and soil✓ Comply with different soil management methods✓ Know how soil and land degrades✓ Produce compost containers, for effective plant growth and nutrition
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Module 1 Assessment: The assessment paper will have only 1 section:

- Section A – Multiple choice / a mixture of multiple-choice questions and open-ended short answer questions. These all need to be answered.

The duration of this assessment is of 1 hour and the pass mark is that of 45%.

Module 2 Learning Outcomes – Plant Selection and Establishment

<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Ensure correct application and selection of plants✓ Establish and maintain a range of plants, by taking into account their individual growth spurt✓ Comply with the selection, establishment, and maintenance of plants/vegetation suitable for hedges, windbreaks, screens, turf and lawns✓ Ensure proper cultivation of water plants, if and where applicable	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Carry out tasks using different pest and disease control measures made available on the market✓ Deal with weed controlling measures in an effective manner✓ Be responsible for implementing safety measures when planting vegetation
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Module 2 Assessment: The assessment paper will have only 1 section:

- Section A – Multiple choice / a mixture of multiple-choice questions and open-ended short answer questions. These all need to be answered.

The duration of this assessment is of 1 hour and the pass mark is that of 45%.

Module 3 Learning Outcomes – Irrigation

<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Understand the significance of soil in irrigation✓ Irrigate small surface areas effectively✓ Manage an irrigation system with ease and confidence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Comply with different aspects of moving water when using pumps and filters✓ Advise the best way to effectively design a simple irrigation system✓ Advise on simple water conservation techniques
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Module 3 Assessment: The assessment paper will have only 1 section:

- Section A – Multiple choice / a mixture of multiple-choice questions and open-ended short answer questions. These all need to be answered.

The duration of this assessment is of 1 hour and the pass mark is that of 45%.

Module 4 Learning Outcomes – Pruning

<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Be responsible for identifying different tree and shrub forms✓ Advise on tree biology✓ Advise on pruning objectives for different trees and shrubs✓ Carry out pruning on different trees and shrubs at the correct time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Ensure that the correct cut from the different cuts used when pruning different tree and shrub forms is used✓ Ensure that the different tools utilised in pruning tree and shrub forms are operated safely✓ Be responsible for looking after the different tools utilised in pruning tree and shrub forms
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Module 4 Assessment: The assessment paper will have only 1 section:

- Section A – Multiple choice / a mixture of multiple-choice questions and open-ended short answer questions. These all need to be answered.

The duration of this assessment is of 1 hour and the pass mark is that of 45%.

Module 5 Learning Outcomes – Landscaping

<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Carry out different landscape design concepts, using various visual effects✓ Ensure accurate pre-planning information in order to assist in the design of landscapes✓ Comply with different garden styles, in order to satisfy design project specifications✓ Carry out tasks using different hard landscape features, earthworks, surface treatments and furniture	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Deal with customer's needs in a satisfactory manner✓ Assist in the planting design stage, at the place of work✓ Comply with local environmental regulations concerning waste reduction, re-use and recycling
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Module 5 Assessment: The assessment paper will have only 1 section:

- Section A – Multiple choice / a mixture of multiple-choice questions and open-ended short answer questions. These all need to be answered.

The duration of this assessment is of 1 hour and the pass mark is that of 45%.

The Malta Further and Higher Education Authority (MFHEA) deems this certificate to be at Level 2 of the Malta Qualifications Framework and the European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning. This course comprises study modules to which a total of 7 ECVET points are assigned.