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Diploma for Beauty Specialists

Qualification Specifications

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Contact Us:

77, Zabbar Road, Paola
E: academy@kallidora.mt
T: +356 99072233
W: www.nefertiti.com.mt
Instagram: kallidora_academy

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QUALIFICATION DETAILS:

QUALIFICATION TITLE	VTCT Skills (ITEC) Level 2 Diploma for Beauty Specialists
AWARDING BODY	VTCT Skills (iTEC)
QUALIFICATION NUMBER	603/4034/4
AGE RANGE	16+
ECTS CREDITS	39
ASSESSMENT	• External practical examination • External theory examination • Portfolio of evidence containing - Case studies
GRADING	Pass/Merit/Distinction

AIMS & OBJECTIVES

The main aim of the VTCT Skills (ITEC) Level 2 Diploma for Beauty Specialists is to enable learners to gain the necessary practical and theoretical skills in order to provide beauty specialist treatments to the general public and to gain employment in the beauty therapy industry. This qualification is suitable for learners aged 16 and over and is designed to provide occupational competence at level 2. It also provides a sound platform into further training at level 3.

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CONTENT

This qualification is for learners who want to work within the beauty industry. The qualification consists of 5 mandatory units with a total of 300 hours of Guided Learning (GL) to achieve the full qualification.

The main skills the learner will perform are:

• Care of the skin - to include consultation, skin analysis, cleansing, exfoliation, facial massage and the use of face masks

• Care of the eyebrows and eyelashes - to include shaping and lash and brow tinting

• Application of all make-up products - to include recognition of face shapes and corrective make-up

• Care of the hands and feet - to include nail care, exfoliation, massage and nail painting

• Waxing - to include removal of hair using hot and warm wax methods

The learner will also develop knowledge about related health and safety and client care and communication which is essential to work and be successful in the beauty industry.

This qualification also provides:

• The related knowledge and understanding required to perform the beauty treatments listed above as well as understanding the structures that the learner will be working over, in particular recognition of skin types, skin and nail diseases and reasons that may affect whether a client should or should not be treated

• Opportunities for learners to focus on the development of their wider skills in a beauty therapy setting, such as communicating with clients, working with others and problem solving

• Opportunities for learners to develop a range of skills, techniques, personal qualities and attitudes essential for successful performance in employment as a beauty specialist

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OPPORTUNITIES FOR PROGRESSION

Once learners have achieved the VTCT Skills (ITEC) Level 2 Diploma for Beauty Specialists they may

progress on to other VTCT Skills (ITEC) or equivalent qualifications at level 2 or 3 for example:

- Level 2 Diploma in Hair, Photographic and Media Make-up
- Level 3 Diploma in Beauty Therapy Techniques
- Level 3 Diploma in Body Treatments
- Level 3 Diploma in Advanced Beauty Therapy
- Level 3 Diploma in Facial Electrical Treatments

OPPORTUNITIES FOR EMPLOYMENT

There are opportunities for beauty specialists to find employment in a variety of areas:

- Beauty salons
- Hotels
- Health clubs
- Spas
- Own business
- Cruise liners

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ASSESSMENT

All treatment evidence, internal assessments, and underpinning knowledge must be completed prior to the final practical examination. The final external practical examination will be carried out by the external examiner at the end of the period of learning. The external examiner will also verify a sample of the treatment evidence and internal assessment.

Unit specifications and additional supporting assessment material for this qualification can be found on the iTEC website - .www.itecworld.co.uk

Unit Code	Mandatory units	Assessment	Grading	Unit weighting for the overall qualification
iUBT427	Skincare and eye treatments	MCQ Practical examination Portfolio of evidence – 5 treatments	Pass 60%-74% Merit 75%-89% Distinction 90%-100% Pass 60%-74% Merit 75%-89% Distinction 90%-100% Pass or Refer	25%
iUBT428	Make-up	MCQ Practical examination Portfolio of evidence – 5 treatments	Pass 60%-74% Merit 75%-89% Distinction 90%-100% Pass 60%-74% Merit 75%-89% Distinction 90%-100% Pass or Refer	20%

iUBT429	Manicure and Pedicure	MCQ	Pass 60%-74% Merit 75%-89% Distinction 90%-100%	25%
		Practical examination	Pass 60%-74% Merit 75%-89% Distinction 90%-100%	
		Portfolio of evidence – 5 treatments	Pass or Refer	
iUBT430	Waxing	MCQ	Pass 60%-74% Merit 75%-89% Distinction 90%-100%	20%
		Practical examination	Pass 60%-74% Merit 75%-89% Distinction 90%-100%	
		Portfolio of evidence – 5 treatments	Pass or Refer	
iUBT434	Professional conduct and business awareness	MCQ	Pass 60%-74% Merit 75%-89% Distinction 90%-100%	10%

GRADING OF THE QUALIFICATION

Learners must achieve a Pass grade or higher in the requisite number of units as specified in the rules of combination, see table 1 above. Only mandatory units which are graded Pass/Merit/Distinction will contribute to the overall grade.

Practical examinations and theory examinations will be graded Pass/Merit/Distinction.

Portfolio of evidence containing the following will be graded Pass/Fail:

- Treatment evidence

The overall qualification is graded Pass/Merit/Distinction.

Grade boundaries for units and the overall calculation for the qualification grade are open to annual review. Following this review, these boundaries and overall calculations can be adjusted by VTCT Skills (ITEC). This review and possible change within a qualification are to ensure the standard of the qualification grade is upheld throughout the qualification's lifecycle.

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THEORY EXAMINATION

All theory tests must be conducted in a controlled environment and follow the procedures defined by VTCT Skills (ITEC). The theory tests will be set and marked by VTCT Skills (ITEC).

PRACTICAL EXAMINATION

Once all aspects of the mandatory units have been completed, learners will be expected to complete an internal practical assessment. This will be undertaken by the internal assessor/lecturer using the internal assessment forms. These will be handed to the external examiner on the day of the final external practical examination. All practical assessments must be conducted in a controlled environment defined by VTCT Skills (ITEC). The practical examination will be conducted by an external examiner.

PORTFOLIO OF EVIDENCE

Learners are required to provide a portfolio of evidence containing treatments and/or case studies that they have performed on clients during their training under the supervision of the lecturer who will monitor the quality of the treatments in order to ensure that they meet the criteria.

• The criteria are detailed on the treatment evidence guidance forms

• The learner will need to complete a client consultation form as evidence that they performed the required number of treatments during their training time as they form part of the internal assessment for the qualification. They can be stored in the learner's portfolio.

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THEORY EXAM SPECIFICATIONS

All theory exams are held at the education centre. A laptop is required for learners to conduct all of their external theory exams.

For each unit's specifications follow the tables below:

- Table 1: Professional Conduct and Business Awareness
- Table 2: Waxing
- Table 3: Manicure and Pedicure
- Table 4: Make-up
- Table 5: Skincare and eye treatments

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TABLE 1 – THEORY EXAM SPECIFICATION

iUBT434 Professional Conduct and Business Awareness

Internal & External Assessment method:	Multiple Choice Question (MCQ)
Duration of Internal & External assessments:	55 minutes
Pass Mark:	60%
Grading:	Pass/Merit/Distinction
Learning outcomes to be assessed:	All learning outcomes will be assessed
Format of questions:	Stem, 1 key and 3 distractors
Number of questions:	50 Questions
Distribution of questions: **Each Question will be allocated 1 Mark**	- Finance & Costing [5] - Retail [5] - Sales & Marketing [10] - Health, Safety & Hygiene [20] - Ethics [5] - Communication [5]
The topics listed can be found in the assessment criteria in the unit specification for iUBT434 as follows:	- Finance & Costing - Retail - Sales & Marketing - Health, Safety & Hygiene - Ethics - Communication

TABLE 2 – THEORY EXAM SPECIFICATION

iUBT430 Waxing

Internal & External Assessment method:	Multiple Choice Question (MCQ)
Duration of Internal & External assessments:	55 minutes
Pass Mark:	60%
Grading:	Pass/Merit/Distinction
Learning outcomes to be assessed:	All learning outcomes will be assessed
Format of questions:	Stem, 1 key and 3 distractors
Number of questions:	50 Questions
Distribution of questions: **Each Question will be allocated 1 Mark**	- Structure of skin and hair, hair - growth [10] - Contra-indications [5] - Hot wax [10] - Warm/Cool wax [10] - Other methods of depilation [5] - Aftercare [5] - Hygiene [5]
The topics listed can be found in the assessment criteria in the unit specification for iUBT430 as follows:	- Structure of skin and hair, hair - growth - Contra-indications - Hot wax - Warm/Cool wax - Other methods of depilation - Aftercare - Hygiene

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TABLE 3 – THEORY EXAM SPECIFICATION

iUBT429 Manicure and Pedicure

Internal & External Assessment method:	Multiple Choice Question (MCQ)
Duration of Internal & External assessments:	55 minutes
Pass Mark:	60%
Grading:	Pass/Merit/Distinction
Learning outcomes to be assessed:	All learning outcomes will be assessed
Format of questions:	Stem, 1 key and 3 distractors
Number of questions:	50 Questions
Distribution of questions: **Each Question will be allocated 1 Mark**	- Anatomy and physiology [10] - Massage [5] - Manicure [10] - Pedicure [10] - Contra-indications [5] - Products and tools [5] - Hygiene [5]
The topics listed can be found in the assessment criteria in the unit specification for iUBT429 as follows:	- Anatomy and physiology - Massage - Manicure - Pedicure - Contra-indications - Products and tools - Hygiene

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TABLE 4 – THEORY EXAM SPECIFICATION

iUBT428 Make-up

Internal & External Assessment method:	Multiple Choice Question (MCQ)
Duration of Internal & External assessments:	55 minutes
Pass Mark:	60%
Grading:	Pass/Merit/Distinction
Learning outcomes to be assessed:	All learning outcomes will be assessed
Format of questions:	Stem, 1 key and 3 distractors
Number of questions:	50 Questions
Distribution of questions: **Each Question will be allocated 1 Mark**	- Contraindications [5] - Cosmetic Make-up [27] - Products & Ingredients [12] - Hygiene [6]
The topics listed can be found in the assessment criteria in the unit specification for iUBT428 as follows:	- Contraindications - Cosmetic Make-up - Products & Ingredients - Hygiene

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TABLE 5 – THEORY EXAM SPECIFICATION

iUBT427 Skincare and eye treatments

Internal & External Assessment method:	Multiple Choice Question (MCQ)
Duration of Internal & External assessments:	55 minutes
Pass Mark:	60%
Grading:	Pass/Merit/Distinction
Learning outcomes to be assessed:	All learning outcomes will be assessed
Format of questions:	Stem, 1 key and 3 distractors
Number of questions:	50 Questions
Distribution of questions: **Each Question will be allocated 1 Mark**	- Contraindications [6] - Cleanse/Deep Cleans/Pre Heat [6] - Tint/Tweeze/Bleach [6] - Anatomy & Physiology [10] - Skin & Skin Types [10] - Facial massage [6] - Masks [6]
The topics listed can be found in the assessment criteria in the unit specification for iUBT427 as follows:	- Contraindications - Cleanse/Deep Cleans/Pre Heat - Tint/Tweeze/Bleach - Anatomy & Physiology - Skin & Skin Types - Facial massage - Masks

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CONCLUSION & PROGRESSION

The iTEC Level 2 Diploma for Beauty Specialists qualification has been carefully designed to equip learners with the essential knowledge, technical expertise, and professional standards required to succeed within the wider wellness, beauty, and holistic therapies industry. Throughout the course, learners will develop confidence, competence, and creativity while meeting the expectations of both industry professionals and international awarding bodies.

Successful completion of this qualification enables learners to:

• Enter employment in beauty, aesthetics, massage, holistic therapy, or complementary health practices.

• Establish themselves as independent practitioners offering professional services.

• Continue their professional development through advanced diplomas, specialist training, or higher-level qualifications.

• Build a versatile and sustainable career across multiple sectors of the wellness and therapy industry.