

News

200 join Plas short courses



Over 200 people enrolled for 17 short courses organised as part of the University's new Programme in the Liberal Arts and Sciences (Plas). The subjects include archaeology, art history, psychology, human resource management, marine biology and Dante's *Divine Comedy*. Plas course units are offered each semester and lectures are normally held in the evenings. Applications for the February 2015 intake will open in late November. For enquiries call 2340 3772/3, e-mail clas@um.edu.mt or visit www.um.edu.mt/clas.

Youths on The Zone

Public speaking

The Zone reporter Lucia Farrugia met the organisers of a public speaking workshop at University. How can people overcome their fear of speaking in public? What exercises can improve one's skills to speak in front of an audience? How can people feel at ease outside their comfort zone? Find out this week on The Zone at www.timesofmalta.com/thezone.



Some of the public speaking workshop participants.

Vox pops

Lucia Farrugia and Matthew Casar visit the University campus to follow events during Freshers' Week and to ask students why they enrolled. Find out what students answered this week on The Zone.

Join The Zone team

Are you interested in joining The Zone team to report news that matter to young people today and scout

for interesting stories? Do you want to show your creativity and be the voice of young people today? E-mail thezone@timesofmalta.com to apply.



OCT 11-17
One week of activities for everyone

Our partners



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CODE
2014

WEEK

OCT
11

Building a website using HTML & CSS

Saturday 11 October > 09:00-13:00
Qawra (St. Francis Parish Centre)

OCT
11

Build your first mobile app in one hour

Saturday 11 October > 15:30 and 17:00
SmartCity Malta (by the Laguna)

OCT
13

Building a desktop application using C#

Monday 13 October > 17:00-19:00
MCAST Institute of ICT Kordin

OCT
14

Web Design

Tuesday 14 October > 17:00-19:00
MCAST Institute of ICT Kordin

OCT
15

Coding made easy on Raspberry Pi

Wednesday 15 October > 17:00-19:00
MCAST Institute of ICT Kordin

OCT
16

Building a game

Thursday 16 October > 17:00-19:00
Qawra (St. Francis Parish Centre)

OCT
17

Interactive Animation (Edge Animate)

Friday 17 October > 17:00-19:00
MCAST Institute of ICT Kordin

Think: Why did the Temple people disappear?

Around 2,500 BC a whole civilisation disappeared from Malta. Was it religious extremism? Overdevelopment? Ecological devastation? Warfare? Disease? The fact is that we do not know. The latest issue of the University magazine *Think* reports on a project called Fragsus that is trying to solve this mystery.

Over 80 researchers from five institutions, including the University, are digging up old sites and drilling cores around Malta to collect evidence. They are using the latest scientific techniques to recreate the ancient environment. By having enough information to step into the past, they will be able to see what happened to the people who built Malta's ancient temples.

Back to the future, Malta has a looming problem: dementia. In 2010, there were 10,000 people with dementia in Malta. By 2030, it will double to 20,000. Malta is launching a national dementia strategy in 2015 to try to tackle the problem.

Another story talks about a pool party that will start with the first rains to fall on Malta. Dr Sandro Lanfranco and his team of students write about rock pools. The species in these pools live on the wild side, playing Russian roulette to survive in this extreme environment.

In other stories, colourful molecules could introduce a new wave of sensors to devices, new forms of concrete are being created that could insulate homes better and Frances Camilleri-Cassar writes on how the University should adopt a social well-being policy to cope with the stressful life on campus.

Think also has a section dedicated to comics, tech reviews and love letters. Students also tell their stories about Maltese olive DNA, better video streaming and cleverer games. Alumni talk about their careers in medical research and software engineering.

The magazine may be picked up for free from newsgagents and Agenda bookstores. It is available online at www.um.edu.mt/think or <http://bit.ly/ISSUOThink10>.

REGISTER

www.eskills.org.mt/codeweek2014