



Scottish Baccalaureates

Introducing new qualifications in
science and languages for
young people in Scotland

Scottish Baccalaureates are new qualifications which are being introduced for the first time in August 2009. There will be two Scottish Baccalaureates — one in science and one in languages.

“The aim of the Scottish Baccalaureates is to encourage more of our young people to study science and language courses in the later stages of secondary school, raise the status of S6, and assist our young people in making the transition from school to higher and further education and employment.”

Fiona Hyslop
Cabinet Secretary for Education
and Lifelong Learning

About the Baccalaureates

The Scottish Baccalaureate in Science and the Scottish Baccalaureate in Languages consist of a coherent group of current Higher and Advanced Higher qualifications in science and languages respectively. But what makes a Scottish Baccalaureate unique is the Interdisciplinary Project.

The Interdisciplinary Project

The Interdisciplinary Project is an Advanced Higher Unit in which you apply your subject knowledge in realistic contexts. You carry out an investigation or practical assignment – your theme may be for example – ‘Employability and using languages in the Scottish market’ or perhaps ‘Testing energy options for sustainable solutions’. This is likely to involve you working outwith your school – in a college or university, or in a community or workplace setting.

The Interdisciplinary Project will help you to develop and show evidence of initiative, responsibility, and independent working – skills of real value in the world of higher education and work.



Scottish Baccalaureate in Science

The Scottish Baccalaureate in Science requires two different eligible science Courses, at least one of which must be at Advanced Higher level.

The mandatory components of the Science Baccalaureate are:

Interdisciplinary Project Unit	Advanced Higher
2 Courses	Advanced Higher
1 Course	Higher

One of the above Courses must be Mathematics (Higher or Advanced Higher level) or Applied Mathematics (Advanced Higher level).

The Interdisciplinary Project Unit will be graded A, B or C.

Eligible Courses in the Science Framework

You need to achieve two eligible, specialist Courses at the required levels. At least **one** of the two specialist Courses **must** be taken from the following list:

Biology* Geology
Biotechnology Human Biology
Chemistry* Physics*

No more than one specialist Course may be taken from the following list:

Building Construction
Computing*
Fabrication & Welding Engineering
Graphic Communication*
Information Systems*
Managing Environmental Resources
Mechatronics
Product Design*
Technological Studies*

* Currently available at Advanced Higher level.

SQA's course catalogue is kept under constant review. New courses may be added, or existing courses may be deleted or replaced. Please check SQA's website www.sqa.org.uk.

Scottish Baccalaureate in Languages

The Scottish Baccalaureate in Languages requires two different eligible modern or classical language Courses, at least one of which must be at Advanced Higher level.

The mandatory components of the Languages Baccalaureate are:

Interdisciplinary Project Unit	Advanced Higher
2 Courses	Advanced Higher
1 Course	Higher

One of the above Courses must be English (or ESOL or Gàidhlig[†]) and this may be at Higher or Advanced Higher level.

The Interdisciplinary Project Unit will be graded A, B or C.

[†] If Gàidhlig is your first language, you may count both English and Gàidhlig.

Eligible Courses in the Languages Framework

You need to achieve two eligible, specialist Courses at the required levels from the following list:

Cantonese**
Classical Greek*
Gaelic (Learners)*
German*
French*
Italian*
Latin*
Mandarin**
Russian
Spanish*
Urdu

* Currently available at Advanced Higher level.

** Available in Higher and Advanced Higher from 2010.

Note: You cannot count both Gaelic (Learners) and Gàidhlig in the Scottish Baccalaureate in Languages. You can only count **one** of the following in the Scottish Baccalaureate in Languages: Cantonese **or** Mandarin (Simplified) **or** Mandarin (Traditional).

SQA's course catalogue is kept under constant review. New courses may be added, or existing courses may be deleted or replaced. Please check SQA's website www.sqa.org.uk.

Grading

Scottish Baccalaureates will be awarded at Pass and Distinction.

A Distinction will require a grade A in one eligible Advanced Higher Course, one other grade A in any other component, and at least a grade B in all other components.

A Pass will be awarded to those who achieve at least a grade C in all mandatory components and who do not meet the criteria for Distinction.

To find out more about Scottish Baccalaureates, either contact your school or go to:
www.sqa.org.uk/baccalaureates



¶ The Scottish Baccalaureate gives students a great opportunity not just to enhance their learning of particular languages, but also to integrate their language-learning with the learning of other things which they have chosen to study. As such it will enhance their future study and career prospects considerably.¶

Professor Emeritus Richard Johnstone OBE
University of Stirling

¶ The establishment of the new Science Baccalaureate represents a significant step forward in the promotion of science and engineering in our schools. It is an important building block in ensuring that the Scottish education system retains its world-class reputation in these areas and contributes to the future prosperity of our technology base.¶

Professor Frank Coton
Dean of Engineering, University of Glasgow

Scottish Baccalaureates are designed to increase the number of highly qualified people in science and languages and to help create a more successful Scotland.



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