



Higher
Course Assessment
Specification



Higher Classical Studies Course Assessment Specification (C715 76)

Valid from August 2014

This edition: April 2014, version 1.1

This specification may be reproduced in whole or in part for educational purposes provided that no profit is derived from reproduction and that, if reproduced in part, the source is acknowledged. Additional copies of this Course Assessment Specification can be downloaded from SQA's website: www.sqa.org.uk.

Please refer to the note of changes at the end of this Course Assessment Specification for details of changes from previous version (where applicable).

© Scottish Qualifications Authority 2014

Course outline

Course title:	Higher Classical Studies
SCQF level:	6 (24 SCQF credit points)
Course code:	C715 76
Course assessment code:	X715 76

The purpose of the Course Assessment Specification is to ensure consistent and transparent assessment year on year. It describes the structure of the Course assessment and the mandatory skills, knowledge and understanding that will be assessed.

Course assessment structure

Component 1 — question paper	60 marks
Component 2 — assignment	30 marks
Total marks	90 marks

This Course includes six SCQF credit points to allow additional time for preparation for Course assessment. The Course assessment covers the added value of the Course.

Equality and inclusion

This *Course Assessment Specification* has been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to assessment. Assessments have been designed to promote equal opportunities while maintaining the integrity of the qualification.

For guidance on assessment arrangements for disabled learners and/or those with additional support needs, please follow the link to the Assessment Arrangements web page: www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/14977.html.

Guidance on inclusive approaches to delivery and assessment of this Course will be provided in the *Course Support Notes*.

Assessment

To gain the award of the Course, the learner must pass all the Units as well as the Course assessment. Course assessment will provide the basis for grading attainment in the Course award.

Course assessment

SQA will produce and give instructions for the production and conduct of Course assessments based on the information provided in this document.

Added value

The purpose of the Course assessment is to assess added value of the Course as well as confirming attainment in the Course and providing a grade. The added value for the Course will address the key purposes and aims of the Course, as defined in the Course Rationale. It will do this by addressing one or more of breadth, challenge, or application.

In this Course assessment, added value will focus on the following:

- ◆ breadth — drawing on knowledge and skills from across the Course
- ◆ challenge — requiring greater depth or extension of knowledge and/or skills
- ◆ application — requiring application of knowledge and/or skills in practical or theoretical contexts as appropriate

This added value consists of:

- ◆ Drawing on, extending and applying the skills, knowledge and understanding they have acquired during the Course. This will be assessed by a question paper and an assignment. Over the Course assessment there will be broad parity between the assessment of skills, knowledge and understanding.
- ◆ Demonstrating breadth of skills, knowledge and understanding from across the Units of the Course, in the question paper. This will sample knowledge and understanding from across the Course and will require application of skills in different contexts.
- ◆ Demonstrating challenge and application related to an appropriate Classical Studies issue in the assignment.

Grading

Course assessment will provide the basis for grading attainment in the Course award.

The Course assessment is graded A–D. The grade is determined on the basis of the total mark for all Course assessments together.

A learner's overall grade will be determined by their performance across the Course assessment.

Grade description for C

For the award of Grade C, learners will have demonstrated successful performance in all of the Units of the Course. In the Course assessment, learners will typically have demonstrated successful performance in relation to the mandatory skills, knowledge and understanding for the Course.

Grade description for A

For the award of Grade A, learners will have demonstrated successful performance in all of the Units of the Course. In the Course assessment, learners will typically have demonstrated a consistently high level of performance in relation to the mandatory skills, knowledge and understanding for the Course.

Credit

To take account of the extended range of learning and teaching approaches, remediation, consolidation of learning and integration needed for preparation for external assessment, six SCQF credit points are available in Courses at National 5 and Higher, and eight SCQF credit points in Courses at Advanced Higher. These points will be awarded when a grade D or better is achieved.

Structure and coverage of the Course assessment

The Course assessment will consist of two Components: a question paper and an assignment. The question paper will have three Sections.

Component 1 — question paper

The purpose of this question paper is to demonstrate application of skills and breadth of knowledge and understanding from across the Course.

This question paper will give learners an opportunity to demonstrate the following higher-order cognitive skills and knowledge and understanding from the mandatory content of the Course:

In Sections 1 and 3 below, the skills, knowledge and understanding which will be assessed are:

- ◆ analysing evidence, including archaeological evidence, to explain and analyse aspects of the classical world
- ◆ evaluating the usefulness of sources of evidence about the classical world
- ◆ knowledge and understanding from across the Course

In Section 2, the skills, knowledge and understanding which will be assessed are:

- ◆ analysing and evaluating universal ideas, themes or values revealed by classical literature
- ◆ knowledge and understanding from across the Course

The question paper will have 60 marks out of a total of 90 marks.

Differentiation is within each question.

Section 1, titled 'Life in Classical Greece', will have 20 marks.

This Section will be made up of extended response questions requiring the learner to draw on the skills, knowledge and understanding acquired during the Course. Questions will draw on the skills, knowledge and understanding described in the further mandatory information on Course coverage.

This Section will have two Parts:

Part A: Power and Freedom

Part B: Religion and Belief

Candidates should answer questions from one Part.

Section 2, titled 'Classical Literature' will have 20 marks. This Section will be made up of extended response questions requiring the learner to draw on the skills, knowledge and understanding acquired during the Course. Questions will draw on the skills, knowledge and understanding described in the further mandatory information on Course coverage.

Section 3, titled 'Life in the Roman World' will have 20 marks.

This Section will be made up of extended response questions requiring the candidate to draw on the skills, knowledge and understanding acquired during the Course. Questions will draw on the skills, knowledge and understanding described in the further mandatory information on Course coverage.

This Section will have two Parts:

Part A: Power and Freedom

Part B: Religion and Belief

Candidates need only answer questions from one Part.

The question paper Component of the Course assessment will have a greater emphasis on the assessment of knowledge and understanding than the assignment. The other marks will be awarded for the demonstration of skills.

Component 2 — assignment

The purpose of this assignment is to demonstrate challenge and application by demonstrating skills, knowledge and understanding within the context of a Classical Studies issue.

This assignment will give learners an opportunity to demonstrate the following skills, knowledge and understanding:

- ◆ identifying an appropriate Classical Studies issue about which there are alternative or different points of view
- ◆ researching the issue
- ◆ analysing the issue
- ◆ synthesising information in a structured manner
- ◆ drawing on in-depth knowledge and understanding to explain fully and analyse the issue
- ◆ comparing and contrasting the Greek and/or Roman worlds with the modern world, in terms of religious, political, social, moral or cultural life
- ◆ reaching a detailed and well-reasoned conclusion on the issue
- ◆ describing supporting information and potential challenges/counter-arguments

The assignment will have 30 marks out of a total of 90 marks.

The assignment Component of the Course assessment will have a greater emphasis on the assessment of skills than the question paper. The other marks will be awarded for the demonstration of knowledge and understanding.

Setting, conducting and marking of assessment

Question paper

The question paper will be set and marked by SQA, and conducted in centres under conditions specified for external examinations by SQA. Learners will complete this in 2 hours and 15 minutes.

Controlled assessment — assignment

The assignment is:

- ◆ set by centres within SQA guidelines
- ◆ conducted under a high level of supervision and control

Evidence will be submitted to SQA for external marking.

All marking will be quality assured by SQA.

Setting the assessment

Set by centres within SQA guidelines.

SQA will provide a brief for the generation of evidence to be assessed. Learners will have an open choice of issue to be researched.

Conducting the assessment

The production of evidence for assessment will be conducted under a high level of supervision and control and:

- ◆ within 1 hour and 30 minutes
- ◆ with the use of specified resources
- ◆ in time to meet a submission date set by SQA
- ◆ independently by the learner
- ◆ when the learner is ready

Further mandatory information on Course coverage

Course assessment will involve sampling the following skills, knowledge and understanding.

Component 1: question paper

Options exist in each Section to allow opportunities for personalisation and choice.

Section 1: Life in Classical Greece

All learners should be able to demonstrate in-depth factual and theoretical knowledge and understanding of life in 5th-century BCE Athens, in relation to one of the following Parts:

Part A: Power and Freedom

- ◆ Athenian citizenship: qualifications, rights, and responsibilities
- ◆ structure of Athenian democracy
- ◆ structure of Athenian legal system
- ◆ slavery in classical Athens
- ◆ gender inequality
- ◆ political propaganda under Pericles
- ◆ colonialism and imperialism

Or

Part B: Religion and Belief

- ◆ state religion
- ◆ domestic religion
- ◆ death and the afterlife
- ◆ mystery religions
- ◆ gender roles within religious worship
- ◆ philosophical attitudes to religion

Section 2: Classical Literature

Learners will be required to demonstrate in-depth factual and textual knowledge and understanding of some universal ideas, themes or values revealed in a classical text they have read, which link the classical and modern worlds. These universal ideas, themes or values are:

- ◆ leadership
- ◆ fate versus free will
- ◆ heroism
- ◆ conflict
- ◆ women in society

Section 3: Life in the Roman World

Learners should be able to demonstrate in-depth factual and theoretical knowledge and understanding of life in the Roman world in the 1st-century BCE and 1st-century CE, in relation to one of the following Parts:

Part A: Power and Freedom

- ◆ Roman citizenship: qualifications, rights, and responsibilities
- ◆ structure of republican and imperial government
- ◆ slavery in the Roman world
- ◆ gender inequality
- ◆ native society in a global superpower
- ◆ political propaganda under Augustus
- ◆ colonialism, imperialism, and globalisation

Or

Part B: Religion and Belief

- ◆ state religion
- ◆ domestic religion
- ◆ death and the afterlife
- ◆ mystery religions
- ◆ religious tolerance
- ◆ philosophical attitudes to religion

Component 2: assignment

Candidates have an open choice of Classical Studies issue. Their choice is not constrained by the mandatory content of Component 1: question paper.

Administrative information

Published: April 2014 (version 1.1)

History of changes to Course Assessment Specification

Course details	Version	Description of change	Authorised by	Date
C715 76	1.1	<p>Removed 'all three Units' from second bullet point in 'Added value' section; removed 'topic or' in third bullet.</p> <p>In section on 'Structure and coverage of the Course assessment, changed wording re: number of marks in question paper; completing one Part of 'Life in Classical Greece'.</p> <p>In section on 'Setting, conducting and marketing of assessment', replaced 'combination of questions' with 'extended response questions'; deleted 'topic or'; amended bullet points re assignment; corrected erroneous reference to 80 overall marks for Course assessment; changed reference to 'some supervision and control' with 'a high degree of supervision and control'.</p> <p>Deleted 'Delian League and Athenian Empire' and 'Eleusis, Epidaurus, Pythagoreanism and Orphism' from mandatory content</p> <p>Deleted 'structure of Roman legal system' from mandatory content. Added summary information about the assignment.</p>	Qualifications Development Manager	April 2014

This specification may be reproduced in whole or in part for educational purposes provided that no profit is derived from reproduction and that, if reproduced in part, the source is acknowledged. Additional copies of this Course Assessment Specification can be downloaded from SQA's website at www.sqa.org.uk.

Note: You are advised to check SQA's website (www.sqa.org.uk) to ensure you are using the most up-to-date version of the Course Assessment Specification.

© Scottish Qualifications Authority 2014