Higher Latin — draft Course rationale and summary

May 2011

This edition: May 2011, draft version 1.0

Published by the Scottish Qualifications Authority
The Optima Building, 58 Robertson Street, Glasgow G2 8DQ
Ironmills Road, Dalkeith, Midlothian EH22 1LE

www.sqa.org.uk

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Course rationale

Background

All new and revised National Courses reflect Curriculum for Excellence values, purposes and principles. They offer flexibility, provide more time for learning, more focus on skills and applying learning, and scope for personalisation and choice.

In this Course, and its component Units, there will be an emphasis on skills development and the application of those skills. Assessment approaches will be proportionate, fit for purpose and will promote best practice, enabling learners to achieve the highest standards they can.

This Course provides learners with opportunities to continue to acquire and develop the attributes and capabilities of the four capacities as well as skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work.

All Courses provide opportunities for learners to develop breadth, challenge and application, but the focus and balance of the assessment will be appropriate for the subject area.

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Relationship between the Course and Curriculum for Excellence values, purposes and principles

Higher Latin supports lifelong learning for learners of all ages. Learning about the cultures of the world or about the social and political dimensions of society will be enhanced by an awareness of the contributions made by Roman civilisations.

The Course provides learners with the opportunity to: develop an understanding of how language works, and use language well to communicate ideas and information; develop language competence to support understanding and communication; use creative and critical thinking to synthesise ideas and arguments; and use different media effectively for learning and communication.

The Course also provides learners with the opportunity to: develop independent learning; enhance their enjoyment and their understanding of their own and other cultures; and explore the interconnected nature of languages.

The Course provides learners with the opportunity to develop linguistic awareness and analytical skills through the study of Latin texts. Learners develop an appreciation of the interconnected nature of languages and an understanding of the legacy of Roman civilisation and its influence on their own culture and that of others.

Learners encounter a wide range of different types of texts in different media. Building on the four capacities, the Course enables learners to communicate, be critical thinkers, develop cultural awareness, and be creative.

Purpose and aims of the Course

The main purpose of the Course is to provide learners with the opportunity to develop translation skills and the ability to understand, analyse and evaluate through the study of Latin language and literature.

The Course offers learners opportunities to develop and extend a wide range of skills, including communication, independent learning, critical literacy, personal, interpersonal and team working, and creative thinking. In particular, the Course aims to enable learners to develop:

- the language skills of translation
- the ability to understand, analyse and evaluate
- the ability to apply knowledge of language
- knowledge and understanding of literary techniques and Roman culture

The Course contributes towards the development of literacy skills by providing learners with opportunities to listen and talk, read, and write in English, and to read in Latin.

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Information about typical learners who might do the Course

The Course provides flexibility, personalisation and choice to enable learners to achieve in different ways and at a different pace.

Prior learning in the subject, although desirable, is not essential, although the Course provides opportunities for learners to build on prior learning experienced in a broad general education or in Latin qualifications at a lower SCQF level.

The Course is designed to be accessible.

Progression from Higher Latin includes opportunities for vertical and lateral progression to:

- Advanced Higher Latin
- further education
- higher education

and ultimately, for some, to employment.

Other progression pathways are also possible, including progression to other qualifications at the same or different levels.

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Course summary

Course title: Higher Latin

SCQF level 6 (24 SCQF credit points)

Course outline

Mandatory Units

Latin: Translating (Higher)	(9 SCQF credit points)
Latin: Literary Appreciation (Higher)	(9 SCQF credit points)

Course assessment (6 SCQF credit points)

This Course includes six SCQF credit points for 40 additional programmed hours to allow preparation for Course assessment. The Course assessment covers the added value of the Course. Further information on the Course assessment is provided in the Assessment section.

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Course structure and conditions of award

The two Units, taken together, include the language skills of translating, understanding, analysing, and evaluating. The Course provides the opportunity to integrate these language skills across the Units. Each Unit also offers opportunities for learners to focus on particular skills.

Units are statements of standards for assessment and not programmes of learning and teaching. They can be delivered in a variety of ways.

Latin: Translating (Higher)
The purpose of this Unit is to provide learners with the opportunity to study detailed and complex Latin texts in depth and to develop the language skills needed for detailed and complex translation. Learners will develop knowledge of detailed and complex language in familiar contexts.

Latin: Literary Appreciation (Higher)
The purpose of this Unit is to provide learners with the opportunity to develop the language skills needed to understand, analyse and evaluate, in depth, detailed and complex literary texts, in Latin and translated into English. Learners develop the language skills required for knowledge and understanding of literary techniques and Roman culture in familiar contexts.

To gain the award of the Course, the learner must pass all the Units as well as the Course assessment. The required Units are shown in the Course outline section. Course assessment will provide the basis for grading attainment in the Course award.

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Assessment

Information about assessment standards for the Course will be included in the *Course Assessment Specification*, which will provide full details including advice on how a learner's overall attainment for the Course will be determined.

Unit assessment

All Units are internally assessed against the requirements shown in Unit specifications.

They will be assessed pass/fail within centres.

SQA will provide rigorous external quality assurance, including external verification, to ensure assessment judgements are consistent and meet national standards.

Exemplification of possible assessment approaches for these Units will be provided in the *National Assessment Resource.*

Course assessment

Courses from National 4 to Advanced Higher include assessment of added value[1]. At National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher, the added value will be assessed in the Course assessment. The added value for the Course must 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 the Higher Latin Course, added value will focus on:

- challenge
- application

Learners will provide evidence of their translation skills and their ability to understand, analyse and evaluate, using detailed and complex Latin texts. The Course assessment will take the form of a question paper[2] through which learners will demonstrate their ability to translate, understand, analyse and evaluate.

[1] Definitions can be found here: www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45528.html

[2] See link above for definition.