

Computing Studies: Intermediate 1

Headroom Provided by NABs	Orientation of Grade Descriptions	Basis of evidence for Estimates, Absentee consideration and Assessment Appeals
Some headroom	Mainly task	<p>Evidence for Estimates, Absentee consideration and Assessment Appeals at all levels must show a sufficient breadth of coverage of the content of the Units of each Course, and must relate to the Course Grade Descriptions.</p> <p>Evidence for Estimates may be offered from work done in NABs, a prelim (if used), or class-work. In addition, specific NABs give guidance (in Section 1 <i>Instrument of assessment</i>) on which parts of the internal assessment are suitable (or cannot be used) for predicting candidates' performance in external assessment (beyond grade C). In the section <i>Marking Guidelines</i> there is specific guidance on candidates' performance over and above the respective cut-off scores.</p> <p>Evidence in support of Appeals should cover all of the Course Units (or as much of the Course as possible). This evidence should demonstrate the candidate's retention of knowledge over an extended period of time and also his/her ability to integrate their knowledge and understanding. Suitable sources of evidence include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ prelim examinations ◆ class tests ◆ NAB items — especially items with headroom <p>This evidence should be collected throughout the Course but should include evidence generated as late as possible to ensure maximum coverage of Course content. If a prelim is used it may be possible to build a NAB into it, or to augment the NABs with assessment tasks which allow candidates to demonstrate performance beyond that required by the Units. Evidence should provide evidence of attainment as measured against the Grade Descriptions. High-scoring evidence generated in the NAB Unit assessments at the appropriate level will lend weight to an Appeal, particularly where NABs provide headroom, ie the opportunity for the demonstration of attainment as measured by the Grade Descriptions of the Course.</p>

Contact

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Summary: Evidence requirements for Estimates, Absentees and External Assessment Appeals

Estimates

Centres make Estimates of their candidates' expected attainment in National Courses. You should take care to ensure that Estimates reflect candidates' abilities against the requirements of the Course, not just the requirements for the Units which make up the Course.

Since Estimates relate to achievement of a Course, the assessment instruments which are used to generate evidence for Estimates should allow candidates opportunities to demonstrate attainment against the requirements for the Course. Assessment instruments which assess candidates' abilities against the outcomes of National Units can help with making decisions about Estimates. However, NABs cannot normally, on their own, generate sufficient evidence of how a candidate can perform against the assessment criteria (eg retention, integration) for a Course.

Absentees and External Assessment Appeals

Submissions for Absentee consideration and Assessment Appeals must be supported by valid, reliable evidence of the candidate's demonstrated attainment against the requirements for the externally-assessed components of the Course.

No past papers, including SQA past papers, will be accepted in their entirety as the assessment instrument used to generate evidence for Absentee consideration or External Assessment Appeals. However, questions selected carefully from a minimum of three past papers, preferably adapted (to ensure the breadth and depth of coverage required to satisfy the Course Grade Descriptions) can be combined to form a valid assessment instrument.

Where a centre is submitting Appeals for a significant proportion (ie more than 10%) of a cohort, it should send with the Appeals a rationale explaining why these candidates did not perform to the standard expected in the externally assessed component(s). Rationales will be used by Examiners to assist decision-making.

Evidence submitted for Absentee consideration and External Assessment Appeals must include:

- ◆ a copy of the assessment instrument(s) with details of the source of questions used (eg past papers) and associated marking schemes with cut-off scores which have been applied
- ◆ evidence which has been generated by these assessment instrument(s), before the date of the external assessment, and which has been marked in accordance with the marking schemes provided
- ◆ a clear indication of the completion date for each piece of evidence

It is the responsibility of centres to ensure the validity, reliability and security of assessment instruments, and authenticity of candidate evidence used for Estimates, Absentee consideration and External Assessment Appeals.