



Advanced Higher  
Coursework  
Assessment Task



# Advanced Higher Latin

## Project–dissertation

### Assessment task

This document provides information for teachers and lecturers and candidates about the coursework component of this course in terms of the skills, knowledge and understanding that are assessed. It **must** be read in conjunction with the course specification.

**Valid from session 2019-20 and until further notice.**

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# Introduction

This document contains instructions for teachers, lecturers and candidates, and an exemplar logbook for the Advanced Higher Latin project–dissertation. It must be read in conjunction with the course specification.

This project–dissertation has 60 marks out of a total of 180 marks available for the course assessment.

This is one of three course assessment components. The other components are a Literary appreciation question paper and a Translating question paper.

# Instructions for teachers and lecturers

This must be read in conjunction with the 'Course assessment structure: project–dissertation' section in the course specification.

Teachers and lecturers may provide candidates with a logbook, or equivalent, for planning and organising aspects of their work in preparation for the dissertation. Using a logbook or equivalent is not mandatory, although it may help candidates to plan and organise their work. The logbook may aid discussion on candidate progress between the teacher or lecturer and the candidate.

The logbook below shows how candidates may organise, for example, ideas, thoughts, sources and intended areas of analysis, and plan their work on the dissertation. Teachers and lecturers may prefer to create their own logbook, or equivalent, to help candidates in planning and producing their dissertation independently.

Note: the logbook, or equivalent, must not be submitted to SQA.

## Example of a project–dissertation logbook

<b>Advanced Higher Latin project–dissertation logbook</b>	
Candidate name _____	
Centre name _____	
<b>1 My area of focus</b>	
Identify your main area of study and title for your dissertation, your initial aims, purposes, and intended line of argument, and the limits of research, for example the time period you are going to focus on. Make sure your topic is not too general or wide and you can investigate it in breadth and depth. Ensure there are relevant sources in Latin available.	
<b>2 My sources and other resources</b>	
List what you have read, or are reading, in order to form a better understanding of issues in your area of study. Keep a record of the key Latin primary sources, secondary sources, and other resources that you consult.	
<b>3 My research plan</b>	
Write down the methods you will use, for example textual analysis: translating, analysing and evaluating evidence from primary sources; and literature review: summarising, comparing and evaluating evidence from secondary sources.	

**4 My research timescales**

Dissertation submission date: \_\_\_\_\_

Outline your monthly targets, for example reading, making notes, analysing and evaluating evidence, developing your argument, meetings with teachers or lecturers, dates for completion of drafts and final dissertation.

**5 My evidence**

List ideas, themes, and quotations (including page references, where appropriate) from sources which are relevant to your area of focus for analysis and/or the title of your dissertation.

**6 My analysis**

Analyse and evaluate ways in which the evidence and/or material you have collected relates to research aims and/or line of argument.

**Teacher and lecturer discussions and checkpoints**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Notes</b>
>insert<	In this section, you could include your notes and feedback from your teacher or lecturer.

# Marking instructions

The marking instructions for the Advanced Higher Latin project–dissertation are in the course specification.

# Instructions for candidates

This assessment applies to the project–dissertation for Advanced Higher Latin.

This project–dissertation has 60 marks out of a total of 180 marks available for the course assessment.

It assesses the following skills, knowledge and understanding:

- ◆ research and reference skills
- ◆ extension and application of high-order skills to plan and produce a dissertation presenting the findings of independent research
- ◆ knowledge and understanding of an aspect of Latin language, literature or the Roman world, as appropriate to your interests

Marks are awarded for:

- ◆ content
- ◆ use of primary and secondary sources
- ◆ argument and analysis

Your teacher or lecturer will let you know how the assessment will be carried out and any required conditions for doing it.

In this assessment, you have to produce a dissertation presenting your findings of an independent research project, based on an aspect of Latin language, literature or the Roman world.

Your dissertation must be between 3,000 and 4,000 words, excluding quotations, footnotes, captions and bibliography and contents pages. You must include the word count with the submitted dissertation.

The word length is appropriate to the complexity of the task, and allows you to conduct an in-depth study of your chosen area of interest. If the word count exceeds the maximum by more than 10%, a penalty is applied.

Your teacher or lecturer may provide reasonable assistance; this includes supporting you in choosing the focus, theme and genre for your dissertation, commenting on your choice of primary sources in Latin and providing written or oral feedback on one or two dissertation drafts.

You must demonstrate the ability to:

- ◆ identify an appropriate focus
- ◆ evaluate, analyse and synthesise your evidence
- ◆ develop a clear line of argument
- ◆ support that argument using evidence from a range of sources, including appropriate quotation in Latin
- ◆ organise, present and reference your sources (there is guidance on referencing below)

You must avoid over-reliance on any single source and be aware of the dangers of plagiarism. Before you begin work on your project—dissertation, it is important that you read SQA’s booklet *Your Coursework*. This provides you with information about the rules around coursework, including authenticity and plagiarism. Examples of plagiarism include:

- ◆ using material from the internet without citing the source
- ◆ using material from a print publication without citing the source

When there is doubt over the authenticity of a dissertation, it will not be accepted for submission to SQA.

## Stages

The dissertation has three stages:

- ◆ planning: you should choose an area of study and formulate a dissertation task focused on an aspect of Latin language, literature or the Roman world
- ◆ research and development: you should investigate and research relevant primary sources in Latin and relevant secondary sources, and record all sources consulted
- ◆ writing: you should write your dissertation, analysing, evaluating, referencing, redrafting and proofreading before final submission

## Planning and preparation stage

You should:

- ◆ expect to work independently
- ◆ produce your dissertation over a period of time. You should start your preparation at an appropriate point in the course
- ◆ ensure your choice of topic and title allows you to find and use primary sources in Latin and make critical comment on them
- ◆ ensure there is plenty of scope for in-depth analysis, argument and evaluation, including detailed discussion of texts in Latin
- ◆ create a research plan to help you prepare for your dissertation, indicating sources, research methods and timescales. This should include, for example:
  - identifying your topic
  - identifying your research aims, sub-themes and line of argument
  - gathering a range of primary sources in Latin
  - gathering a range of secondary sources such as books, articles and websites and could include, if appropriate to your topic:
    - gathering images, artefacts or archaeological evidence
    - visits to libraries, museums, universities, local archaeological sites and other sources of relevant information
- ◆ set yourself time and/or task-based deadlines, tutorial aims, weekly or monthly aims, or any other appropriate timescales to help you manage the research process. The timescales do not need to be detailed. You can negotiate them with your teacher or lecturer

- ◆ use the logbook, or equivalent, to help you organise and record your preparation and notes for your research, analysis and writing. You do not have to use the logbook but you may find it useful. If you wish to use the logbook or equivalent online, your teacher or lecturer can help you with this
- ◆ organise regular checkpoint and/or progress meetings with your teacher or lecturer, and use the logbook, or equivalent, as a basis for discussion

### **Research and development stage**

You should:

- ◆ gather and compile evidence from your primary and secondary sources by reading, translating and making notes
- ◆ analyse and evaluate ways in which the evidence and/or material you have collected relates to research aims, plan and/or line of argument
- ◆ when analysing primary sources in Latin:
  - identify and comment on key ideas, terms and/or techniques
  - evaluate usefulness in terms of, for example, date, genre, purpose, possible bias
  - keep a careful record of author names, titles, line references
  - select relevant passages for quotation in Latin
- ◆ evaluate any bias in your secondary sources
- ◆ note any points on which your sources disagree, and any views and/or opinions you want to respond to and/or engage with
- ◆ draw out the implications from your findings
- ◆ note links between different aspects and your overall argument
- ◆ consider different possible interpretations

### **Writing stage**

You should:

- ◆ write a detailed plan that includes:
  - a clear introduction, setting out your aims
  - a logical and coherent structure
  - argument and analysis
  - a reasoned conclusion
- ◆ develop your argument within each section of your dissertation by selecting, analysing and synthesising relevant evidence
- ◆ integrate Latin quotation into your discussion
- ◆ engage with the Latin and use it to support your argument
- ◆ when quoting Latin:
  - quote at an appropriate length
  - avoid quoting long sections of text
  - include a translation
  - include footnote references

- ◆ reach a conclusion that:
  - sums up the main points
  - evaluates
  - answers the question (if appropriate)
  - forms reasoned judgements
- ◆ provide a bibliography

## Referencing

It is recommended practice to:

- ◆ use italics or underlining to indicate the titles of texts
- ◆ set in from the margin all quotations of more than one line so that they are clearly distinguishable from the text of your dissertation
- ◆ use footnotes and page references where appropriate to identify quotations from, and references to, primary sources
- ◆ use footnotes and page references at all times to identify and acknowledge quotations from, references to, and information and ideas taken from secondary sources
- ◆ provide an accurate bibliography
- ◆ give footnote and bibliography references in the following form:
 

D'Ambra, E., (2007) *Roman Women*, Cambridge University Press.

Dixon, S., (2007) *Roman Women: Following the Clues*. Available from: [http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ancient/romans/roman\\_women\\_01.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ancient/romans/roman_women_01.shtml) [accessed 3 September 2014].

Juvenal, (1918) *The Satires*, Perseus Digital Library. Available from: <http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/hopper/text?doc=urn:cts:latinLit:phi1276.phi001.perseus-lat1> [accessed 3 September 2014].

# Administrative information

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## History of changes

Version	Description of change	Date

Note: you are advised to check SQA's website to ensure you are using the most up-to-date version of this document.

## Security and confidentiality

This document can be used by SQA approved centres for the assessment of National Courses and not for any other purpose.

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