

History



This update focuses on the development of Advanced Higher, with information relevant to your subject and details of the support available to you.

Updates regarding National 3 to National 5 and Higher can be found in the 'Updates and Announcements' section of the relevant **subject pages**. I would encourage you to make regular use of our subject pages, where you will find support documents, answers to common questions, and links to other areas of interest. You can also sign up for 'My Alerts', SQA's e-mail update service, that notifies you whenever content you are interested in is added or updated on SQA's website. Visit **www.sqa.org.uk/myalerts** to register.

I hope you find the following update helpful, and please contact me if you have any questions.

Dylan White
Qualifications Development Manager

The Qualifications Development Team

Dylan White
Qualifications Development Manager

Maggie Zvandasara
Qualifications Development Officer

Assessment support

Package 1 of Unit assessment support for Advanced Higher is available now from SQA's secure website. You can arrange access to secure materials through your SQA Co-ordinator; these must be stored securely and treated as confidential.

Over the coming year, we will publish the following assessment support materials for Advanced Higher Courses:

January 2015	Course Comparison document Guidance on the use of past papers
February 2015	Specimen Question Paper(s) and Marking Instructions Unit assessment support package 2
March 2015	Coursework information
April 2015	Unit assessment support package 3
December 2015	Exemplar Question Paper(s) and Marking Instructions

Updates to documents

We will make planned updates to the Advanced Higher documents, following the publication of Advanced Higher Specimen Question Papers, coursework information and Unit assessment support packs. We will also finalise package 1 of Unit assessment support, following the publication of packages 2 and 3.

The schedule for publishing the updated documents is as follows:

April 2015	Mandatory documents (Unit Specifications, Course Specifications and Course Assessment Specifications)
May 2015	Advice and guidance documents (Course and Unit Support Notes) and Unit assessment support packs

These updates are to ensure consistency between the assessment support materials, advice and guidance documents and the documents containing mandatory information.

The Notification of Changes spreadsheet will be updated for Advanced Higher following the publication of any revised documents.

Planned changes to Advanced Higher History documents:

Course Assessment Specification

The Course Assessment Specification will be amended to incorporate changes to the mandatory content in the Scottish Wars field of study. These changes are being made to align the mandatory content with up-to-date academic research in this area.

The changed mandatory content and italicized areas will be as follows:

- *The reign of Alexander III, 1249 – 1284*
- *The succession crisis and the Great Cause, 1284 – 1292*
- *The reign of King John, 1292 – 1296*
- Edward's occupation of Scotland, 1296 – 1297
- *The contribution of William Wallace, 1296 – 1305*
- Scottish resistance and English invasions, 1298 – 1305
- *Occupation and civil war, 1305 – 1310*
- King Robert's war against England, 1310 – 1328
- *King Robert and the government of Scotland, 1310 – 1328*
- The legacy of King Robert, 1329 – 1357

Unit Specifications

These will be amended as follows:

Historical Study Unit, Outcome 2:

- Assessment Standard 2.1 amended to read 'Evaluating a source in terms of its origin, purpose and content.'
- Assessment Standard 2.2 amended to read 'Interpreting and contextualising the content of a source.'
- Assessment Standard 2.3 amended to read 'Explaining the differing perspectives of two sources on a complex historical issue.'
- Addition of new Assessment Standard 2.4: 'Identifying two historiographical perspectives on a complex historical issue.'

Researching Historical Issues Unit:

- Assessment Standard 1.1: 'Identifying' amended to 'Justifying'
- Assessment Standard 1.3: addition of 'in an organized way'
- Assessment Standard 1.5 becomes 1.4 and 'understanding' will be replaced with 'explaining'
- Addition of new Assessment Standard 1.5: 'Correctly referencing a source using an appropriate referencing system.'

Please note that these changes have been incorporated into Unit assessment support package 1, and will also be incorporated into packages 2 and 3.

It is important that staff delivering the new Advanced Higher Courses in session 2015-16 read the full suite of documents for their subjects, as well as those relating to assessment. We also advise staff attending the Advanced Higher support events to read these documents in preparation.

For more information on documents and assessment support materials, visit www.sqa.org.uk/supportdocuments

Looking ahead to 2015–16

The new Advanced Higher Courses go live from August 2015. SQA will continue to work closely with centres throughout the implementation of these Courses to ensure you have the support you need to prepare your learners for assessment.

We will also work closely with centres during the verification process to identify exemplar materials for Advanced Higher that can be shared with you, to help enhance your understanding of the standards required.

A series of implementation events for History will take place on the following dates:

- Monday 23 February (Glasgow)
- Tuesday 24 February (Stirling)
- Thursday 26 February (Edinburgh)
- Tuesday 3 March (Aberdeen)

If you wish to attend these events, please follow this [link](#).

Contact SQA

For centre enquiries, please contact our Business Development and Customer Support Team on:

Tel: 0303 333 0330

Fax: 0354 213 5000

E-mail enquiries: mycentre@sqa.org.uk
