

Statistics



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.

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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 Papers and Marking Instructions Unit assessment support package 2
March 2015	Coursework information
April 2015	Unit assessment support package 3
December 2015	Exemplar Question Papers 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 Mathematics documents:

Course Assessment Specification

The Course Assessment Specification will be amended to incorporate changes to the mandatory content:

- **Data Analysis and Modelling**
 - Assessment Standard 1.1 has changed from ‘Applying skills to data collection, presentation and interpretation’ to ‘Applying skills to data presentation and interpretation’
- **Statistical Inference**
 - Assessment Standard 2.1 has changed from Planning the investigation to Specifying the problem and planning the investigation
 - Assessment Standard 2.2 has changed from Collecting relevant information to Selecting relevant data
 - Assessment Standard 2.3 has changed from Analysing the information to Presenting and analysing the data
- **Hypothesis Testing**
 - Assessment Standard 1.1 the word ‘performing’ replaces ‘applying’ in both sub-skills. The sub-skill ‘Identifying and applying an appropriate two sample test (independent or paired data) for population means or proportions’ has been changed to ‘Identifying and performing an appropriate one sample test for the population mean and proportion’
 - Assessment Standard 1.2 the sub-skills remain the same with the word ‘performing’ replacing ‘carrying out’ in both sub-skills
 - Assessment Standard 1.3 the sub-skill remains the same with the word ‘performing’ replacing ‘carrying out’ in the sub-skill
 - Assessment Standard 2.1 has changed from Posing the hypothesis to be tested to Introducing and explaining the investigation and posing the hypothesis
 - Assessment Standard 2.2 has changed from Collecting relevant data to Selecting relevant data
 - Assessment Standard 2.3 has changed from Analysing the data to Presenting and analysing the data

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

Support and guidance

The data booklet made available to candidates during assessment will be updated appropriately to incorporate the new content of the Course.

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 Mathematics & Mathematics of Mechanics will take place on the following dates:

- 6 March 2015 (Glasgow)
- 13 March 2015 (Stirling)
- 20 March 2015 (Inverness)
- 27 March 2015 (Aberdeen)
- 2 April 2015 (Edinburgh)

A separate implementation event solely for Statistics will take place on:

- 1 April 2015 (Edinburgh)

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

Contact SQA

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