



National 5  
Course Assessment  
Specification



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# National 5 Classical Studies Course Assessment Specification (C715 75)

**Valid from August 2013**

First edition: April 2012, version 1.0  
Revised: June 2013, version 1.1

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Please refer to the note of changes at the end of this Course Assessment Specification for details of changes from previous version (where applicable).

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## Course outline

<b>Course title:</b>	National 5 Classical Studies
<b>SCQF level:</b>	5 (24 SCQF credit points)
<b>Course code:</b>	C715 75
<b>Course assessment code:</b>	X715 75

The purpose of the Course Assessment Specification is to ensure consistent and transparent assessment year on year. It describes the structure of the Course assessment and the mandatory skills, knowledge and understanding that will be assessed.

### Course assessment structure

Component 1 — question paper	60 marks
Component 2 — assignment	20 marks
<b>Total marks</b>	<b>80 marks</b>

This Course includes six SCQF credit points to allow additional time for preparation for Course assessment. The Course assessment covers the added value of the Course.

### Equality and inclusion

This Course Assessment Specification has been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to assessment. Assessments have been designed to promote equal opportunities while maintaining the integrity of the qualification.

For guidance on assessment arrangements for disabled learners and/or those with additional support needs, please follow the link to the Assessment Arrangements web page: [www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/14977.html](http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/14977.html).

Guidance on inclusive approaches to delivery and assessment of this Course is provided in the *Course Support Notes*.

# Assessment

To gain the award of the Course, the learner must pass all of the Units as well as the Course assessment. Course assessment will provide the basis for grading attainment in the Course award.

## Course assessment

SQA will produce and give instructions for the production and conduct of Course assessments based on the information provided in this document.

## Added value

The purpose of the Course assessment is to assess added value of the Course as well as confirming attainment in the Course and providing a grade. The added value for the Course will 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 this Course assessment, added value will focus on the following:

- ◆ breadth — drawing on knowledge and skills from across the Units
- ◆ challenge — requiring greater depth or extension of knowledge and/or skills
- ◆ application — requiring application of knowledge and/or skills in practical or theoretical contexts as appropriate

This added value consists of:

- ◆ extending and applying the skills, knowledge and understanding acquired during the Course. This will be assessed by a question paper and an assignment. Over the Course assessment there will be broad parity between the assessment of skills, knowledge and understanding
- ◆ demonstrating breadth of skills, knowledge and understanding from across the Units of the Course, in the question paper. This will sample knowledge and understanding from across all three Units of the Course and will require application of skills in different contexts
- ◆ demonstrating challenge and application related to an appropriate Classical Studies topic or issue in the assignment

## Grading

Course assessment will provide the basis for grading attainment in the Course award.

The Course assessment is graded A–D. The grade is determined on the basis of the total mark for all Course assessments together.

A learner's overall grade will be determined by their performance across the Course assessment.

**Grade description for C**

For the award of Grade C, learners will have demonstrated successful performance in all of the Units of the Course. In the Course assessment, learners will typically have demonstrated successful performance in relation to the mandatory skills, knowledge and understanding for the Course.

**Grade description for A**

For the award of Grade A, learners will have demonstrated successful performance in all of the Units of the Course. In the Course assessment, learners will typically have demonstrated a consistently high level of performance in relation to the mandatory skills, knowledge and understanding for the Course.

**Credit**

To take account of the extended range of learning and teaching approaches, remediation, consolidation of learning and integration needed for preparation for external assessment, six SCQF credit points are available in Courses at National 5 and Higher, and eight SCQF credit points in Courses at Advanced Higher. These points will be awarded when a grade D or better is achieved.

## Structure and coverage of the Course assessment

The Course assessment will consist of two Components: a question paper and an assignment. The question paper will have three Sections.

### Component 1 — question paper

The purpose of this question paper is to demonstrate application of skills and breadth of knowledge and understanding from across the Course.

This question paper will give learners an opportunity to demonstrate the following skills and knowledge and understanding from the mandatory content of the Course:

In Sections 1 and 3 below, the skills, knowledge and understanding which will be assessed are:

- ◆ using evidence, including archaeological evidence, to explain aspects of the classical world
- ◆ understanding and explaining the usefulness of sources of evidence about the classical world
- ◆ knowledge and understanding from across the Course

In Section 2, the skills, knowledge and understanding which will be assessed are:

- ◆ understanding and explaining universal ideas, themes or values revealed by classical texts
- ◆ comparing classical views of the universal ideas, themes or values with modern views of these.
- ◆ knowledge and understanding from across the Course

The question paper will have 60 marks out of a total of 80 marks. The question paper is therefore worth 75% of the overall marks for the Course assessment.

There is differentiation within each question.

**Section 1**, titled 'Life in Classical Greece' will have 20 marks. This Section will be made up of a combination of questions requiring the candidate to draw on the knowledge, understanding and skills acquired during the Course. Questions in this Section will draw on the knowledge and understanding and skills described in the further mandatory information on Course coverage.

In this Section candidates can be asked to describe an event or aspect of life, explain an event or aspect of life, explain the meaning of a source or sources, evaluate the usefulness of a source or to analyse an issue and come to a conclusion.

**Section 2**, titled 'Classical Literature' will have 20 marks. This Section will be made up of extended response questions requiring the candidate to draw on the skills, knowledge and understanding acquired during the Course. Questions will draw on the knowledge and understanding and skills described in the further mandatory information on Course coverage.

In this section candidates can be asked to describe a theme as exemplified in a classical text, explain how this theme was viewed more widely in the classical world and compare the classical view of the theme with the way it is viewed in the modern world. Explaining the classical view of the theme and comparing it to the modern view can be separate questions or can be a single question which will require the same skills.

There will be two questions which address different themes.

**Section 3**, titled 'Life in the Roman World' will have 20 marks. This Section will be made up of a combination of questions requiring the candidate to draw on the skills, knowledge and understanding acquired during the Course. Questions will draw on the knowledge and understanding and skills described in the further mandatory information on Course coverage.

This Section will have two parts:

Part A — Pompeii

Part B — Roman Britain

Candidates need only answer questions from one part.

In this Section candidates can be asked to describe an event or aspect of life, explain an event or aspect of life explain the meaning of a source or sources, evaluate the usefulness of a source or to analyse an issue and come to a conclusion.

All these skills will be assessed across the 'Life in Classical Greece' and 'Life in the Roman World' Sections.

The question paper Component of the Course assessment will have a greater emphasis on the assessment of knowledge and understanding than the assignment, with approximately 60% of the marks being allocated to knowledge and understanding. The other marks will be awarded for the demonstration of skills.

### **Component 2 — assignment**

The purpose of this assignment is to demonstrate challenge and application by demonstrating skills, knowledge and understanding within the context of a Classical Studies topic or issue.

This assignment will give learners an opportunity to demonstrate the following skills, knowledge and understanding:

- ◆ identifying an appropriate classical studies topic or issue
- ◆ investigating the topic or issue, using a set of sources of evidence
- ◆ analysing information in a structured manner
- ◆ drawing on straightforward, mainly factual, knowledge and understanding to explain and analyse key features of the topic or issue
- ◆ briefly commenting on the usefulness or reliability of at least two sources of information
- ◆ comparing and contrasting the Greek and/or Roman worlds with the modern world, in terms of religious, political, social, moral or cultural life
- ◆ reaching a reasoned conclusion on the topic or issue, with reference to both supporting information and potential challenges or counter-arguments

The assignment will have 20 marks out of a total of 80 marks. The assignment is therefore worth 25% of the overall marks for the Course assessment.

The assignment Component of the Course assessment will have a greater emphasis on the assessment of skills than the question paper, with approximately 60% of the marks being allocated to skills. The other marks will be awarded for the demonstration of knowledge and understanding.

## **Setting, conducting and marking of assessment**

### **Question paper**

This question paper will be set and marked by SQA, and conducted in centres under conditions specified for external examinations by SQA. Learners will complete this in one hour and 30 minutes.

### **Controlled assessment — assignment**

This assignment is:

- ◆ set by centres within SQA guidelines
- ◆ conducted under a high degree of supervision and control

Evidence will be submitted to SQA for external marking.

All marking will be quality assured by SQA.

### **Setting the assessment**

Set by centres within SQA guidelines.

SQA will provide a brief for the generation of evidence to be assessed. Learners will have an open choice of topic or issue to be researched.

### **Conducting the assessment**

The production of evidence for assessment will be conducted under a high degree of supervision and control and:

- ◆ within one hour
- ◆ with the use of specified resources
- ◆ in time to meet a submission date set by SQA
- ◆ independently by the learner
- ◆ when the learner is ready



## **Further mandatory information on Course coverage**

Course assessment will involve sampling the following knowledge and understanding.

### **Component 1: question paper**

Options exist in each Section to allow opportunities for personalisation and choice.

#### **Section 1: Life in Classical Greece**

All learners should be able to demonstrate factual and theoretical knowledge and understanding of life in 5th Century BC Athens, in relation to the following topics:

##### **Polytheism**

- ◆ Athena or Dionysus in Athens
- ◆ relevant buildings,
- ◆ festivals
- ◆ any myth which demonstrates the morality/immorality of the deity.

##### **Democracy and Citizenship**

- ◆ qualification for citizenship
- ◆ citizen rights and responsibilities
- ◆ Athenian family life - the 'kyrios', housing, food, recreation, education, religion
- ◆ the rites of passage: birth, coming of age, marriage and death
- ◆ slavery within the household

#### **Section 2: Classical Literature**

Learners will be required to demonstrate straightforward factual and textual knowledge and understanding of some universal ideas, themes or values in a classical text they have read, which link the classical and modern worlds. These universal ideas, themes or values are:

- ◆ leadership
- ◆ fate versus free will
- ◆ heroism
- ◆ conflict
- ◆ women in society

#### **Section 3: Life in the Roman World**

All learners should be able to demonstrate straightforward factual and theoretical knowledge and understanding of life in the Roman world in the 1st Century BC and 1st Century AD, in relation to one of the following parts:

##### **Part A: Pompeii**

- ◆ The eruption of Vesuvius
- ◆ Religion
- ◆ Leisure and entertainment
- ◆ Making a living in Pompeii

Or

**Part B: Roman Britain**

- ◆ Invasion and native communities
- ◆ Religion
- ◆ Leisure and entertainment
- ◆ Living and working on the Roman frontier

**Component 2: assignment**

Candidates have an open choice of Classical Studies topic or issue. Their choice is not constrained by the mandatory content of Component 1: question paper.

# Administrative information

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**Published:** June 2013 (version 1.1)

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## History of changes to Course Assessment Specification

Course details	Version	Description of change	Authorised by	Date
	1.1	Further information and clarification on scope and structure of each Component given in the 'Structure and coverage of Course assessment' section. 'Further mandatory information' section divided into separate parts for each Component.	Qualifications Development Manager	June 2013

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Note: You are advised to check SQA's website ([www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk)) to ensure you are using the most up-to-date version of the Course Assessment Specification.

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