

Planned changes to Higher Administration and IT from session 2018-19

Units and unit assessments will be removed from the Higher Administration and IT course from session 2018-19 onwards. We are strengthening the course assessment to ensure candidates continue to be assessed on the full content of the course, and to maintain the current course value of 24 SCQF credit points.

In deciding the appropriate changes for the Higher course assessment, we consulted with our National Qualification Support Team (NQST), which includes teachers and lecturers.

Overview of changes to the Higher course assessment

Current course assessment	Revised course assessment
Question paper: 30 marks (30%) Assignment: 70 marks (70%)	Question paper: 50 marks (42%) Assignment: 70 marks (58%)

Changes to question paper

Current question paper	Revised question paper from 2018-19
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 hour • 30 marks (30%) • 2 sections (Section 1 – 10 marks; Section 2 – 20 marks) • Questions in Section 1 and Section 2 sample from the full range of mandatory course content • Questions in Section 1 relate to a case study and include problem solving 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 hour 30 minutes • 50 marks (42%) • 2 sections (Section 1 – 10 marks; Section 2 – 40 marks) • Questions in Section 1 and Section 2 sample from the full range of mandatory course content • Questions in Section 1 relate to a case study and include problem solving

The question paper will be extended by 20 marks to allow more skills, knowledge and understanding to be sampled, following the removal of units from the course. There is no change to Section 1 of the question paper. Section 2 will increase by 20 marks. The duration of the exam will increase by 30 minutes, to 1 hour 30 minutes. The weighting of the question paper will increase from 30% to 42%.

Assignment

Even though there will be no change to the assignment task, the weighting of the assignment will decrease from 70% to 58%.

Documents and assessment support materials

More detail on the requirements for the Higher course assessment will be provided in the revised Higher course specification, which will be published at the end of April 2018. Course support notes will be added to the revised course specification as an appendix by the end of September 2018, to provide additional clarity and guidance.

We will publish a revised specimen question paper to illustrate the requirements of the question paper from session 2018-19 onwards. These materials will be published between the end of May and the end of September 2018.

More information

For more information on changes to assessment in National Qualifications, please visit www.sqa.org.uk/nqchanges

If you have any queries on the above changes, please e-mail mycentre@sqa.org.uk