

National Course modification summary: Geography



National 4, National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher: session 2021–22

National 4

Added value unit

The requirement to complete the added value unit is removed for session 2021–22. To achieve the overall course award for National 4 this session, candidates must pass all other contributing units in the National 4 course. You must submit a 'pass' result for the added value unit to ensure your candidates are certificated for the course award.

You are not required to gather evidence for the added value unit this session; however, it is important you give candidates opportunities to develop and demonstrate the skills, knowledge and understanding outlined in the National 4 added value unit specification, where possible. This will support your candidates as they progress to further learning and assessment at SCQF level 5.

National 5

Component	Marks	Duration
Question paper	70	2 hours and 5 minutes

Question paper

No modifications will be made to the Physical Environments or Human Environments sections of the 2022 question paper. This differs from the 2021 modifications in that two landscape types, as detailed in the course specification, must be covered in the Physical Environments section.

In the Global Issues section, the number of optional questions that candidates need to answer will be reduced from two to one, which is the same as the modification for 2021. This will reduce the number of marks for this section from 20 to 10 marks. This does not affect the structure of this section as all optional questions will be available.

Assignment

This has been removed for session 2021–22.

You should aim to deliver the skills and knowledge associated with the assignment to ensure that candidates are prepared for future progression, however, you are free to decide on timing given that these skills will not be assessed as part of the 2021–22 course assessment.

Higher

Component	Marks	Scaled mark	Duration
Question paper 1: Physical and Human Environments	100	50	1 hour and 50 minutes
Question paper 2: Global Issues and Geographical Skills	40	20	50 minutes

Question paper 1: Physical and Human Environments

No modifications will be made to this question paper. This differs from the 2021 modifications in that the physical features in river, glaciated and coastal landscapes must be covered.

Question paper 2: Global Issues and Geographical Skills

In the Global Issues section, the number of optional questions that candidates need to answer will be reduced from two to one, which is the same as the modifications for 2021. This will reduce the number of marks for this section from 40 to 20 (20 to 10 after scaling). This does not affect the structure of this section as all optional questions will be available.

Assignment

This has been removed for session 2021–22.

You should aim to deliver the skills and knowledge associated with the assignment to ensure that candidates are prepared for future progression, however, you are free to decide on timing given that these skills will not be assessed as part of the 2021–22 course assessment.

Advanced Higher

Component	Marks	Duration
Question paper	50	2 hours and 30 minutes
Project–folio: Geographical Study	60	carried out over time
Project–folio: Geographical Issue	40	carried out over time

Question paper

There will be no modifications to the question paper for session 2021–22. Candidates should be given the opportunity to develop all the geographical techniques stated in the course specification.

Project–folio: Geographical Study

There are no modifications to the Geographical Study for session 2021–22.

Project–folio: Geographical Issue

There are no modifications to the Geographical Issue for session 2021–22.

If you have any questions about these changes, please email qualification.development@sqa.org.uk.