

National Course modification summary: Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies



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	80 marks	2 hours and 20 minutes

Question paper

Some subtopic areas of content are not assessed in the 2022 question paper.

You should deliver the course as normal, however the following areas from the Morality and Belief section are not assessed in the 2022 question paper, and so centres are free to decide timing and depth of delivery, and any internal assessment of these subtopics. All subtopic areas are the same as session 2020–21 apart from Morality and Justice.

Section 2: Morality and Belief:

Part A: Morality and Justice

Causes of crime:

- ◆ poverty
- ◆ environment
- ◆ psychological factors

Part B: Morality and Relationships

Marriage:

- ◆ arranged marriages
- ◆ co-habitation
- ◆ same-sex marriages
- ◆ divorce

Part C: Morality, Environment and Global Issues

Environmental crises:

- ◆ global warming
- ◆ depletion of resources
- ◆ biodiversity

Part D: Morality, Medicine and the Human Body

Use of embryos:

- ◆ reproductive
- ◆ research
- ◆ therapeutic

Part E: Morality and Conflict

Modern armaments:

- ◆ weapons of mass destruction
- ◆ conventional weapons
- ◆ smart weapons

Assignment

There is no requirement to complete this for session 2021–22.

Higher

Component	Marks	Duration
Question paper 1 — World Religion and Morality and Belief	60 marks	2 hours and 15 minutes
Question paper 2 — Religious and Philosophical Questions	20 marks	45 minutes

Question paper

Question paper 1 — World Religion and Morality and Belief

Some subtopic areas of content are not assessed in the 2022 question paper.

You should deliver the course as normal, however the following areas from the Morality and Belief section are not assessed in the 2022 question paper, and so centres are free to decide timing and depth of delivery, and any internal assessment of these subtopics. All subtopic areas are the same as session 2020–21 apart from Morality and Justice.

Section 2: Morality and Belief:

Part A: Morality and Justice

Causes of crime:

- ◆ environmental influences
- ◆ psychological factors

Part B: Morality and Relationships

Marriage:

- ◆ arranged marriage
- ◆ forced marriage
- ◆ same-sex marriage
- ◆ divorce

Part C: Morality, Environment and Global Issues

Environmental issues:

- ◆ climate change
- ◆ depletion of resources
- ◆ biodiversity

Part D: Morality, Medicine and the Human Body

Use of embryos:

- ◆ reproductive
- ◆ therapeutic
- ◆ research

Part E: Morality and Conflict

Modern armaments:

- ◆ weapons of mass destruction
- ◆ conventional weapons
- ◆ smart weapons

Assignment

There is no requirement to complete this for session 2021–22.

Advanced Higher

Component	Marks	Duration
Question paper	90 marks	2 hours
Project: Dissertation	50 marks	Completed over time

Question paper

An additional optional essay question is included in each section of the 2022 question paper.

The following areas of the course are assessed in the source questions:

- ◆ Philosophy of Religion: Teleological argument and responses
- ◆ Religious Experience: Understandings of religious experience
- ◆ Medical Ethics: Beginning of life

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