

EXTERNAL ASSESSMENT SPECIFICATIONS

ECONOMICS (ECN315116)

External Assessment Specifications inform the development of external assessments. The primary audience for this document is the course Setting Examiner and Exam Critics. It may also be of use to teachers and students.

These specifications must be read in conjunction with the Course Document.

The external assessment consists of a **3 hour written examination**

The criteria to be externally assessed are:

Written examination:

- Criterion 1: describe and apply economic terms, concepts, theories and ideas
- Criterion 2: apply economic models and mathematical techniques to analyse economic data and information
- Criterion 3: describe and analyse problems arising from economic issues and events
- Criterion 4: describe and analyse economic solutions and make recommendations for future economic action
- Criterion 5: communicate economic ideas and information

WRITTEN EXAMINATION STRUCTURE

Section	A Economic Knowledge	B Economic Reasoning	C Economic Decision-making Economic policy and action
Criterion/Criteria	C1 – examinable standard elements 1, 2 and 3 C5 – examinable standard elements 1 and 2	C2 – examinable standard elements 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 C5 – examinable standard elements 1 and 2	C3 – examinable standard elements 1, 2, 3 and 4 C4 – examinable standard elements 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 C5 – examinable standard elements 1 and 2
Course Coverage	Units 1 – 3	Units 1 – 3	Units 1 – 3
Number of Questions	9 Candidates will be provided with nine questions – three from each unit of the course. Candidates will respond to SIX questions, two from each unit.	9 Candidates will be provided with nine questions – three from each unit of the course. Candidates will respond to SIX questions, two from each unit.	4 Candidates will respond to TWO questions in total. One question from a choice of two, focusing on Unit 2. The second question from a choice of two, focussing on Unit 3. Note that parts of a question may draw upon other units in this course.
Compulsory/optional [questions/parts of questions]	Compulsory	Compulsory	Answer EITHER Question 19 or 20 and EITHER Question 21 or 22
Question type(s)	Short answer response format	Short answer response format	Short answer response format
Suggested time allocation	45 minutes	45 minutes	90 minutes
Mark	6 marks per question.	6 marks per question.	36 marks per question. Each question will have 6 parts (a-f). Three of the six parts must assess

			Criterion 3 (total of 18 marks) Three of the six parts must assess Criterion 4 (total of 18 marks) Criterion 5 is assessed independently on the candidates responses (two) in Section C.
Information Sheet	There is no External Assessment Information Sheet for this course		

ASSESSMENT

A set of solutions or a marking tool will be developed by the Setting Examiner, provided to markers at the marking meeting that follows the external written examination; and will be available from TASC in the following year.

The external assessment must include items that, separately or together, give opportunities to demonstrate the standards from rating C to rating A.

Final results will be awarded as a rating of A, B, C, t or z in the above criteria. These ratings are used in determining the final award according to the algorithm in the course document.

WRITTEN EXAMINATION CHECKLIST

SECTION A

- Assesses all examinable aspects of Criteria 1 and 5
- Items give opportunities to demonstrate standards from rating C to rating A on each criterion
- Includes a representative sample of course content from Units 1 - 3
- Contains 9 questions – Candidates will respond to SIX questions, two from each unit
- Requires short answer responses (45 minutes)

SECTION B

- Assesses all examinable aspects of Criteria 2 and 5
- Items give opportunities to demonstrate standards from rating C to rating A on each criterion
- Includes a representative sample of course content from Units 1 - 3
- Contains 9 questions – Candidates will respond to SIX questions, two from each unit
- Requires short answer responses (45 minutes)

SECTION C

- Stimulus piece is carefully chosen for relevance to course and edited for clarity of language and brevity
- Assesses all examinable aspects of Criteria 3, 4 and 5
- Each question has a total of 18 marks for Criterion 3
- Each question has a total of 18 marks for Criterion 4
- Each question will assess Criterion 5
- Items give opportunities to demonstrate standards from rating C to rating A on each criterion
- Questions 19 and 20 focus on Unit 2
- Questions 21 and 22 focus on Unit 3
- Questions may draw upon any unit of work when relevant
- Contains 4 questions – Candidates will respond to TWO questions
- Requires short answer responses (90 minutes)