

# EXTERNAL ASSESSMENT SPECIFICATIONS

## MODERN HISTORY (HSM315117)

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:

- Criterion 3: communicate historical ideas and information
- Criterion 4: use evidence to support historical interpretations and arguments
- Criterion 5: assess drivers of social, economic and political change and nature and impact of changes in modern history
- Criterion 6: describe and assess internal and external threats on the history of modern nations
- Criterion 7: describe and assess key concepts of differing historical interpretations on issues affecting the modern world

## WRITTEN EXAMINATION STRUCTURE

Section	A – Modern Western Nations in the 20 <sup>th</sup> Century	B – Modern Asian Nations in the 20 <sup>th</sup> Century	C – The Changing World Order 1945-2010
Criteria	<p>Criterion 3: Elements 1, 2, 3, 5</p> <p>Criterion 4: Elements 1, 2, 5</p> <p>Criterion 5: Elements 3, 4, 5</p>	<p>Criterion 3: Elements 1, 2, 3, 5</p> <p>Criterion 4: Elements 1, 2, 5</p> <p>Criterion 6: Elements 1, 2, 3,4</p>	<p>Criterion 3: Elements 1, 2, 3, 5</p> <p>Criterion 4: Elements 1, 2, 5</p> <p>Criterion 7: Elements 1, 2, 6, 7</p>
Course coverage	Section A	Section B	Section C
Number and nature of items	<p>4</p> <p>(Each with reference to two separate time periods; an early and a later time period in the history of the modern nation)</p> <p>Candidates will answer <b>ONE</b> question. There will be one question on each country.</p> <p>There will be <b>four</b> questions in total.</p> <p>Each question will provide candidates with the option of responding with respect to <b>either</b> an earlier <b>or</b> later period of time specific to the chosen country.</p> <p>For example USA; the earlier period will relate to 1917 – 1933; the later time period will relate to 1933 – 1949.</p> <p>Candidates will select one question to respond to, <b>EITHER</b> the earlier period of time <b>OR</b> the later period of time, <b>NOT BOTH</b>.</p> <p>Candidates will respond to a given question/topic (which may include a</p>	<p>4</p> <p>(Each with reference to two separate time periods; an early and a later time period in the history of the modern nation)</p> <p>Candidates will answer <b>ONE</b> question. There will be one question on each country.</p> <p>There will be <b>four</b> questions in total.</p> <p>Each question will provide candidates with the option of responding with respect to <b>either</b> an earlier <b>or</b> later period of time specific to the chosen country.</p> <p>For example Japan: the earlier period will relate to 1931 – 1941; the later period will relate to 1941 – 1952.</p> <p>Candidates will select <b>one</b> question to respond to, <b>EITHER</b> the earlier period of time <b>OR</b> the later period of time, <b>NOT BOTH</b>.</p> <p>Candidates will respond to a given question/statement (which may include a stimulus) on one or more of the following:</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Candidates will answer <b>ONE</b> question.</p> <p>There will be <b>four</b> questions; <b>one</b> on each topic in Section C. (The Cold War; Australia’s Engagement with Asia; Patterns of Migration; Peace, Conflict and the Nature of Terrorism).</p> <p>Candidates will answer <b>one</b> question only.</p> <p>Each question <b>may</b> use a brief ‘statement’ as a stimulus.</p>

Section	A – Modern Western Nations in the 20 <sup>th</sup> Century	B – Modern Asian Nations in the 20 <sup>th</sup> Century	C – The Changing World Order 1945-2010
	<p>stimulus) on one or more of the following: drivers of social, economic and political change, political systems and ideologies and/or the nature and impact of change on modern history with reference to one country from the list given in Section A of the course document - Modern Western Nations in the 20th Century</p> <p>The countries and chronological eras available to be covered by candidates in this section will be printed on the examination paper.</p>	<p>national responses to internal tensions/issues, external threats/issues, how political systems and ideologies shaped responses to external threats/issues and/or the nature and impact of change on modern history with reference to one country from Section B of the course document - Modern Asian Nations in the 20th Century</p> <p>The countries and chronological eras available to be covered by candidates in this section will be printed on the examination paper.</p>	
Compulsory or optional	Compulsory	Compulsory	Compulsory
Item type(s) / format	Essay response	Essay response	Essay response
Response time	60 minutes	60 minutes	60 minutes
Mark / rating allocation (weighting must be specified)	<p>All criteria are assessed using extended ratings of A+, A, A-, ... B+, B, B- ..., C+, C, C- ... t+, t, t- or z.</p> <p>Please note a C- is a low C (i.e. just meets the standards for a C but is not a t)</p> <p>Algorithm to achieve final rating from Sections A – C will take account of the fact that each section carries equal weight.</p>	<p>All criteria are assessed using extended ratings of A+, A, A-, ... B+, B, B- ..., C+, C, C- ... t+, t, t- or z.</p> <p>Please note a C- is a low C (i.e. just meets the standards for a C but is not a t)</p> <p>Algorithm to achieve final rating from Sections A – C will take account of the fact that each section carries equal weight.</p>	<p>All criteria are assessed using extended ratings of A+, A, A-, ... B+, B, B- ..., C+, C, C- ... t+, t, t- or z.</p> <p>Please note a C- is a low C (i.e. just meets the standards for a C but is not a t)</p> <p>Algorithm to achieve final rating from Sections A – C will take account of the fact that each section carries equal weight.</p>

## ASSESSMENT

A marking tool which clarifies – but does not change – the standards in the Course Document (Standards/Glossary) will be provided for this examination and will be published on the TASC website prior to the commencement of external marking for that year. The marking tools will however include definitions of all ratings A, B, C, and t.

Only the authorised marking tool issued by TASC through their website is to be used in the final external assessment marking.

If there is no marking tool available (i.e. the subject requires a set of solutions) this will be provided to markers at the marking meeting and made publicly available and published with the assessment report early in the following year.

# WRITTEN EXAMINATION CHECKLIST

## SECTION A

- assesses examinable aspects of Criteria
- provides opportunities to demonstrate standards from rating C to rating A
  - provides a list of all elements from C to A that have been included
  - provides a list of all elements from C to A that have not been included in this assessment
- requires reference to an early and later period (reflects chronology of studies in course document i.e. an earlier period and a later period for each country)
- requires discussion based on one or more of drivers of change; political systems and ideologies; nature and impact of change on modern history of nations
- may include a brief stimulus statement
- requires an extended essay response
- comprises four (4) questions (two parts in each).

## SECTION B

- assesses examinable aspects of Criteria
- provides opportunities to demonstrate standards from rating C to rating A
  - provides a list of all elements from C to A that have been included
  - provides a list of all elements from C to A that have not been included in this assessment
- requires reference to an early period and a later period (reflects chronology of studies in course document i.e. an earlier period and a later period for each country)
- requires discussion based on one or more of internal/external threats; how political systems shaped responses; nature and impact of change on modern history of nations
- may include a brief stimulus statement
- requires an analytical essay response
- comprises four (4) questions (two parts in each).

## SECTION C

- assesses examinable aspects of Criteria
- provides opportunities to demonstrate standards from rating C to rating A
  - provides a list of all elements from C to A that have been included
  - provides a list of all elements from C to A that have not been included in this assessment
- requires discussion based on one of each of the four Section C topics
- requires an analytical essay response
- may include a stimulus statement/question; if used, each of the four statement/stimulus questions is unique and will be addressed through each topic listed in Section C of the course document
- comprises four (4) questions.