

Summary of Agriculture HSC examination specifications and assessment requirements from 2010

In December 2008, the Board of Studies approved changes to the examination specifications and assessment requirements for a number of courses. These changes will be implemented for the 2010 HSC cohort. Details of the Board's decisions are available on the Board's website at <http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/>

The Board decided to schedule a project of amendments to the Agriculture Stage 6 syllabus and to implement the proposed changes to the Agriculture HSC examinations and assessment requirements for the 2011 HSC cohort. The original proposals for Agriculture are available at: http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/syllabus_hsc/exam-proposals/agriculture.pdf

The HSC examination specifications and assessment requirements for Agriculture in 2010 are outlined below.

Outline of HSC examination specifications

Paper 1 (70 marks)

A written examination of two hours plus 5 minutes reading time.

Section/Part	Marks
<i>Section I</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Short-answer questions	25
<i>Section II</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Short-answer questions	30
<i>Section III</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There will be four structured extended response questions• Students answer one question, with an expected length of response of around four examination writing booklet pages (approximately 600 words).	15
	70

EITHER

Paper 2 (30 marks)

A written examination of one hour plus 5 minutes reading time.

Section/Part	Marks
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There will be six structured extended response questions, one based on each of the electives• Students answer two questions, on the electives they have studied, each with an expected length of response of around four examination writing booklet pages (approximately 600 words) in total.	30
	30

OR

Research Project (30 marks)

Changes from current examination specifications

The expected length for the extended responses is included as a guide. It is presented as the approximate number of examination writing booklet pages (based on average-sized handwriting), and/or an approximate number of words. Students will not be penalised for responses of excess length: they may write less than or more than what is expected, and their responses will be marked on their merits.

Outline of internal assessment requirements

There will be three to five assessment tasks. There are no changes to the components and weightings in 2010.