Summary of Community and Family Studies 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 HSC examination specifications and assessment requirements for Community and Family Studies are outlined below.

Outline of HSC examination specifications

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

Section/Part	**Marks**
Section I Part A • Objective response questions Part B • Short-answer questions	 20 55
Section II • There are three options. Students answer the questions on the option that they have studied. • There are two questions on each option. • The first question is worth 10 marks and contains parts. • The second question is an extended response question worth 15 marks, with an expected length of response of around four examination writing booklet pages (approximately 600 words).	25
	100

Changes from current examination specifications

In Section I, the mark value of the objective response items is increased from 10 marks to 20 marks. All questions in Part B will now be short-answer, rather than a combination of short-answer and extended response.

In Section II, 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 comprising the following components and weightings.

Component	**Weighting**
Knowledge and understanding of how the following impact on wellbeing: resource management, positive relationships, range of societal factors and nature of groups, families and communities	40
Skills in: applying management processes to meet the needs of individuals, groups, families and communities, and planning to take responsible action to promote wellbeing	25
Knowledge and understanding about research methodology and skills in researching, critical thinking, analysing and communicating	35
	100