

STUDIES OF RELIGION 3 (CODE)

External Assessment Specifications inform the development of external assessments. The primary audience for the written examination specification is the course Setting Examiner and Exam Critics. It may also be of use to teachers and students. The primary audience for the Folio, Oral or Practical guidelines is teachers and students. These documents also inform the external assessment structure in TASC's reporting, assessment and certification system, TRACS.

The external assessment specifications are to be read in conjunction with the course document and will not repeat essential information found in other documents.

The external assessment for this course consists of 1 component:

- **A Folio consisting of:**
 - an extended response
 - a depth study

The Criteria to be externally assessed are:

Folio:

- Criterion 1: select and apply communication skills and strategies
- Criterion 3: explain and justify different perspectives and points of view
- Criterion 6: explain how religious traditions guide adherents to live their life
- Criterion 7: analyse implications of beliefs, values and practices
- Criterion 8: develop and critique own and others points of view

FOLIO STRUCTURE

Folio Components	Extended response	Depth study
Criterion/Criteria	Criterion 1 Criterion 6 Criterion 7	Criterion 1 Criterion 3 Criterion 8
Examinable Elements	Criterion 1: Elements 2, 3, 4 Criterion 6: All elements Criterion 7: All elements	Criterion 1: Elements 1, 2, 3, 4 Criterion 3: All elements Criterion 8: All elements
Course coverage	Modules 1 and 2	Modules 1, 2 and 3
Prescribed texts coverage	n/a	n/a
Response format	Extended writing word processed product	Component 2 will be an extended written response, other components may be written or multi-modal. All written responses will be word processed.
Number and nature of components	Three (3) components 1. Extended response from the Module 2 work requirement 2. A narrative response to feedback on the Module 2 work requirement 3. Bibliography and reference list	Five (5) components 1. A study design 2. The study 3. Discussion of evidence 4. Bibliography and reference list 5. Reflection and evaluation
Compulsory or optional	All components are compulsory	
Total time allocation		Approximately 25 hours
Total word count	2000 – 2400	2400 – 4000

Mark / Rating allocation	<p>Extended ratings of:</p> <p>A+, A, A...B+, B, B...C+, C, C...t+, t, t- or z for each Criterion for each Criterion 1, 6 and 7</p>	<p>Extended ratings of:</p> <p>A+, A, A...B+, B, B...C+, C, C...t+, t, t- or z for each for each Criterion 1, 3 and 8</p>
Mark / Allocation reasoning	<p>Alpha marking is appropriate for the qualitative nature of the folio.</p>	

FOLIO GUIDELINES

These guidelines provide comprehensive details for students, teachers and markers about what component/s form the external assessment for this course.

The [TASC Frequently Asked Questions – Externally Assessed Folios](#) provides general information for all students and teachers about externally assessed folios, including a *how-to guide* for submitting folios and a link to the [TASC Academic Integrity Guide](#).

The course Assessment Report available under the *Supporting Documents* section of the [<CODE> course page](#) addresses issues, strengths and weaknesses about the previous year's assessment of the folio and should be read in conjunction with the guidelines.

Markers will use marking guidelines to mark the Folio. TASC would strongly encourage teachers to use the marking guidelines to assess the projects internally.

The final Folio must be electronically submitted by the student to their teacher for external assessment by the *due to teacher date* published on the [TASC website](#) each year.

The teacher cannot extend the published *due to teacher date*, however they may set an earlier deadline for the purpose of internal assessment.

ADVICE TO STUDENTS

You are required to submit a Folio of your work consisting of:

1. Extended Response
2. A Depth Study TASC will assess the Folio to determine the course external assessment rating for Criteria 1, 3, 6, 7 and 8. If you do not submit a Folio you cannot achieve more than a Preliminary Achievement (PA) for this course.

You must submit a cover sheet for the Folio that includes a declaration that the Folio is your own work other than where cited, was submitted on time and does not exceed the word limits.

Extended Response

The extended response consists of:

- A refined copy of the extended response work requirement from Module 2, (1800 – 2100 words) and
- A narrative response explaining how you have refined the extended response following assessment, feedback and further learning on the Module 2 work requirement (200 – 300 words or equivalent).

Extended response Either A or B from the Module 2 work requirement, according to the advice provided in the work requirement specifications:

Extended Response A will include:

- a brief outline of the ethical issue chosen by the learner including key questions and significant perspectives on the issue
- a presentation of the position the tradition does or would take on the issue, including variation or evolution within the tradition's position(s)
- an analysis of the assumptions and reasoning underlying at least one position taken along with the real or potential implications of the position
- a discussion of variance of opinion within the tradition or contrast with an alternative religious or non-religious position on the issue
- a reference list
- you may take and justify a position on the issue.

Extended Response B will include:

- an outline of the problem of suffering
- a presentation of the problem of suffering from the point of view of the tradition
- an analysis of the assumptions and reasoning underpinning this point of view on the 'problem of suffering'
- a discussion of variance within the tradition regarding the problem of suffering (if relevant)
- an analysis of the implications of this view of the problem of suffering including variance or evolution within the tradition or contrast with an alternative religious or non-religious view
- a reference list
- the learner may include a supported personal response to the problem of suffering.

The extended response will be a written response of 1 800 – 2 100 words.

A **narrative explanation** of the refinements you have made to the extended response following assessment, feedback and further learning.

The narrative explanation may be a written response of 200 – 300 words or an equivalent audio, visual or multimodal response.

Depth Study

The depth study as outlined in Module 3 in the course, **must** include the following:

- a study design, including:
 - a narrative outline of the choice of topic and plan for the study (250 – 400 words or equivalent)
 - a list of resources
 - an annotated schedule
 - a narrative account of how and why the schedule and/or plans were amended or adjusted (150 – 450 words or equivalent)
- the study – an extended written response to each dot-point in the key knowledge for the depth study outlined in the Module 3 content (1 500 – 2 250 words)

- a discussion of the evidence and use of evidence (200 – 400 words or equivalent)
- a reference list
- reflection and evaluation (400 – 600 words or equivalent).

The depth study will total between 2400 – 4000 words or equivalent in multi-modal, visual or a pre-recorded oral presentation.

The 'study' component of the individual depth study will be an extended written response. The other components may be multimodal.

Declaration Form

Students must complete and submit the Student Folio Declaration available on the TASC website for teachers before the folio is submitted. Teachers will hold the declaration and will be asked to provide to TASC if required.

The folio must be submitted via TRACS. All components of the of the folio will submitted as one complete document.

Folio length and word count

Total length between 4400 and 6400 words.

- Extended response between 1800 – 2100 words – word processed
- Depth study between 1500 – 2250 words in component 2 must be written responses.

Presentation of Folio

The Folio must be submitted electronically to your teacher. See the document "How To Submit Your Folio" on the TASC website.

When presenting your Folio, the following points must be noted:

3. You are expected to provide a reworked, and polished, word-processed product. Your teacher is required to see all versions of your work, so it is essential to 'Save as' each time you produce a new draft of your work. The best way to protect yourself from technological failure is to make a hard copy of each draft. No allowances can be made for technological failures including software and hardware malfunctions.
4. Proofreading and editing are an essential part of the process. Careful attention needs to be given to correct spelling of all proper nouns, including titles, etc.
5. Your Folio must use 1.5 spacing only. This makes it easier for examiners to read your work on the electronic devices. Use a clear size 12 font such as Palatino, Baskerville, Calibri, Helvetica or Gill Sans MT.
6. Your candidate number should appear on every page of the Folio as a header.
7. Every page must be paginated.
8. Borders, decorations and "project" style covers do not add to the textual integrity of the Folio and must not be used. Cover pages for each different component of the Folio must not be used.
9. Do not include your name, the name of your teacher or your school/college in any part.

Referencing

- You must consistently use a single referencing system in all components of your folio.
- Refer to [Academic Integrity information](#) on the TASC website for information about referencing styles, frequently asked questions, and tips and hints for correct referencing.
- A detailed list of the Works Cited must be shown in the Bibliography.

ADVICE TO TEACHERS

For each of your students you are required to:

- see all work as it progresses
- make sure the presentation and content requirements for the folio and the penalties for not meeting them are well known.

It is essential that:

- providers take a range of measures to ensure academic integrity
- aspects of the process of development of the Folio take place in school time
- the supervising teacher regularly monitors work completed away from school. The response must be entirely original and must be completed without undue assistance from another person.

ADVICE TO MARKERS

The Criteria to be assessed through the marking of the Folio are:

Extended response

- Criterion 1: select and apply communication skills and strategies
- Criterion 3: explain and justify different perspectives and points of view
- Criterion 6: explain how religious traditions guide adherents to live their life
- Criterion 7: analyse implications of beliefs, values and practices
- Criterion 8: develop and critique own and others points of view

Prior to the commencement of marking, markers will be required to meet with the Marking Co-ordinator. This meeting will include training in the use of both the marking guide and the course criterion elements and standards-when determining ratings.

PENALTIES

- TASC takes the issue of academic integrity very seriously. If it is found that you breached the external assessment rules, and have not maintained academic integrity when submitting your work for assessment a penalty may be applied.
- Learners will verify that they have not exceeded the maximum word count in any section. No penalties are required for failing to meet minimum word counts.