

Reporting requirements for Year 12 WACE courses being examined in 2008

- Applied Information Technology (AIT)
- Aviation (AVN)
- Earth and Environmental Science (EES)
- Engineering Studies (EST)
- English (ENG)
- English as an Additional Language/Dialect (ELD)
- Media Production and Analysis (MPA)
- Physical Education Studies (PES)

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In 2008, schools teaching these WACE courses will be required to report to the Curriculum Council a grade for each unit completed.

The grade will be determined by the school using the grade descriptors, as outlined in the Using the Grade Descriptors assessment advice paper.

In addition, for students intending to sit the WACE examination, a mark out of 100 will be required for each unit. The mark out of 100 for each student who sits a WACE course examination will be averaged over the two units studied and will be used as the school assessment in the statistical moderation process, together with the examination mark.

For this reason, the marks from each unit reported by the school must be placed on the same numerical scale. This means that a mark of, say, 63 indicates the same level of achievement whether it applies to a stage 3 or stage 2 unit.

While many schools have already put procedures in place to ensure that the marks are on the same scale, the Council has received requests from schools for advice and assistance.

Such procedures could include:

1. Using a common assessment program
The use of a common assessment program for all stage 2 and stage 3 students, with appropriate controls, automatically produces a set of marks on the same scale regardless of stage.
2. Using some common assessments and marking keys in the overall assessment program

Another way to achieve the common scale is to include common assessments and marking keys over the different stages of the course. The common assessments are used to moderate the non-common section of the assessment program.

The common assessments would typically include the final examination and a selection of common assessment types specified for the course. Common marking keys and cross-marking or double-marking of common assessments are recommended.

If a school does not wish to use either of the approaches outlined above, or their own process, and has more than 10 students in each stage sitting the WACE examination

(i.e. the school is not involved in small group moderation), the Council has set up the following process to establish within school comparability.

1. For each stage unit pair (2A/2B and 3A/3B) a separate assessment program is required.
2. Schools are required to submit separate marks to the Council for these units (2A, 2B and 3A, 3B) on the understanding that the 2A and 2B marks out of 100 will be on one scale and the 3A and 3B marks out of 100 will be on a different scale.
3. The Curriculum Council will then statistically moderate these marks using the WACE exam marks to place them on the same scale, providing comparability within the school.
4. Between school comparability processes will then be applied.

The Curriculum Council will work with these schools to ensure the results collection and processing occurs smoothly at the end of the year.

Schools will be contacted early in Term 1 to determine which procedure they will be using to report their results.

The Council will provide schools with more detailed documentation about how to achieve the outcomes required in procedure 2. For more support information regarding any of the above methods should contact the moderator responsible for the particular course.