

Unit 1 Examinations FAQ

What are the Examinations for Unit 1?

Unit 1 has two separate examinations that must be passed in order to complete the Unit. One is a closed-book case-study examination; the other is an independent research paper known as a Course Work Assignment (CWA). Each examination is weighted as 50% of your overall Unit 1 grade.

What is a Coursework Assignment?

The CWA is an independent research paper of between 2,500 and 3,000 words. Two assignment titles (and the questions to be answered) are posted on the Wine and Spirit Education Trust web site www.wsetglobal.com in May of each year. One of the titles applies to the April submission date, the other to the November submission date.

Each assignment will have a particular ‘business’ element as part of the brief. You select which question works best for you based on the content of the question and the timing for your studies. You are not required to answer the first question available, but you should aim to complete the assignment within the three-year registration period.

Further information about the Coursework Assignment can be found in the Candidate Assessment Guide

Where can I find the Course Work Assignment Titles?

Titles are posted on the WSET website (westglobal.com) under the Qualification: Diploma: Coursework Assignments subheadings.

Will I be receiving additional guidance on how to write each coursework assignment?

Yes, each Unit 1 coursework assignment title will be accompanied by an assignment brief detailing what is required and how the weighting of marks will be allocated. The Candidate Assessment Guide offers detailed information on preparing your papers.

When can I submit my coursework assignment?

You must first sit for the Unit 2 examination, which is the gateway exam for the Diploma. Once you've taken the Unit 2 exam, you are eligible to submit your Coursework Assignment on the next available date. However, you need not complete the assignment immediately after taking the Unit 2 exam.

Assignments may only be submitted twice per year: once in April, once in November, on dates set by the WSET. Students **MUST** submit the assignment title assigned to each specific date. **THESE TITLES ARE NOT INTERCHANGEABLE.**

Where can I hand in my Course Work Assignment?

IWC students will submit their papers (in hardcopy) to our New York office by the posted deadline.

Do I have to inform International Wine Center when I want to hand in a Course Work Assignment?

Absolutely, it is imperative that you inform us which paper you plan to submit. No student is automatically assigned to a Course Work Assignment Title. You must register with IWC by the deadline in order to submit a paper. The deadline is approximately 2 weeks prior to the due date of the assignment. Specific registration deadlines will be provided when the submission dates grow nearer. If you fail to register, your assignment will not be valid for submission.

If I submit an assignment and receive a fail grade, can I resubmit the same title at the next submission date?

No

What happens if I register to submit an assignment on one of the published dates, but do not actually submit the work in time?

You forfeit your examination fee and must re-register for the next available submission date and pay an additional examination fee.

What happens if I accidentally submit the April title in November?

Your assignment will be returned to you ungraded. You will forfeit your examination fee and will have to re-register and resubmit a new paper

When can I expect to get the results for my Unit 1 assessment?

These are issued to your Approved Program Provider approximately 12 weeks after receipt of the scripts by WSET Awards.

Unit 1 Case Study Exam

What is a Case-Study Examination?

The case study examination is a closed-book examination based on a particular business situation (case). You will answer questions based on your research of the case topic. The text of the case (the brief) will be made available to students 1 month prior to the exam, but after registration, i.e., you will register for the exam first without knowing the topic or the questions (the opposite of the CWA). You are expected to research the case and be prepared to answer the exam questions

How much time do I have to answer the questions on the case-study exam?

You will have 75 minutes to answer the questions posed about the case study.

Where can I find the Case Study Brief for the examination?

The Case Study Brief will be posted on the WSET website (<http://www.wsetglobal.com>) four weeks prior to the exam date.

Can I see a sample of a Case Study Exam?

Yes, you may download an example Case Study from our Study Aids page at:

http://www.internationalwinecenter.com/10_studyaids.asp

How often is the Case Study Exam given?

Case study exams are given 3 times per year (March, June and November). Details, dates, and deadlines are provided in advance and can be found on the IWC website.