

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 and the other is an independent research paper referred to as a Coursework Assignment. Each examination is weighted as 50% of your overall Unit 1 grade.

I What is a Coursework Assignment?

The Coursework Assignments (CWA) is one of two requirements for Diploma Unit 1: The Global Business of Alcoholic Beverages. The assignment is an independent research paper between 2,500 and 3,000 words. The assignment title (the questions to be answered) is posted on the Wine and Spirit Education Trust web site www.wsetglobal.com twice per year and will be valid for submission dates in November and April. Each assignment will have a particular 'business' issue 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, however, 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 question for the Coursework Assignment?

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

Will we 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. Too, 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 have sat for the Unit 2 exam you may submit your Coursework Assignment on the next available date, however, you need not complete the assignment immediately after taking the Unit 2 exam. Assignments can only be submitted on two dates which are set by WSET Awards. These are in November and April. However, you must register with International Wine Center two weeks in advance of this date. Students MUST submit the assignment title assigned to each specific date. THESE TITLES ARE NOT INTERCHANGEABLE.

Where can I hand my coursework assignment in?

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

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

Absolutely, it is imperative that you inform us which deadline you are planning to submit for. This is important, as we will need to register you with WSET Awards 2 weeks before the actual submission date. If you fail to do so your assignment may 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 coursework 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 for the April submission date.

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.

II. What is a Case-Study Examination?

The case study examination is a closed-book examination and will be given three times per year in March, June and November. It will be based on a particular business situation (case) and questions will be asked about the case itself. The text of the case will be made available to students prior to the exam (after registration – that is you will register for the exam and then receive the case) but not the questions. You will be expected to research the case and be prepared to answer questions in a timed environment without recourse to notes.

How much time will 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 for the examination?

The Case Study will be posted on the WSET website (west.co.uk) four weeks prior to the case-study written examination but after you have registered – that is committed – to take the examination.

You may download an example Case Study from our Study Aids page at:

<http://www.internationalwinecenter.com/diploma/studyaids.asp>

Umm, will the Case always be about British Supermarkets?

Don't be silly; the posted example was used by the WSET when they were piloting the program in London. The actual cases will either be generic or specific to the US market.