

Frequently Asked Questions

H189/H389/H589/H789 AS/A Level Travel and Tourism GCE

Will OCR make past papers available?

Yes. In response to centre demand, OCR publishes past papers for this qualification on the OCR website. These are free of charge.

Question papers from the most recent examination series are available to download from OCR Interchange, our free, secure website for centres. Further details are available from OCR Interchange.

Is a coursework consultancy service available for this qualification?

Yes. The coursework consultancy service is free and is designed to:

- Confirm centre assessment standards as indicated by the teacher.
- Provide guidance to the centre on possible improvements.
- Clarify the application of assessment criteria and provide guidance related to assessment as appropriate.

Centres will receive a written report from a senior moderator, sent with the return of submitted work.

Samples of work for coursework consultancy should be sent to:

Coursework Consultancy Administration Services
OCR
Progress House
Westwood Way
Coventry
CV4 8JQ

I am new to teaching GCE Travel and Tourism. What support, training and other resources are available to help me improve my teaching?

OCR provides the following to support you in teaching this qualification:

- Coursework consultancy service – our free service to assist centres with assessment of coursework.
- Specimen assessment material, past papers and mark schemes.
- Teacher support guide, including evidence checklists and exemplar materials.
- Chief Examiner reports on the units from the January and June series.

- E-community – a virtual network for teachers delivering GCE Travel and Tourism to share their knowledge, views and ideas. Subscribe to the e-community mailing list at <http://community.ocr.org.uk/community/leisureandtourism/home>.
- Inset training courses. Bespoke courses are also available – further details can be obtained from OCR Training.

You might also like to consider becoming an OCR Assessor. This gives you the opportunity to increase your professional development, boost your income and make a valuable contribution to assessment. We are particularly interested in receiving applications for Unit G720 – Introducing travel and tourism.

When can candidates sit the externally-assessed units?

The units can be taken in the January and June assessment series.

What skills are developed through the study and assessment of this qualification?

Candidates need to demonstrate the following skills: problem-solving, research, evaluation, analysis, critical understanding and independent/team working.

What are the key benefits for learners undertaking GCE Travel and Tourism?

- Developing practical and technical skills relevant to the travel and tourism industry.
- Pursuing a qualification which covers the key areas of the travel and tourism industry in a vocational context.
- Developing own values and attitudes in relation to travel and tourism issues.
- Participating in visits to travel and tourism organisations and destinations.

How is this qualification assessed?

- AS GCE: **two** units are assessed internally, through a teacher-assessed portfolio and **one** unit is assessed through an OCR-set and marked exam. All units are equally sized and weighted.
- AS GCE (Double Award) and Advanced GCE: **four** units are assessed internally, through a teacher-assessed portfolio and **two** units are assessed through an OCR-set and marked exam. All units are equally sized and weighted.
- Advanced GCE (Double Award): **eight** units are assessed internally, through a teacher-assessed portfolio and **four** units are assessed through an OCR-set and marked exam. All units are equally sized and weighted.

What textbooks/resources can you recommend?

Columbus Travel Publishing (www.worldtravelguide.net)

World City Guide

World Travel Guide

Heinemann (www.heinemann.co.uk/Secondary/Vocational/TravelandTourism/)
AS Travel and Tourism for OCR
A2 Travel and Tourism for OCR

Philip Allan Updates (www.philipallan.co.uk)
AS Travel and Tourism (Stephen Rickerby)
A2 Travel and Tourism (Stephen Rickerby)

Elm publications (www.elm-training.co.uk)
Travel and Tourism (Patrick Lavery) September 2005
Tourism, Tourists and Society (Richard Sharpley) January 2008
From Tourist Attractions to Heritage Tourism (Pat Yale) October 2004

When will the revised specification be available?

The revised specification will be available for first teaching from September 2009. The revised specification and associated SAMS are available to download from OCR's web-site http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/ASA_LevelGCEForFirstTeachingIn2009/app_trav_tour/index.html

What are the main changes to the revised specification?

Summary of changes to moderated units:

Updated websites across all units as necessary or deleted if no longer accessible in some cases.

Each piece of legislation within the units is now followed by ('or latest') to ensure that Centres are following the most up-to-date legislation.

G721 - Customer Service – AO1 mark bands 2 and 3, 'comparison' changed to 'summary'

G721 - Customer Service - AO3 removed 'research'

G721 – Customer Service - re-worded AO4

G729 - Event Management – deleted reference to other units in the spec in the URS and deleted the word 'complex' in MB2 and 3.

G735 HR – candidates have always asked to have a mock interview for a different job role for AO4 to the one they studied in AO2. This is now made this clearer in the 'what candidates need to do' section at the top of the grid

Updated Unit Recording Sheets will be available from autumn 2009 to reflect changes in the revised specification.

Summary of changes to examined units:

- length of the exam for G720 changes from 1.5 to 2 hours
- introduction of quality of written communication for one question within each paper
- marking level descriptors have been reworded.

For a closer review of changes to examined units please consider SAMs for further guidance:

http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/ASA_LevelGCEForFirstTeachingIn2009/app_trav_tour/documents.html

How does this qualification fit with the Travel and Tourism Diploma?

This qualification can be used in Diploma Additional and Specialist Learning (ASL). Qualifications with the same barring classification code cannot be used to count towards the required number of ASL guided learning hours. Further information is available from the National Database of Accredited Qualifications (hyperlink address: www.accreditedqualifications.org.uk)

I need help with how to interpret the requirements of a unit. What do I do?

Please email the OCR Customer Contact Centre on general.qualifications@ocr.org.uk. Your email will be forwarded to a subject specialist who will be able to answer your queries.