

# EXTERNAL ASSESSMENT SPECIFICATIONS

## STUDENT DIRECTED INQUIRY (SDI315117)

These guidelines provide students, teachers and markers with details about what students have to do for the folio that forms the external assessment for this course.

This document does not repeat essential information found in other documents and must be read in the context of the course document (<https://www.tasc.tas.gov.au/students/courses/mixed-field/sdi315117/>).

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, located on the TASC website, addresses issues, strengths and weaknesses about the assessment of the previous year's folios and should be read in conjunction with the guidelines.

The timetable for the Inquiry Presentation assessment for Student Directed Inquiry is set annually and is published on the TASC website.

### FOLIO

The external assessment for *STUDENT DIRECTED INQUIRY SDI1315117* consists of:

- An Inquiry Folio
- An Inquiry Presentation

Students are required to complete and submit to their teacher, an individual folio submitted as a PDF and may also include MP4 files. The structure of the folio must follow the format provided in these guidelines.

The Inquiry Folio and Inquiry Presentation will form the basis of the evidence that will be assessed externally by TASC in determining student ratings on assessment Criteria 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, and 8.

If you do not submit a Folio you will be unable to participate in the Inquiry Presentation. The best award you can achieve if a Folio is not submitted is a Preliminary Achievement (PA) in this course.

Due dates for folio submission are available from the [TASC website](#).

The criteria to be externally assessed are:

Criterion 1: *apply self-directed, transdisciplinary inquiry skills*

Criterion 3: *determine research methodologies and utilise appropriate tools and methods*

Criterion 4: *apply ethical understanding throughout all phases of the inquiry*

Criterion 6: *apply creative and critical thinking to analyse and synthesise reasoning and procedures*

Criterion 7: *apply metacognition to reflect on processes and transfer knowledge into new contexts*

Criterion 8: *communicate in a range of modes and contexts*

# INQUIRY FOLIO – GENERAL INFORMATION

Students are required to complete and submit an Inquiry Folio. The structure of the folio must follow the format provided in these guidelines. The folio must include the following in this order:

1. Executive Summary (must be between 300 and 500 words)
2. Inquiry Proposal (minimum 1000 words)
3. Inquiry Product/s (minimum 2500 words)

Note: There is a maximum word count for the Inquiry of 15 000 (fifteen thousand) words. When considered in the order above, anything over 15 000 words will not be assessed.

It must also include

- any digital / multimodal Inquiry Presentation to be utilised as part of the Inquiry Presentation
- Images of props or resources to be utilised during the Inquiry Presentation

The 15 000 word limit does not include:

- Title page
- Table of contents
- Acknowledgements
- Footnotes/in-text references
- Additional material such as charts, tables, graphs, diagrams and mathematical expressions
- Bibliography or reference list using a recognised reference style
- Appendices
- Communication Log
- Digital / multimodal Inquiry Presentation

Appendices may be used to provide background information, such as questions asked in a survey. **Appendices are not to be used as a means of expanding or developing the material covered in the body of the written product.**

Any props being used during the presentation must be provided in photographic format and submitted as part of the folio. Any digital or multimodal presentation to be presented at the Inquiry Presentation must be submitted as part of the Folio. It must be referenced that they will be used as part of the Inquiry Presentation. This cannot be edited or updated once submitted.

No physical products will be accepted for external assessment. Any physical products submitted will be returned to your school and not assessed. These may be provided on the day of the Inquiry Presentation – and must be submitted in digital format as part of the Folio.

## INQUIRY FOLIO - ADVICE TO STUDENTS

Your folio must be submitted as a PDF and may also include MP4 files.

You must save a copy of your work onto the school server when submitting your folio.

Teachers and students need to work together to ensure that the files submitted **MUST** be no larger than 100 megabytes.

This means

- Considered use of graphical elements
- Appropriately optimised images (Including cover pages and the backgrounds of pages)

**Your work must be identified by your TASC candidate number ONLY.** There is to be no other identification system / code such as a student ID etc.

**Your name, the name of your school or teacher must NOT appear anywhere in your folio.**

The Inquiry Folio will be assessed against the following Criteria and elements

	Criteria					
Component	1	3	4	6	7	8
Executive summary	Elements 1, 5, 7	Elements 2, 3, 6		Elements 2 - 4		Elements 1, 5, 6
Inquiry Proposal	Elements 1, 2, 7	Elements 1, 2, 3				Elements 1, 5, 6
Inquiry Product	Elements 3 - 6	Elements 1 - 6	Elements 1 - 6	Elements 1 - 5	Elements 2, 3	Elements 1 - 6

## INQUIRY PRESENTATION – GENERAL INFORMATION

The Inquiry Presentation will be assessed against Criteria 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 and 8.

The Inquiry Presentation requires students to present:

- summary of Inquiry question and findings (including the main sections of the final report)
- how the inquiry question was developed
- problems that may have arisen and how they were overcome
- research methodologies. Primary and secondary research, methods and tools
- project and time management
- new learnings from the inquiry
- new learnings about themselves from undertaking the inquiry process

## INQUIRY PRESENTATION - ADVICE TO STUDENTS

Your project folio must be submitted in **digital format** using a USB.

The time / date of the examination sessions are set annually by TASC.

The TASC External Assessment Rule applies to this external assessment. Details of the rule are published on the TASC website <https://www.tasc.tas.gov.au/students/exams/rules/>

**No new evidence can be provided on the day of the Inquiry presentation.** This means any props being used during the presentation must be provided in photographic format and submitted as part of the folio. Any digital or multimodal presentation to be presented at the Inquiry Presentation must be submitted as part of the Folio. It must be referenced that they will be used as part of the Inquiry Presentation. This cannot be edited or updated once submitted.

### TIME ALLOCATION:

Students will be allocated a maximum of 30 minutes to present their Inquiry Presentation with an extra 10 minutes for questions from the panel. Note: If a student finishes their presentation in less than the allocated 30 minutes they will still have a maximum of 10 minutes of question time.

Because examiners work to a tight schedule you are required to ensure presentation time does not exceed the specified presentation time.

It is your responsibility to ensure your digital presentation will work with the equipment provided (to be confirmed by TASC at a later date). If the presentation does not work with the available technology you will not be provided with another opportunity to present at a later time.

All Inquiry Presentations will be assessed by a regional panel.

Audiences will not be allowed in the assessment room during the oral presentation. Students may use multimodal or presentation software and or props (e.g.: equipment, costumes, models or simulations). These

must be photographed, referenced and submitted in the folio indicating that they will be used in the Inquiry Presentation

Speaker notes are permitted.

If unwell on the day of the presentation follow the normal medical procedure for external assessment.

<https://www.tasc.tas.gov.au/students/exams/illness-emergency/>

The Inquiry Presentation will be assessed against the following Criteria and elements

	Criteria					
Component	1	3	4	6	7	8
Inquiry Presentation	Elements 5 - 8	Elements 1 - 6	Elements 1, 2, 5, 6	Elements 1 - 5	Elements 1, 2, 5, 6	Elements 1 - 6

## ADVICE TO TEACHERS

You must approve the Inquiry Question and the Inquiry Proposal.

You must consult with your students regularly during all phases of the Inquiry.

The Inquiry will be marked by a panel of examiners (that includes a Marking Coordinator) at a regional location.

In choosing what to share in the presentation students are to look closely at externally assessable criterion standards so students have the opportunity to demonstrate specific skills to their best advantage.

An examining panel will be convened by TASC to assess the Folio and Inquiry Presentations. Teachers cannot observe or participate in the Inquiry Presentation.

## INFORMATION TO MARKERS

The Inquiry Folio and Inquiry Presentation will be assessed against:

Criterion 1: *apply self-directed, transdisciplinary inquiry skills*

Criterion 3: *determine research methodologies and utilise appropriate tools and methods*

Criterion 4: *apply ethical understanding throughout all phases of the inquiry*

Criterion 6: *apply creative and critical thinking to analyse and synthesise reasoning and procedures*

Criterion 7: *apply metacognition to reflect on processes and transfer knowledge into new contexts*

Criterion 8: *communicate in a range of modes and contexts*