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What's the NEBOSH new changes in syllabus?

NEBOSH has reviewed the syllabus in line with the normal qualification development cycle. The syllabus content, following extensive research, has been updated to provide learners with the knowledge, skills and understanding required in the modern workplace.

The syllabus was developed following wide consultation with key stakeholders, including Learning Partners, employers, Trade Unions, standard setting organisations, past and present learners.

When was the new changes made?

The syllabus was launched 30 September 2019 and was assessed by learners from 11 November 2019. This new syllabus will replace the previous version (November 2014 specification).

What are the differences between the November 2014 and October 2018 specifications?

The biggest changes to the specifications are:

- New style syllabus guides have been designed specifically for the learner;
- The syllabus wording is easier to understand, more direct and less formal;
- There has been a separation in the assessment criteria from the learning outcomes;
- They have clearly set out what will be assessed by examination and by the practical;

- Reduction of 20 hours overall
- There will no longer be any shared units between the NG and IG. Each qualification will be standalone;
- The content from the previous thirteen elements of Units IGC1 and GC2 has now been combined into eleven elements.

Has this affected the grading and assessment structure?

The grading has changed. A 'Pass' must be achieved in both units to achieve the International General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety.

Unit NG1: 45 marks

Unit NG2: Pass or Refer

The qualification grade is based on the result from the Unit NG1 examination. Learners need to achieve a pass in both units (Units NG1 and NG2) before a parchment can be issued. Weighting will no longer be applied to results. The qualification grading boundaries are as follows:

Distinction	Credit	Pass
75 marks or higher	65 – 74 marks	45 – 64 marks

The assessment structure has changed. There will only be one examination instead of two. The examination will only assess learning from elements 1-4. The questions will be written in a clear, accessible style with a 'plain English' check. There will be a risk assessment that will be marked by NEBOSH. It draws on the common workplace hazard topics in elements 5-11, as well as the process of risk assessment in element 3.

What do the changes mean for learners?

- **What is the structure of the revised IGC?**

New learners taking their first assessments on or after the 11 November 2019 will be required to take the following assessments:

Unit NG1: Management of health and safety (two hour written examination)

Unit NG2: Risk assessment (workplace based practical application)

- **What if I originally registered to sit the International General Certificate (November 2014 specification) and have not completed my overall qualification by 30 September 2019?**

We will be running the current IGC (November 2014 specification) and the new IG (October 2018 specification) side by side. Please see the key date's table on page 1 for details of the last registration dates.

- **I am to sit my International General Certificate examinations for the first time from 11 November 2019. How does this affect me?**

If you are registering for your first unit assessment it is likely that you will be registered to the October 2018 specification. If you have already taken one or more-unit assessments you will remain on the existing November 2014 specification. We will not be transferring learners between the old and new qualifications. You will therefore remain on the November 2014 specification and can continue to sit assessments until 31 March 2022.

- **How do I know which specification I am studying?**

If you are unsure. We are always available to guide you.

- **I have achieved unit(s) from the November 2014 specification but need to take or resit unit(s) to complete the qualification. What will happen in these circumstances?**

Existing learners will be allowed to take assessments for the November 2014 specification up to and including 31 March 2022. This should allow existing learners time to complete their IGC qualification.

- **If I have already achieved one unit from the International General Certificate (November 2014 specification) will this still be valid?**

Yes. If you have not completed your qualification by this time, you will need to take both units of the revised October 2018 specification if you still want to obtain the IGC qualification.

- **Do these changes affect me if I have already achieved the International General Certificate?**

No – your qualification continues to have the same status.

- **Can I use my successful unit IG2 unit towards the IGC?**

No – In the new IG (October 2018 specification) there will no longer be any shared units between NG and IG. Each qualification will be standalone.

- Can I take the assessments in a language other than English?

Examinations for this qualification will be offered in English only.

How will the transition arrangement work?

- Can I take the 2018 specification assessments instead of the 2014 assessments?

Yes - but *only* if you have **not** already registered for an IGC (November 2014 specification) assessment. From launch we will be running the current IGC and the new IG qualifications side by side. Our Center will be able to deliver courses to both specifications. We will be available to provide learners guidance and support.

- Can I take unit passes over from the November 2014 to the October 2018 specification?

No - we will not be transferring learners between the old and new qualifications. You will therefore remain on the November 2014 specification and can continue to sit assessments until 31 March 2022.

In the new NG (October 2018 specification) there will no longer be any shared units between NG and IG. Each qualification will be standalone.

Reference

NEBOSH International General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety (October 2018 specification) FAQs for Learners (v3) <https://www.nebosh.org.uk/documents/ig-faqs-learners/ig-faqs-learner-version-v3.pdf>