

## Component Specification

### Print Journalism

#### NFQ Level 5

#### 5N2152

#### 1. Component Details

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| <b>Title</b>              | Print Journalism  |
| <b>Teideal as Gaeilge</b> | Iriseoireacht Priontála   |
| <b>Award Class</b>        | Minor   |
| <b>Code</b>               | 5N2152  |
| <b>Level</b>              | 5   |
| <b>Credit Value</b>       | 15  |
| <b>Purpose</b>            | The purpose of this award is to equip the learner with the knowledge, skill and competence to write in a range of print styles, edit and sub-edit copy, carry out research and understand national and international politics and social affairs.   |
| <b>Learning Outcomes</b>  | Learners will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1 Explore a range of print writing styles including news writing, feature articles and review writing of books, films, exhibitions, music and concerts</li><li>2 Comment on the importance of simplicity and accuracy when writing journalistic copy</li><li>3 Discuss a range of topics to include politics, sport and social and cultural affairs at local, national and international levels</li><li>4 Summarise industrial relations procedures, the role of trade unions and employer organisations in Ireland</li></ol> |

- 5 Comment on a range of European and global issues to include national identity, trade issues, international agencies, development and environmental issues
- 6 Employ a range of research skills to include locating information in response to a specific brief, maintaining evidence of research and documenting and acknowledging consulted sources
- 7 Design a newspaper layout grid to include margin, columns and gutters and transfer text to an electronic page layout in accordance with an agreed newspaper style
- 8 Apply editing skills and sub-editing marks to written material by cutting, editing and producing a number of article drafts
- 9 Draft a preliminary outline of a story for checking and approval and draw up a sketch outline of a newspaper page
- 10 Construct written news, feature and review articles to meet the editorial style, tabloid or broadsheet, and word count for a given brief
- 11 Demonstrate knowledge of research skills through the objective weighting of research materials
- 12 Apply knowledge of current national and international political and social affairs to journalistic research and writing
- 13 Demonstrate editorial knowledge to accurately cut, re-write and sub-edit written material, change article emphasis and write to a particular newspaper style.

## Assessment

### General Information

Details of FET assessment requirements are set out in [Assessment Guidelines for Providers](#).

All FET assessment is criterion referenced. Successful achievement of the award is based on learners attaining the required standards of knowledge, skill or competence.

The techniques set out below are considered the optimum approach to assessment for this component. In exceptional circumstances providers may identify alternative assessment techniques through the provider's application for programme validation which are **reliable** and **valid** but which are more appropriate to their context.

Assessment of a number of components may be integrated across programmes for delivery, provided that the learning outcomes of each minor award are assessed.

Group or team work may form part of the assessment, provided each learner's achievement is separately assessed.

All providers are required to submit an assessment plan as part of their application for programme validation. Assessment Plans will include information relating to scheduling and integration of assessment. See current FET validation guidelines at [www.qqi.ie](http://www.qqi.ie).

## Assessment Techniques

In order to demonstrate that they have reached the standards of knowledge, skill and competence identified in all the learning outcomes, learners are required to complete the assessment(s) below.

The assessor is responsible for devising assessment instruments (e.g. project and assignment briefs, examination papers), assessment criteria and mark sheets, consistent with the techniques identified below and FETAC's assessment requirements.

Programme validation will require providers to map each learning outcome to its associated assessment technique. See current FET validation guidelines at [www.qqi.ie](http://www.qqi.ie).

All learning outcomes **must** be assessed and achieved

|                                |     |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| Project                        | 40% |
| Portfolio / Collection of Work | 60% |

## Description

### Project

*A project is a response to a brief devised by the assessor. A project is usually carried out over an extended period of time. Projects may involve research, require investigation of a topic, issue or problem or may involve process such as a design task, a performance or practical activity or production of an artefact or event.*

### Portfolio / Collection of Work

*A portfolio or collection of work is a collection and/or selection of pieces of work produced by the learner over a period of time that demonstrates achievement of a range of learning outcomes. The collection may be*

*self-generated or may be generated in response to a particular brief or tasks/activities devised by the assessor.*

|  |  |            |
|--|--|------------|
| <b>Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)</b> | Learners may be assessed on the basis of their prior knowledge and experience. Providers must be specifically quality assured to assess learners by this means. To do so they must complete B10, see Provider's Quality Assurance Guidelines and be included on the Register of RPL approved providers. See RPL Guidelines at <a href="http://www.fetac.ie">www.fetac.ie</a> for further information and registration details. |            |
| <b>Grading</b>                             | Pass   | 50% - 64%  |
|  | Merit  | 65% - 79%  |
|  | Distinction  | 80% - 100% |
| <b>Specific Validation Requirements</b>    | There are no specific validation requirements for this award   |            |
| <b>Supporting Documentation</b>            | None   |            |
| <b>Access</b>                              | To access programmes leading to this award the learner should have reached the standards of knowledge, skill and competence associated with the preceding level of the National Framework of Qualifications. This may have been achieved through a formal qualification or through relevant life and work experience.  |            |
| <b>Transfer</b>                            | Successful completion of this component award enables the learner to transfer to programmes leading to other certificates where this component is a mandatory or an elective requirement.  |            |

## 2. FET Award Standards

QQI award standards are determined within the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ), <http://www.nfq-qqi.com>. QQI determines standards for the education and training awards that it makes itself and that are made by providers to whom it has delegated authority to make an award. Providers offering programmes leading to QQI awards **must** have their programme(s) validated in accordance with current validation policy (see [www.qqi.ie](http://www.qqi.ie)).

Award standards are designed to be consistent with the NFQ's award classes i.e. major, special purpose, supplemental and minor awards. They are expressed in terms of **learning outcomes** i.e. concise statements of what the learner is expected to know or be able to do in order to achieve a particular award. Learning outcomes for FET awards are contained within the associated specifications:

| AWARD CLASS | STANDARDS | AWARDS |
|-------------|-----------|--------|
|-------------|-----------|--------|

|                    |                                |   |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Major Award        | Certificate Specification      | Certificate (Levels 1 to 5)<br>Advanced Certificate (Level 6) |
| Supplemental Award | Supplemental Specification     | Supplemental Certificate<br>(Level 3 to 6)                    |
| Special Purpose    | Specific Purpose Specification | Specific Purpose Certificate<br>(Levels 3 to 6)               |
| Minor Award        | Component Specification        | Component Certificate<br>(Levels 1 to 6)                      |

Award standards are thresholds, they describe standards of knowledge, skill or competence to be acquired, and where appropriate, demonstrated, by a learner before an award may be made.

Award standards will be reviewed from time to time as necessary. Minor changes may be made by the QQI executive outside the review cycle where necessary. Changes to standards are published on QQI's website. Providers with validated programmes and providers with delegated authority to make awards are responsible for monitoring relevant standards and making necessary responses to changes.

### 3. FET Credit

Every FET certificate and component specification includes an FET credit value (Table 1). FET credit is quantified in multiples of 5 FET credits (up to 50 hours of learner effort). Learner effort is based on the time taken by typical learners at the level of the award to achieve the learning outcomes for the award. It includes all learning time involved including: guided learning hours, self-directed learning and assessment.

**Table 1: FET Credit Values**

| NFQ Level | Major Awards Credit Values | Default Credit Values Minor Awards | Other Permitted Minor Award Credit Values | Special Purpose and Supplemental Award Credit Value Ranges |
|-----------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|---|--|
| 1         | 20                         | 5                                  | 10  |  |
| 2         | 30                         | 5                                  | 10  |  |
| 3         | 60                         | 10                                 | 5,20                                      | >5 and <60   |
| 4         | 90                         | 10                                 | 5,15,20                                   | >5 and <90   |
| 5         | 120                        | 15                                 | 5,10,30                                   | >5 and <120  |
| 6         | 120                        | 15                                 | 5,10,30                                   | >5 and <120  |

### Guide to Level

Learning outcomes at this level include a broad range of skills that require some theoretical understanding. The outcomes may relate to engaging in a specific activity, with the capacity to use the instruments and techniques relating to an occupation. They are associated with work being undertaken independently, subject to general direction.

| Strand    | Sub-strand | Nature of learning       |
|-----------|------------|--------------------------|
| Knowledge | Breadth    | Broad range of knowledge |

|                  |                   |   |
|------------------|-------------------|---|
|                  | Kind              | Some theoretical concepts and abstract thinking, with significant depth in some areas.  |
| Know How & Skill | Range             | Demonstrate a broad range of specialised skills and tools   |
|                  | Selectivity       | Evaluate and use information to plan and develop investigative strategies and to determine solutions to varied unfamiliar problems  |
| Competence       | Context           | Act in a range of varied and specific contexts, taking responsibility for the nature and quality of outputs; identify and apply skill and knowledge to a wide variety of contexts |
|                  | Role              | Exercise some initiative and independence in carrying out defined activities; join and function within multiple, complex and heterogeneous groups                                 |
|                  | Learning to Learn | Learn to take responsibility for own learning within a managed environment  |
|                  | Insight           | Assume full responsibility for consistency of self- understanding and behaviour   |

*Extract from 'Determinations for the Outline National Framework of Qualifications': NQAI*