

Component Specification

Irish Cultural and Natural Heritage

NFQ Level 6

6N0652

1. Component Details

Title	Irish Cultural and Natural Heritage
Teideal as Gaeilge	Cultúr na hÉireann agus an Oidhreacht Náisiúnta
Award Class	Minor
Code	6N0652
Level	6
Credit Value	15
Purpose	The purpose of this award is to equip the learner with the knowledge, skill and competence to assess heritage and cultural products from a tourism development perspective, and to facilitate an understanding and appreciation of Ireland's cultural and natural heritage.

Learning Outcomes	Learners will be able to:
1	Assess the role of the cultural heritage product in international and national tourism including key Irish and international heritage attractions
2	Assess current issues in relation to sustainable heritage conservation, including the impacts of interpretive infrastructure, visitor pressure and inaccurate or inappropriate interpretation
3	Appraise the work of the main bodies involved in the support, development, protection and promotion of Irish culture, heritage and natural resources
4	Summarise the course of Irish history from the earliest times to the present day, describing the key

civilisations, influences and events which have shaped Irish history, society, tradition, folklore and culture

- 5 Explain the origin, antiquity, key literary genres and current status of the Irish language
- 6 Assess cultures and traditions which have been influenced by the Irish and related opportunities for Irish tourism
- 7 Outline Ireland's archaeological heritage with a detailed description of Ireland's UNESCO World Heritage sites
- 8 Assess the major phases, styles and examples of Ireland's architectural heritage
- 9 Assess the development and location of arts and crafts and associated industries in Ireland, including painting, sculpture, stained glass, pottery, lace, ceramics, woodwork, textiles and fashion design
- 10 Assess Ireland's cultural, arts and literary legacy including major writers, representative classical and contemporary literature, poetry, drama, cinema, music and dance
- 11 Analyse the perception of Ireland abroad including key cultural influences such as literature, dance, art, music and drama
- 12 Outline the evolution of Irish cuisine and beverages
- 13 Provide information on the development of sports in Ireland, including the role, history and structure of the GAA
- 14 Provide information about genealogical research
- 15 List popular festivals and summer schools in Ireland
- 16 Describe key aspects of modern Irish life , including:
 - Population
 - Government and political structures
 - Education
 - Religion

- Main industries
 - Agriculture and fishing
 - Economy
 - Health and social welfare
 - Employment
 - Emigration and immigration
- 17 Describe a range of quality retail experiences for the visitor
- 18 Describe significant natural and physical features of Ireland including geology, flora, fauna, habitats, marine life
- 19 Explain the history and current status of agriculture and forestry in Ireland, identifying trees, crops and livestock
- 20 Explain the role of Ireland's peat bogs as a living archive, an ancient habitat, a carbon store, a source of fuel, and a habitat for rare and endangered species
- 21 Develop a plan to package, promote and sell a heritage product or service .

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.

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.

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

Skills Demonstration	50%
Examination - Theory	50%

Description

Skills Demonstration

A skills demonstration is used to assess a wide range of practical based learning outcomes including practical skills and knowledge. A skills demonstration will require the learner to complete a task or series of tasks that demonstrate a range of skills.

Examination - Theory

An examination provides a means of assessing a learner's ability to recall and apply knowledge, skills and understanding within a set period of time and under clearly specified conditions.

A theory-based examination assesses the ability to recall, apply and understand specific theory and knowledge.

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)	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 www.fetac.ie for further information and registration details.	
Grading	Pass	50% - 64%
	Merit	65% - 79%
	Distinction	80% - 100%
Specific Validation Requirements	There are no specific validation requirements for this award	
Supporting Documentation	None	
Access	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.	
Transfer	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.qqj.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) Advanced Certificate (Level 6)

Supplemental Award	Supplemental Specification	Supplemental Certificate (Level 3 to 6)
Special Purpose	Specific Purpose Specification	Specific Purpose Certificate (Levels 3 to 6)
Minor Award	Component Specification	Component Certificate (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 comprehensive range of skills which may be vocationally-specific and/or of a general supervisory nature, and require detailed theoretical understanding. The outcomes also provide for a particular focus on learning skills. The outcomes relate to working in a generally autonomous way to assume design and/or management and/or administrative responsibilities. Occupations at this level would include higher craft, junior technician and supervisor.

Strand	Sub-strand	Nature of learning
Knowledge	Breadth	Specialised knowledge of a broad area

	Kind	Some theoretical concepts and abstract thinking, with significant underpinning theory
Know How & Skill	Range	Demonstrate a comprehensive range of specialised skills and tools
	Selectivity	Formulate responses to well defined abstract problems
Competence	Context	Act in a range of varied and specific contexts involving creative and non-routine activities; transfer and apply theoretical concepts and/or technical or creative skills to a range of contexts
	Role	Exercise substantial personal autonomy and often take responsibility for the work of others and/or for the allocation of resources; form and function within, multiple and complex heterogeneous groups.
	Learning to Learn	Learn to evaluate own learning and identify needs within a structured learning environment; assist others in identifying learning needs
	Insight	Express an internalised, personal world view, reflecting engagement with others.

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