



Cambridge Assessment
Network



Develop your expertise
in *assessment*



2019 programme

A programme of training events, courses and seminars designed to provide professional development for the assessment community

Transform your understanding of assessment in 2019

Cambridge Assessment Network offers courses, qualifications, events and seminars designed to equip you with the skills, knowledge and understanding to be a confident and capable assessment practitioner.

This programme draws on expertise from across Cambridge Assessment and our wider community of education experts to bring you professional development underpinned by evidence-based research. Whether you want to learn about the principles of assessment or need a bespoke solution for your organisation, we are here to help.

Cambridge Assessment Network is part of Cambridge Assessment, Europe's largest assessment agency and a department of the University of Cambridge.

www.canetwork.org.uk

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Assessment training tailored to your needs



Join the *assessment community* and learn with Cambridge Assessment Network

“The trainers were very experienced and secure in their subject knowledge. I felt positively challenged to think more about my own assumptions and gaps in understanding around question writing.”

Delegate training feedback 2018

Learn about the *principles of assessment* online

A101: Introducing the Principles of Assessment is for anyone interested in educational assessment and its role in society today, including (but not exclusive to) examiners, assessment writers, professional bodies, teachers and those working for awarding organisations.

You don't need any knowledge or experience to participate and the course is designed so you can follow it at a time and place that's convenient. You'll engage with the content and peers from around the world in a lively discussion forum, and use an online journal to record your thinking as you learn.

The nine-week online course covers:

- Validity
- Reliability
- Fairness
- Standards
- Comparability
- Practicality and manageability of assessment

At the end of the course, you can either collect a statement of participation, or choose to complete an optional assignment. This gives you an opportunity to reflect further on an issue in educational assessment that interests you. On passing the assignment, you can claim a Certificate of Achievement.

“A101 aims to address the need for a definitive, accessible understanding of assessment principles – it's interesting and engaging in its own right, but it also serves as a foundation for higher level professional development.”

Tim Oates CBE, Group Director of Assessment Research and Development, Cambridge Assessment



A101: Introducing the Principles of Assessment

Runs four times a year in January, April, July and September

Nine-week course
Approx. 3hrs per week

Online

£225 (peer supported)

£275 (monitored)

Find out more and book a place:

www.canetwork.org.uk/a101

“As a teacher and subject lead, it will help me ensure I’m designing and using summative assessment in the classroom effectively and that I am better at interpreting the outcomes. It will also help me explain variation in outcomes from assessments to senior leaders in school.”

“An enlightening way to consider something that has impacted on all our lives in varying contexts, and on society – and how we consider competence in multiple capacities.”

2018 delegate feedback on A101



Develop your understanding of assessment

These face-to-face assessment training workshops offer an opportunity to:

- Familiarise yourself with the theory and research behind key concepts in assessment
- Understand what best practice is and what it looks like
- Participate in practical activities to help contextualise your understanding
- Deepen your understanding of specific issues in assessment
- Engage with an expert in the field

Sessions are run by experts from across Cambridge Assessment and our wider network of education specialists.

Assessment training workshops 2019

22 January 09.30 – 12.30	Intermediate statistics for assessment Build on your knowledge of basic statistics concepts to learn new statistical methods and how they are applied for specific assessment purposes.	Dr Joanna Williamson
6 February 09.30 – 12.30	Validity deconstructed This session responds to two fundamental questions in relation to current conceptions of validity in assessment: what does it mean to claim validity and how can a claim be proven?	Stuart Shaw
25 February 10.00 – 16.00	Using item response theory in practice An introduction to the theory behind item response theory (IRT) and clear examples of when it is useful.	Dr Tom Benton
7 March 09.30 – 12.30	The Cambridge Approach to Curriculum A discussion of the key issues around how to develop a working model of a curriculum and curriculum development.	Tim Oates CBE, Dr Martin Johnson, Tori Coleman
28 March 10.00 – 12.00	What is computer-based testing washback, how can it be evaluated, and how can this support practitioner research? Learn about 'washback' as a concept and engage with washback research in computer-based testing.	Tim Oates CBE, Dr Martin Johnson, Tori Coleman
3 April 09.30 – 12.30	The place of taxonomies in question writing, paper setting and assessment evaluation Become familiar with taxonomies and explore how you might develop a taxonomy to meet your own needs.	Dr Martina Kuvalja
5 July 09.30 – 12.30	Intermediate statistics for assessment Build upon your knowledge of basic statistics concepts to learn new statistical methods and how they are applied for specific assessment purposes.	Dr Joanna Williamson

24 September 09.30 – 12.30	Embarking on e-assessment: expectations, impediments and lessons learnt Gain an understanding of what research says about factors to consider when embarking upon an e-assessment initiative.	Sarah Hughes and Dr Tom Barrance
3 October 09.30 – 13.00	Writing good Multiple Choice Questions Understand the advantages and limitations of MCQs, and consider how to write and edit MCQs that are fit for purpose.	Mark Dowling
9 October 09.30 – 12.30	"It all depends on how we look at things" – Bringing a lens to fairness in assessment What exactly do we mean by 'fairness' and how does (un)fairness relate to, and impact upon, educational assessment?	Stuart Shaw
14 November 09.30 – 16.30	Writing good exam questions This practical course provides theoretical background to the principles of writing good exam questions, with opportunities and guidance on evaluating and constructing a range of questions and mark schemes.	Nancy Sneddon and Annabel Charles
5 December 09.15 – 12.45	Principles of mark scheme design This interactive session will describe the different approaches to mark schemes, and how these approaches relate to fundamental aspects of assessment by drawing on research investigating examiners' cognitive processes.	Dr Simon Child

“The course leader was very competent, set everyone at ease and met the needs of the different delegates in a professional way.”

Workshop attendee 2018



Find out more and book a place:
www.canetwork.org.uk/training



“It was a very valuable learning experience that I will be returning to repeatedly over the next 12 months, re-reading, re-thinking and adapting practice.”

“I’ve learnt a huge amount on assessment and now have an appreciation of complexities that I didn’t have before. It has impacted on my own use of assessment in the classroom.”

PGCA course participants 2017/18

Take your understanding of assessment *to the next level*

Now in its fifth year, the *Postgraduate Certificate in Educational Assessment and Examinations (PGCA)* is a practice-based qualification designed to directly impact your work as you learn to apply various research methodologies to your professional context.

Led by experts from Cambridge Assessment and the University of Cambridge Faculty of Education, the course is taught through a mix of online learning and Saturday Day Schools held in Cambridge.

You'll explore assessment literature, adopting an analytic and critical approach, learning with colleagues and experts at interactive and structured input sessions at the Day Schools. You'll have opportunities to share, reflect and try out your new understanding at work through course assignments.

A Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) provides the course materials and you'll work with your colleagues there throughout the course. The rich environment of the online forums is a key part of this programme.

At the end of the course you'll be awarded a University of Cambridge Postgraduate Certificate in Educational Studies (PCES) worth 60 credits at Master's level (Level 7).

The application deadline for 2019–2020 is 6 June 2019.



Postgraduate Certificate in *Educational Assessment and Examinations*

Postgraduate Certificate in Educational Assessment and Examinations

A part-time blended learning course with a mix of online learning and six Saturday Day Schools, held at the Faculty of Education in Cambridge.

The course is worth 60 credits at Master's level (Level 7)	1 year, part time	Online & Cambridge	£2,800*
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Application deadline: 6 June 2019	Course dates: October 2019 – July 2020
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**This is the 2017-18 course cost. The course cost may increase slightly in 2018-19.*

Read more and apply:
www.canetwork.org.uk/pgca

Join the assessment *conversation*

Hear from leading voices in education and gain an up-to-date understanding of current issues in assessment with our free seminars. As well as boosting your CPD, these events are an opportunity to network and share insights with other professionals from the wider education community.

29 January 2019

Cambridge | Free

Assessment in a 'post-truth' world

Dr Mary Richardson, UCL Institute of Education

The term 'post-truth' is defined as "*denoting circumstances in which objective facts are less influential in shaping public opinion than appeals to emotion and personal belief*" (Flood, 2016).



Dr Richardson will talk about how assessment is discussed and perceived within the 'post truth' perspective applied to education. Our means of accessing information may be both broader and faster than ever before, but when framed by a 'post-truth' narrative, just how are key stakeholders: schools, teachers, pupils, employers etc. expected to believe in the value of educational assessments?

15 May 2019

Cambridge | Free

Acquisition of complex language in a changing society

Professor Jane Mellanby, University of Oxford



Today, much of the language used daily for communication via social media and smartphones is very simple in comparison to that which we use in face-to-face interactions or in writing and reading. However, complex language remains vital to progress in many fields of human endeavour, such as scientific discovery, history and politics. It is well known that children from disadvantaged backgrounds often start school with poorer language skills than their peers. Although much language acquisition occurs implicitly in the early years, some can continue to be taught explicitly. Professor Jane Mellanby will be discussing research that focuses on how intervention in nurseries and schools might work to expand the language skills of disadvantaged children and improve their chances in life.

Find out more and book a place:

www.canetwork.org.uk/seminars

“A fascinating session – not my area of expertise at all, despite a lifetime in teaching. It was clear and insightful, leaving me with plenty to think about!”

Seminar attendee 2018



“It was enriching at all levels; attending this course gave me the opportunity to learn from my colleagues. The network we have created is powerful. I returned home knowing that I have to encourage things we have been doing well, but also now I know how we can improve and unlearn those which are not so good.”

Cambridge International Study Programme delegate 2018



Courses for the *global* assessment community

Cambridge International Study Programme

This two-week, residential course is designed for international assessment professionals looking for a complete guide to the processes involved in the design and delivery of valid and robust examinations.



Key topics:

- The principles and practice of assessment design
- The future of assessment
- Assessment administration

Cambridge International Study Programme

13 – 24 May 2019

09.00 – 17.00

Cambridge

£4,500

Find out more:

www.canetwork.org.uk/cisp

Leadership in National Assessment

This exclusive one-week programme is for senior international education leaders. The course explores the issues surrounding the management of large-scale assessment systems, including logistical, technological, societal and political influences and opportunities.



Key topics:

- Assessment, education and society
- System disruption and working with the media
- Trends in assessment
- National policy and embedding change
- International benchmarking

Leadership in National Assessment

16 – 20 September 2019

09.00 – 17.00

Cambridge

£4,250

Find out more:

www.canetwork.org.uk/leadership

Assessment training *tailored* to your needs

Finding professional development training that fully addresses your organisation's needs can be a challenge.

As leaders in educational assessment, we are committed to providing bespoke development and training that enables you to enhance your expertise within your professional context.

We have extensive experience in creating and delivering flexible programmes for awarding bodies, educational organisations and professional associations worldwide.





“The session gave participants ideas, strategies and some reflective learning as take-aways as well as some useful aide-memoire handouts. The Network team did an excellent job and covered our brief to the letter. Simon has a great, relaxed style of ‘teaching’/facilitating which was commented on very positively by a number of colleagues. Critical mass was achieved, which was an important internal outcome for us: the turnout from colleagues on a busy teaching day was excellent and exceeded my expectations.”

Dr Andrew Harries,
University of Central Lancashire,
on an in-house Multiple Choice Questions session

To find out more, go to:
www.canetwork.org.uk/bespoke



“Fantastic trainers, useful, real-world applications and a collaborative, supportive learning environment.”

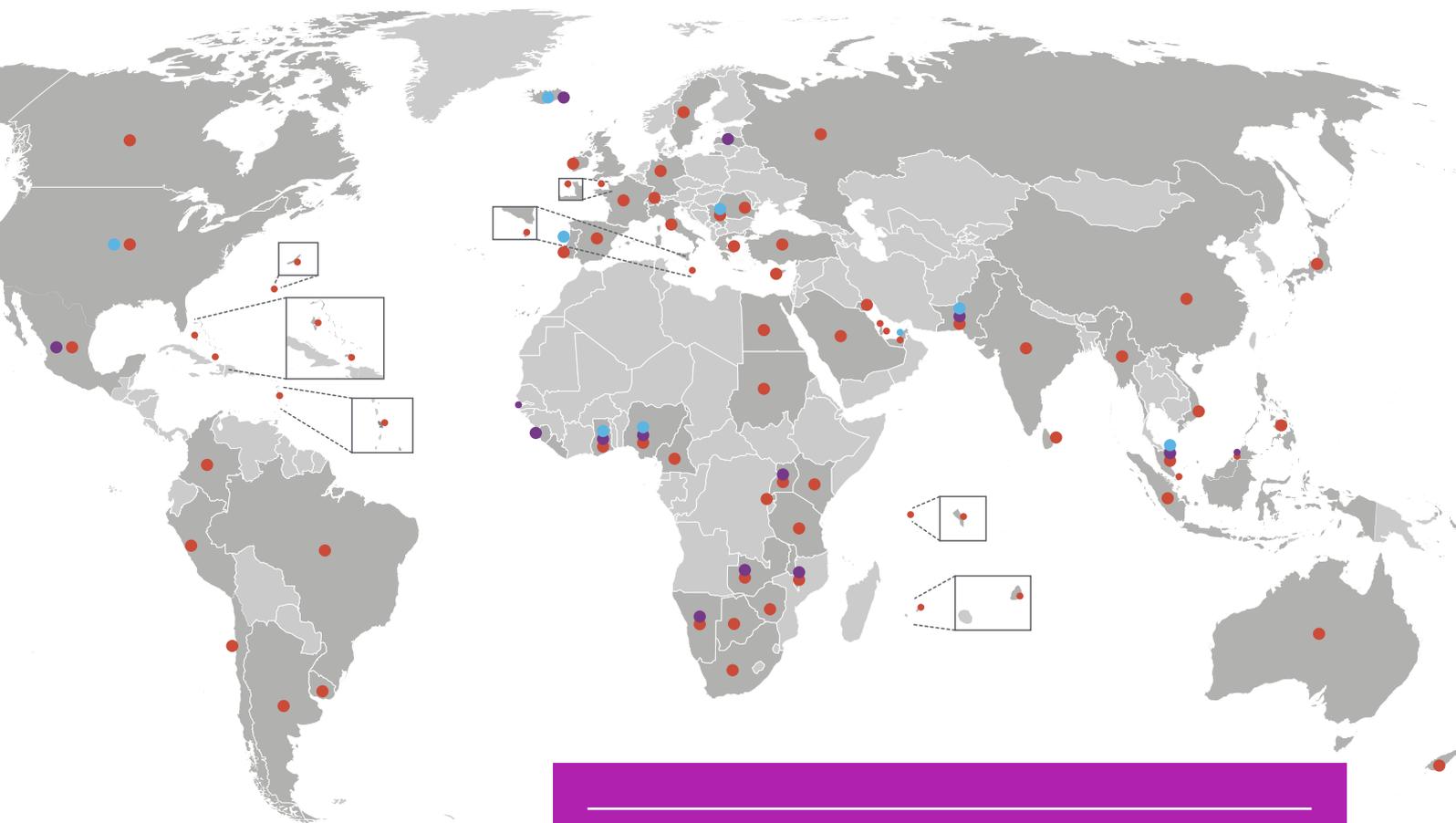
Assessment training delegate 2018

Your training calendar 2019

Seminars		<i>Book online at</i> www.canetwork.org.uk/seminars		
Assessment in a 'post-truth' world	29 January	16.00 – 18.30	Cambridge	Free
Acquisition of complex language in a changing society	15 May	16.00 – 18.30	Cambridge	Free
Online courses		<i>Find out more at</i> www.canetwork.org.uk/a101		
A101: Introducing the Principles of Assessment	<i>Runs four times a year (see p4)</i>	Approx. 3hrs per week over nine weeks	Online	£225 – £275
Assessment training		<i>Book online at</i> www.canetwork.org.uk/training		
Intermediate statistics for assessment	22 January	09.30 – 12.30	Cambridge	£70
Validity deconstructed	6 February	09.30 – 12.30	Cambridge	£70
Using item response theory in practice	25 February	10.00 – 16.00	Cambridge	£200
The Cambridge approach to curriculum	7 March	09.30 – 12.30	Cambridge	£70
What is computer-based testing washback?	28 March	10.00 – 12.00	Cambridge	£70
The place of taxonomies in question writing, paper setting and assessment evaluation	3 April	09.30 – 12.30	Cambridge	£70
Intermediate statistics for assessment	5 July	09.30 – 12.30	Cambridge	£70
Embarking on e-assessment: expectations, impediments and lessons learnt	24 September	09.30 – 12.30	Cambridge	£70
Writing good Multiple Choice Questions	3 October	09.30 – 13.00	Cambridge	£70
"It all depends on how we look at things" – Bringing a lens to fairness in assessment	9 October	09.30 – 12.30	Cambridge	£70
Writing good exam questions	14 November	09.30 – 16.30	Cambridge	£200
Principles of mark scheme design	5 December	09.15 – 12.45	Cambridge	£70
Postgraduate Certificate		<i>Find out more at</i> www.canetwork.org.uk/pgca		
Postgraduate Certificate in Educational Assessment and Examinations (PGCA)	October 2019 – July 2020		Online and Cambridge	£2,800
<i>University of Cambridge Faculty of Education and Cambridge Assessment Network</i>				
Courses for global delegates		<i>Book online at</i> www.canetwork.org.uk/courses		
Cambridge International Study Programme	13 – 24 May 2019		Cambridge	£4,500
Leadership in National Assessment	16 – 20 September 2019		Cambridge	£4,250

Our *global* reach

In 2018 learners from over 70 countries accessed one of our training courses. In 2019 we plan to take more of our CPD offering online – watch this space!



- A101 participants
- CISP participants
- LNA participants

“Even though I already had extensive experience in assessing procedures, the course made me question many of my own techniques and my knowledge. I learned from others’ experiences and feedback, and of course from the material provided and exercises performed. So, I want to believe that reflecting on the ideas explored throughout the course I made myself a more thoughtful and professional assessor.”

Ana Claudia Lessa
Freelance Linguist, Germany

“The session was extremely valuable. In higher education we are always writing assessment questions but no one ever teaches us how to do this. The course made me think in a more constructive way about the purpose of a question and the purpose of the mark scheme.”

Bespoke assessment training delegate



Contact us

+44 (0)1223 553846

www.canetwork.org.uk

thenetwork@cambridgeassessment.org.uk

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Cambridge Assessment Network
is an endorsed Cambridge
University provider of Executive
and Professional Education.

