


Think Ahead 

Embracing
change.
Shaping
futures.

2000+
300+

Survey respondents and deep-dive workshops
and interviews in 21 cities across 19 countries

- Professional accountants
- C-suite
- Experts



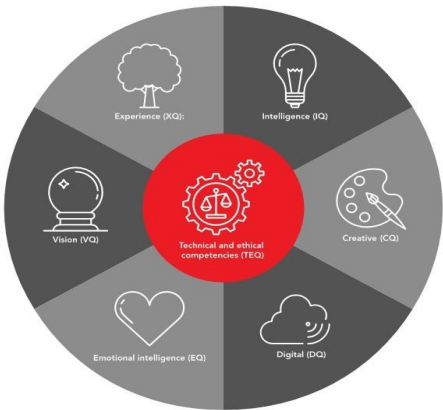
Four themes of change








- Increased regulation and stronger governance
- Digital technologies
- Expectations on the profession
- Globalisation






Professional Quotients for success



-  **Technical and ethical (TEQ)**
The skills and abilities to perform activities to a defined standard while maintaining the highest standards of integrity, independence and scepticism.
-  **Intelligence (IQ)**
The ability to acquire and use knowledge: thinking, reasoning, solving problems and the ability to understand and analyse situations that are complex and ambiguous.
-  **Creative (CQ)**
The ability to use existing knowledge in a new situation, to make connections, explore potential outcomes and generate new ideas.
-  **Digital (DQ)**
The awareness and application of existing and emerging digital technologies, capabilities, practices, strategies and culture.
-  **Emotional intelligence (EQ)**
The ability to identify your own emotions and those of others, harness and apply them to tasks, and regulate and manage them.
-  **Vision (VQ)**
The ability to predict future trends accurately by extrapolating existing trends and facts, and filling the gaps by thinking innovatively.
-  **Experience (XQ)**
The ability and skills to understand customer expectations, to meet desired outcomes and to create value.

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Driving the changes



The world is changing. Fast

- Ever-changing 'new normal'
- Need to assimilate and plan

The world needs strategic forward-thinking ACCA professional accountants

- Unique blend of skills – which starts with our qualification

Professional accountants are more vital than ever

- Accountancy keeping economies stable, fairer and transparent
- Help grow and prosper
- Need to change to keep adding value

2014

Knowledge Skills

2015

Flexibility Experience ACCA-X Master's Degree Careers job board Members' website AB magazine apps

2016

Insights CPD Skills Approved Employer Scheme

Thinking ahead

Strategic forward-thinking professional accountants

Right blend of technical, ethical and professional skills

A real-world focus desired by employers

2017/2018

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The changes

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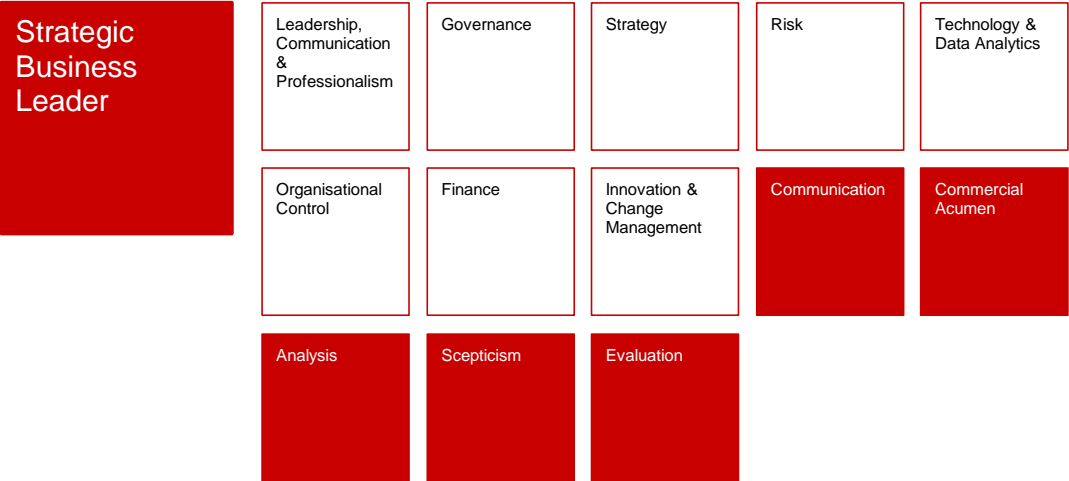
ACCA Qualification – the future



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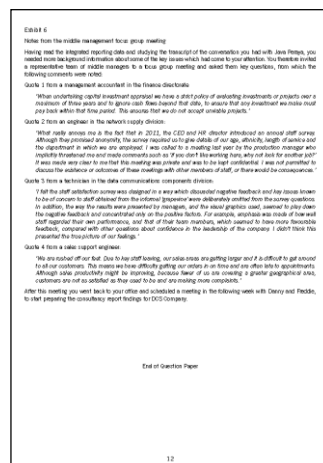
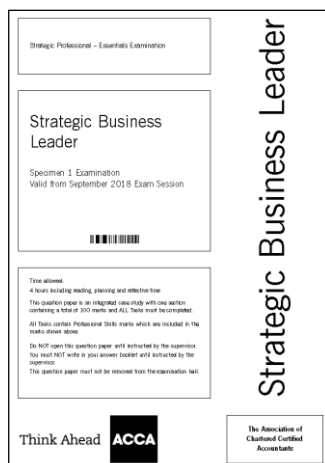
Syllabus and the professional skills



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Strategic Business Leader



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Corporate reporting

- The ability to communicate a more comprehensive view of corporate reporting will be needed, with integrated reporting gradually becoming mandatory
- Increased skills to engage with new frameworks, principles, techniques, standards and guidance and skills in technology will be important
- Understanding of financial maths will become more important across the profession

Top skills needed for the next five to ten years:

- A holistic view of corporate reporting (merging financial and non-financial information) and the reporting framework to support this
- Emerging trends such as mobile/cloud business models and digital currencies
- Financial mathematics.

Strategic business reporting – meeting changing demands



- Holistic reporting
- Stakeholder management and engagement
- Framework and principles
- Performance reporting
- IFRS
- Less manual accounting skills

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The Options exams

Exams	What we're doing
Advanced Financial Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Retaining the Options exams▪ Continuing to update annually▪ Minor changes to exam formats, all questions now compulsory
Advanced Performance Management	
Advanced Taxation	
Advanced Audit and Assurance	

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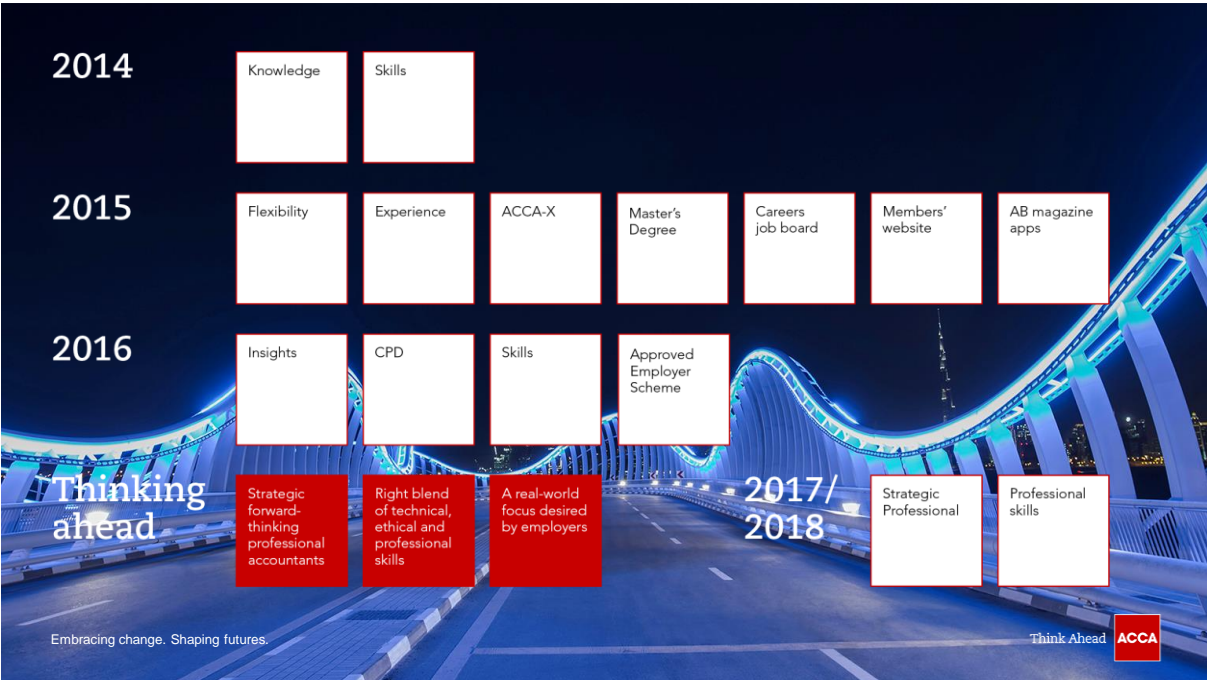
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The Ethics and Professional Skills module

Key ethical and professional skills and behaviours required of a professional accountant

Make students more employable and increase their effectiveness and career potential in the workplace

Demonstration of professional skills to support success at the Strategic Business Leader exam



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Strategic Professional

Professional skills

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Ensuring rigour and robustness

We liaised with regulatory bodies and gained their assurance that we're testing students to the same high standard, but in a more relevant way.

This assurance is important as it ensures that our students and members continue to benefit from our current statutory and education recognition.

We also continue to meet International Federation of Accountants standards, and the Strategic Professional exams have been benchmarked at Level 8 on internationally recognised education frameworks; this is equivalent to Master's degree level.



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