

Ability of completers to meet licensing (certification) and any additional state requirements

Comprehensive exam results (2017-18)

At present, there are no licensure exams in Qatar. However, the Supreme Education Council (SEC, which has been replaced by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education) agreed in fall 2013, based on their conviction that graduates of our programs have been required to demonstrate mastery of the Qatar National Professional for School Teacher within the program, to award initial licensure to all graduates. In lieu of a state or national licensure test, however, the college requires candidates in undergraduate and Master's programs to pass a comprehensive exam at the end of the third semester of the program, prior to the internship experience, to ensure that they have the knowledge and skills to enter student teaching.

In the Institutional Report (Unit self-study) submitted to NCATE in November 2015, it was stated that, for the comprehensive exam, "Previously, the passing score was set at 70%. The unit has raised this passing score to 80%, to be applied for class entering in fall 2015" (p.11). Therefore, as of Spring 2018, a minimum score of 80% on the comprehensive exam is required for candidates to be admitted to the internship. They may take the test no more than two times. This assessment is, thus, used to ensure that candidates are well prepared for the classroom before they enter student teaching and to identify any areas that need improvement; therefore, we have a 100% passing rate for our graduates and 100% of our graduates receive initial licensure.

Below are the comprehensive exam scores for the academic year 2017-18 for the Master's programs (Master in Special Education and Master in Education in Educational Leadership) and undergraduate programs (B.Ed. in Primary Education and B.Ed. in Secondary Education). No data is available for the Bachelor in Special Education because the first cohort of this program will take the comprehensive exam in Spring 2019.

A. Advanced Programs:

1. Master in Education in Educational Leadership (MEDEL)

Table 1. Comprehensive exam scores for MEDEL cohort 2017-18

Student #	Score / 100
1	91
2	93
3	89
4	81
5	95
6	93
7	91
8	93
9	82
10	84
11	86
12	84
Mean	88.5

The data in Table 1 indicates that 50% (6 candidates) scored above 90%, 16.67% (2 candidates) scored between 85 and 89%, and 33.33 (4 candidates) scored between 80 and 84%. The overall mean was 88.5%

2. Master in Special Education (MSPED)

Table 2. Comprehensive exam scores for MSPED cohort 2017-18

Student #	Score /100
1	80
2	80
3	85
4	85
5	87
6	80
7	87
Mean	83

As shown in Table 2, the MSPED program scores for the 2017-18 cohort indicate that all candidates scored above 80%, and, therefore, passed the comprehensive exam. Out of the seven candidates who took the exam, 42.85% (3 candidates) scored between 80 and 84%, the rest (57.14%) scored between 85 and 89%. The overall mean for the cohort was 83%.

B. Initial Programs:

1. Bachelor of Education in Primary Education (B.Ed. Prim)

As mentioned above (and in the annual report submitted in Spring 2018), for Fall 2017, the pass mark for the comprehensive exam was 70% for B.Ed. Prim. and B.Ed. Sec. programs. It was raised to 80% as of the Spring 2018 semester.

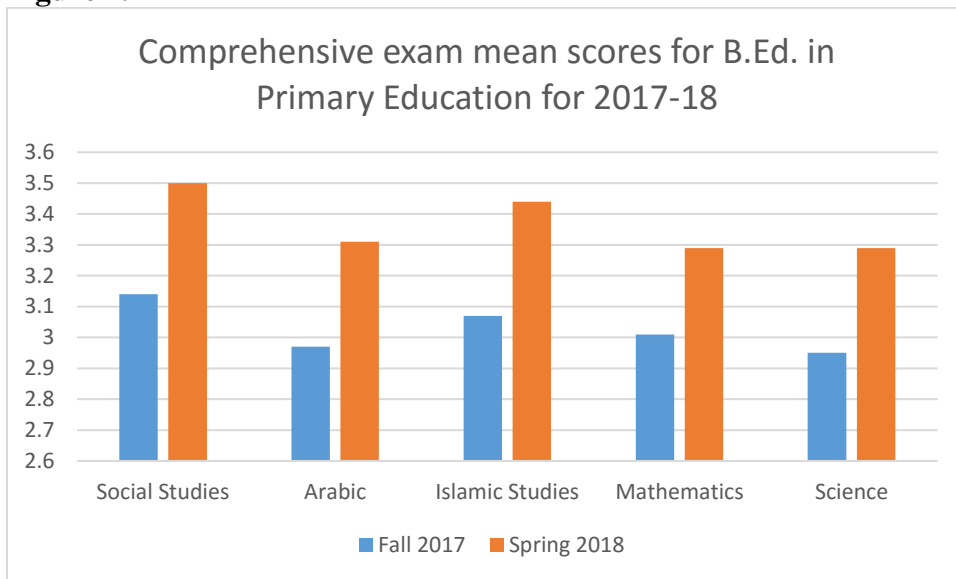
Table 3. B. Ed. Prim. Comprehensive exam scores for Fall 2017

Subject	n	# at 1 Unsatisfactory level (0-8/20)	# at Needs Improvement level (9-13/20)	# at Satisfactory level (14-16/20)	# at Target (17-20/20)	% at Unsatisfactory Level	% at Satisfactory and Target	Mean
Social Studies	71	0	10	34	27	0	85.91	3.14
Arabic	71	0	17	38	16	0	76.05	2.97
Islamic Studies	71	0	10	42	19	0	85.91	3.07
Mathematics	71	0	15	32	24	0	78.87	3.01
Science	71	0	15	47	9	0	78.87	2.95

Table 4. B. Ed. Prim. Comprehensive exam scores for Spring 2018

Subject	n	# at 1 Unsatisfactory level	# at Needs Improvement level	# at Satisfactory level	# at Target	% at Unsatisfactory Level	% at	Mean
		(0-8/20)	(9-13/20)	(14-16/20)	(17-20/20)		Satisfactory or Target	
Social Studies	86	0	3	23	60	0	97	3.5
Arabic	86	0	6	38	42	0	93	3.31
Islamic Studies	86	0	5	24	57	0	94	3.44
Mathematics	86	0	10	30	46	0	88	3.29
Science	86	0	5	40	41	0	94	3.29

Figure 1.



The data in Table 3 show that the average mean for Arabic and Science were below target (2.97 and 2.95, respectively). Focus group discussions with students in these majors indicated that they needed preparation for the comprehensive exam. Students were provided with a study guide that offers specifications about the exam and sample questions. The results for the exam in the Spring semester (Table 4) have increased considerably, and mean scores indicate that students performance was above target. As shown in Table 4, the scores for these content areas increased: for Arabic mean = 3.31 and for Science mean = 3.29.

2. Bachelor of Education in Secondary Education (B.Ed. Sec.)

Table 5. B.Ed. Sec. Comprehensive exam scores for Fall 2017

	n	Mean	Less than 70%	70-79%	80-84%	85-89%	90-100%	At or Above 70%
Secondary Education - Social Studies	9	75	0	8	1	0	0	100%
Secondary Education - Arabic Language	7	81.88	0	3	0	4	0	100%
Secondary Education – English	8	72.66	0	8	0	0	0	100%
Secondary Education – Math	3	83.75	0	1	1	0	1	100%
Secondary Education – Islamic Studies	6	74.38	0	6	0	0	0	100%
Overall mean		77.53						

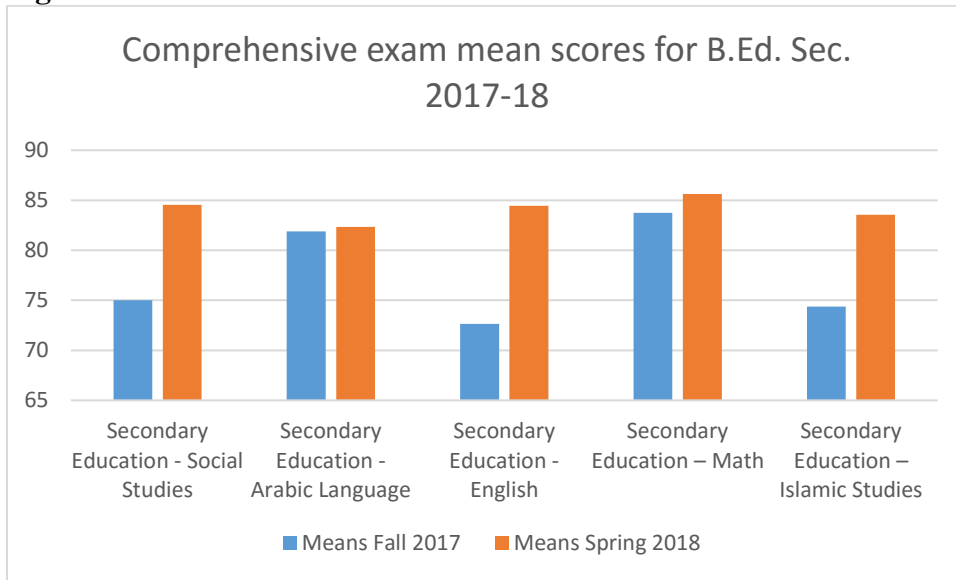
Table 6. B.Ed. Sec. Comprehensive scores for Spring 2018

	n	Mean	Less than 80%	80-84%	85-89%	90-100%	At or Above 80%
Secondary Education - Social Studies	51	84.53	0	30	13	8	100%
Secondary Education - Arabic Language	8	82.34	0	7	0	1	100%
Secondary Education – English	9	84.44	0	5	2	2	100%
Secondary Education – Math	4	85.62	0	2	0	2	100%
Secondary Education – Islamic Studies	24	83.54	0	15	8	1	100%
Overall mean		84.09					

Table 7. B.Ed. Sec. Comprehensive exam mean scores for 2017-18

	Means Fall 2017	Means Spring 2018
Secondary Education – Social Studies	75	84.53
Secondary Education – Arabic Language	81.88	82.34
Secondary Education – English	72.66	84.44
Secondary Education – Math	83.75	85.62
Secondary Education – Islamic Studies	74.38	83.54
Overall mean	77.53	84.09

Figure 2.



As for the B.Ed. Sec. program, the overall mean scores for all concentrations indicate that students performed at or above target in Fall 2017 (mean = 77.53) and Spring 2018 (mean = 84.09).

The study guides developed to prepare students for the exam, and the orientation sessions offered to them relating to the comprehensive exam seem to have helped students perform better in the exam. The comprehensive exam guides are posted for students on the College website at: <http://www.qu.edu.qa/education/programs/undergraduate/primary-program/comp-exam> for B.Ed. Prim., and at: <http://www.qu.edu.qa/education/programs/undergraduate/secondary-program/comp-exam> for B. Ed. Sec.