

The Level 4 Diploma is the WSET® London Wine & Spirit School's flagship qualification. The qualification is designed to prepare people for responsible jobs within the wine and spirits business. The course will not only develop product knowledge to a specialist level, but will also enable students to acquire skills, for example in research and writing, that will continue to be of use beyond the course. The course is taught by industry experts, many are MWs, all will have up to date knowledge of contemporary issues related to wines and spirits.

The course is suitable for those within the trade either working in or wishing to progress into management roles and for the serious wine enthusiast wishing to build on knowledge gained at Advanced level and acquire expertise in wine tasting. The WSET® Diploma is viewed universally as the stepping-stone to the Master of Wine qualification.

The Level 3 Advanced Certificate is the required entry qualification for anyone wishing to enrol on the Diploma course. Students who have studied outside the UK, who hold the WSET® International Certificate and the Diploma entry qualification, will be able to join the Diploma programme. No other qualifications are accepted for enrolment on the WSET® London Wine & Spirit School Diploma programme.

Level 4 Diploma in Wines and Spirits - Semester One Course Synopsis

Entry requirements	A pass in the Level 3 Advanced Certificate is required
Subjects studied	Synopsis
Wine Tasting	Taste, describe, analyse and make quality assessments of wines using the WSET Systematic Approach to Tasting
Unit 1 - The Global Business	A study of the global and local drinks market and the marketing of alcoholic drinks
Unit 2 - Wine Production	A detailed theoretical study of viticulture, vinification, maturation, treatments and packaging
Unit 3 - Light Wines	Acquire specialist product knowledge and commercial understanding for the following regions: France: Bordeaux, South West France, Burgundy, Loire and Alsace Germany: Ahr, Mittelrhein, Mosel, Nahe, Rheingau, Rheinhessen, Pfalz, Hessische Bergstrasse, Franken, Württemberg, Baden, Saale-Unstrut, Sachsen England and Wales
Unit 6 - Fortified Wines	Learn about the methods of production and the main styles of fortified wines from the key wine producing countries. Spain: Sherry, Montilla-Moriles and Moscatel de Valencia Portugal: Port and Madeira France: Vins Doux Naturels of the Rhône and LanguedocRoussillon Rest of Europe: Greece and Cyprus New World: Australia, California and South Africa
Number of Wines Tasted	105 light wines and 18 fortified wines will be tasted as part of the course
Study Materials	Students will receive a First Semester Course study pack consisting of unit study guides, tasting card and a copy of the Oxford Companion to Wine.
Duration of course	It is expected that students will study the Diploma over two years. Semester One has 54 hours of taught time plus 1 additional examination day
Recommended Private Study	It should be noted the Diploma course requires substantial commitment from students to complete the required private study. It is recommended that, as a minimum, an additional 250 hours of private study is undertaken for this first semester course. It is strongly recommended that the majority of the private study is done in preparation for the course.
Modes of Study	Day release (9 days in total with additional examination days) Consecutive day Block release (2 blocks - one of 5 days and one of four days with additional examination days) Evening (one evening per week for 42 weeks divided into four terms with additional daytime examinations) - only available for the whole Diploma programme. Distance Learning - only available for the whole Diploma programme**
Examination	Unit 1: Closed book case study based examination and a course work assignment Unit 2: A 100 question multiple choice examination Unit 6: A closed book combined theory question (3 paragraph questions) and a blind tasting of 3 fortified wines A mark of 55% required in all examinaitons to pass.
Certification	All students will receive a record of achievement for each unit examination passed.

*Students enrolling onto block release courses are advised to book at least 4 weeks ahead of the start date, to allow for materials to be delivered and pre-reading. **See separate Diploma Online Distance Learning Booking Form or visit www.wsetglobal.com Online Classroom for details of Online Distance courses.