



Higher National Unit specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Equine Studies: Equine Anatomy and Physiology

Unit code: DP1G 34

Unit purpose: This Unit is designed to develop the candidate's knowledge of equine anatomy and its function. It provides a solid basis on which further Equine Anatomy skills can be built. It will enable candidates to understand the anatomical structure of the horse. The candidate will enhance their underpinning knowledge of the correct function of the horses systems and be able to relate this to the horse in a practical situation.

On completion of the Unit the candidate should be able to:

- 1 Describe the basic structure of equine systems.
- 2 Describe the normal function of the systems of the horse.
- 3 Identify the structure and function of equine anatomy and physiology.

Credit points and level: 2 HN credits at SCQF level 7: (16 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7*)

**SCQF credit points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification in the Framework is allocated a number of SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

Recommended prior knowledge and skills: It would be useful if the candidate had some experience of equine anatomy and physiology. This may be evidenced by possession of a relevant NC Unit in a related area such as E8WC 11 *Equine Anatomy and Physiology* or a similar qualification.

Core Skills: There are opportunities to develop the Core Skill of *Communication* at SCQF level 6 in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

Context for delivery: If this Unit is delivered as part of a Group Award, it is recommended that it should be taught and assessed within the subject area of the Group Award to which it contributes.

This Unit is part of the Mandatory section of the HNC and HND in Equine Studies and will normally be delivered as part of the Group Award/s. It is also a free-standing Unit and can be used for the purposes of continuing professional development.

General information for centres (cont)

This Unit provides a solid basis on which further Equine Anatomy skills can be built if required. It will enable candidates to comprehensively understand the anatomical structure of the horse. The candidate will enhance their underpinning knowledge of the correct function of the horses systems and be able to relate this to the horse in a practical situation.

Assessment: This Unit is assessed by two instruments of assessment. The assessment for Outcomes 1 and 2 should be combined together into one written assessment. Outcome 3 will be assessed by a practical investigation in which candidates are asked to complete a series of tasks to enable them to demonstrate their knowledge of horse's anatomy.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards

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The sections of the Unit stating the Outcomes, Knowledge and/or Skills, and Evidence Requirements are mandatory.

Where evidence for Outcomes is assessed on a sample basis, the whole of the content listed in the Knowledge and/or Skills section must be taught and available for assessment. Candidates should not know in advance the items on which they will be assessed and different items should be sampled on each assessment occasion.

Outcome 1

Describe the basic structure of equine systems

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ The structure of the core systems:
 - digestive
 - respiratory
 - circulatory
 - skeletal (support and movement)
 - nervous
 - excretory
 - reproductive
- ◆ The anatomical systems of the horse:

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ describe the structure of the core systems
- ◆ describe the structure of a further four systems

Assessment Guidelines

Outcomes 1 and 2 will be combined into a written assessment lasting two hours.

Where possible the use of clear diagrams to aid the candidates must be included in the assessment. Five core systems and four other systems should be covered.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Equine Studies: Equine Anatomy and Physiology

Outcome 2

Describe the normal function of the systems of the horse

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Function of the core systems:
 - digestive
 - respiratory
 - circulatory
 - skeletal (support and movement)
 - nervous
 - excretory
 - reproductive
- ◆ The anatomical systems of the horse in relation to their function

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ describe the function of the core systems

Assessment Guidelines

Learning Outcome 1 and 2 should be combined into a written assessment.

Where possible the use of clear diagrams to aid the candidates must be included in the assessment.

Outcome 3

Identify the structure and function of equine anatomy and physiology

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Function of the core systems:
 - digestive
 - respiratory
 - circulatory
 - skeletal (support and movement)
 - nervous
 - excretory
 - reproductive
- ◆ The anatomical systems of the horse in relation to their function

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Equine Studies: Equine Anatomy and Physiology

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ apply all of the Evidence Requirements in Learning Outcome 1 and Learning Outcome 2 in a practical situation
- ◆ explain the practical aspects of equine anatomy and physiology

Assessment Guidelines

This Outcome is assessed by a practical investigation and the assessment should be by oral questions.

All the knowledge and or skills must be evidenced in one practical oral investigation. A range of horses may be used.

Administrative Information

Unit code:	DP1G 34
Unit title:	Equine Studies: Equine Anatomy and Physiology
Superclass category:	RH
Original date of publication:	August 2004
Version:	02 (May 2009)

History of changes:

Version	Description of change	Date
02	Change to number of credits — from 1 credit to 2 credits	07/05/09

Source: SQA

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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Equine Studies: Equine Anatomy and Physiology

This part of the Unit specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 80 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

Outcome 1

The candidate should have an awareness of the layout and structure of the anatomical systems of the horses. It is important whilst delivering this Outcome of the Unit that the use of graphical pictures, videos and CD ROMs that can aid the learning process be used.

It is important that whilst the delivery of this Unit is taking place the systems are explained in relation to one another and not singularly. It is the aim of this Unit that the candidate has an awareness of all the systems and how they work and are affected by each other.

Outcome 2

The candidate should have an awareness of the function of the anatomical systems of the horse. It is important whilst delivering this Outcome of the Unit that the use of graphical pictures, videos and CD ROMs that can aid the learning process be used.

It is important that while the delivery of this Unit is taking place the systems are explained in relation to one another and not singularly. It is the aim of this Unit that the candidate has an awareness of all the systems and how they work and are affected by each other.

Outcome 3

The candidate should have an awareness of the layout, structure and function of the anatomical systems of the horses and be able to relate this knowledge to a live animal.

The aim of this Outcome is to draw together all the knowledge and skills learned in the previous two Outcomes. It is therefore fair to say that this Outcome will be delivered last. The candidate will be expected to show a thorough understanding of all the systems taught and be able to be questioned thoroughly and randomly on these systems.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

For Outcome One and Two the paper should take candidates at one single assessment event and that should last two hours. The assessment paper should be composed of a suitable balance of short answer, restricted response and structured questions. This assessment should be conducted under controlled, supervised conditions.

For Outcome Three it is expected that each candidate taught this Unit in the same class will be expected to be tested thoroughly and randomly on a selection of the systems taught in the knowledge and or skills in one practical assessment. The production of an observation check list will be required.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Equine Studies: Equine Anatomy and Physiology

Outcome 3 Candidates should be questioned to clearly identify their knowledge and skills. Candidates should complete this in one single assessment event. Candidates will not be allowed access to any relevant course notes, textbooks and reference material for the assignment.

The content of Outcomes 1 and 2 can be delivered simultaneously, and are designed to develop the candidates understanding of both the structure and function of all the anatomical areas.

Outcome 3 is purely designed to test the candidates underpinning knowledge and depth of understanding. The delivery and assessment must include the use of a live horse. The candidate must be observed giving an oral explanation to the structure and function in relation to the live horse on six randomly chosen areas. The six randomly chosen areas to be assessed should differ between each candidate.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

There may be opportunities to gather evidence towards the Core Skill of *Communication* in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

Open learning

This Unit is well suited for delivery by both open and distance learning where the candidate has appropriate workplace, home based, or other facilities to carry out the practical assignments, and adequate supervision and support is available. This will require careful planning by the centre to ensure the sufficiency and authenticity of candidate evidence. It may be necessary for an "on-line support" tutor to be involved. In situations where the student completes work away from the centre, regular contact with tutors will be necessary. This may take the form of visits by the tutor to the student or vice versa. It is at the discretion of the centre as to whether assessments take place at the centre, workplace, or at home.

Disabled candidates and/or those with additional support needs

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering whether any reasonable adjustments may be required. Further advice can be found on our website www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements

General information for candidates

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