



Higher National Unit specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Equine Studies: Equitation Instructional Techniques

Unit code: DP1V 34

Unit purpose: This Unit is designed to teach the required knowledge and/or skills to enable the candidate to show they can apply the basic principles of teaching, eg manner, voice, control etc, and that they have the ability to improve their pupil's horsemanship and horsemastership using a progressive plan. They must know the safety procedures and principles involved in the organisation of a lesson or hack (in the open country or on roads). They must have knowledge of how to proceed should there be an accident or an emergency and have a sound knowledge of road safety.

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

- 1 Outline knowledge of basic equitation principles.
- 2 Demonstrate teaching techniques.
- 3 Produce and deliver stable management lectures.

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: Candidates require prior experience of riding. This may be evidenced by the National Unit E8WJ 10 *Equitation 1*, BHS Stage 2 or relevant vocational experience.

Core Skills: There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of *Communication*, *Problem Solving* and *Working with Others* at SCQF level 6, however 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 forms part of the Optional section of the HND in Equine Studies and will normally be delivered as part of this award/s. It is a free-standing Unit and can be used for the purposes of continuing professional development.

Assessment: This Unit is assessed by three instruments of assessment; the production of two lesson plans, observation of the delivery of two lessons and a practical assignment to deliver two stable management lectures.

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

Outline knowledge of basic equitation principles

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ General principles of basic equitation
- ◆ The value of the various types of lesson
- ◆ Distances used for ground poles, grids combinations and related distances
- ◆ Importance of lesson planning
- ◆ Lesson structure and content
- ◆ Rider fitness
- ◆ Sports Psychology
- ◆ Risk assessment
- ◆ Correct riding equipment and clothing for the rider
- ◆ Policies and current standards
- ◆ Child Protection Issues

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ describe the general principles of basic equitation
- ◆ describe importance of lesson planning
- ◆ identify appropriate lesson structure and content to cover various types of lesson
- ◆ describe the value of the various types of lesson
- ◆ identify levels of rider fitness
- ◆ describe relevant aspects of Sports Psychology
- ◆ describe the importance of risk assessment whilst teaching
- ◆ identify relevant Health and Safety policies and current standards

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Equine Studies: Equitation Instructional Techniques

Assessment Guidelines

Candidates will be required to develop two lesson plans from the list below. They should include the importance of lesson planning and the value of the chosen types of lesson.

- ◆ Private
- ◆ Class
- ◆ Lunge
- ◆ Lead rein
- ◆ Instructional hack
- ◆ Stable management

Outcome 2

Demonstrate teaching techniques

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Preparation of riders
- ◆ Preliminary checks of saddlery and equipment
- ◆ Lesson Plans
- ◆ Exercises suitable for type of lesson
- ◆ Giving clear commands
- ◆ Control of the ride
- ◆ How to give and receive clear feedback after lesson
- ◆ Equipment checks when lunging
- ◆ Preparation of horse for lunge lesson
- ◆ Control of lead rein horse
- ◆ Suitable type of lead for rider (short lead or end of lead rope)
- ◆ All relevant Health and Safety requirements

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ teach classes of 3–4 pupils, teach lunge and lead rein lessons (to include: an introduction, preparation of riders and preliminary checks)
- ◆ instruct riders demonstrating:
 - clear lesson plan
 - suitable exercises
 - clear voice
 - control of the ride
 - control of horse when lunging and leading
- ◆ give and receive clear feedback to/from rider/s at the finish of the lesson
- ◆ demonstrate safe and suitable use of equipment

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Equine Studies: Equitation Instructional Techniques

Assessment Guidelines

This Outcome will be assessed by the observation of the delivery of two lessons. One should be a class lesson and the other either a lunge or lead reign lesson.

Outcome 3

Produce and deliver stable management lectures

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ The subject to be taught at the level required
- ◆ Preparing a lecture
- ◆ Delivering a lecture in an interesting manner
- ◆ Use of props where appropriate
- ◆ Presentation skills
- ◆ Communication skills

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ prepare and deliver two 5 minute lectures on relevant equine subjects to BHS Stage 2 and/or SVQ level 2 candidates
- ◆ use props where appropriate
- ◆ answer questions at end of lecture

Assessment Guidelines

This Outcome is assessed by a practical assignment to produce and delivery two lectures.

Administrative Information

Unit code: DP1V 34

Unit title: Equine Studies: Equitation Instructional Techniques

Superclass category: MA

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History of changes:

Version	Description of change	Date

Source: SQA

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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Equine Studies: Equitation Instructional Techniques

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

This Unit is primarily intended for candidates who plan to embark on a career in the riding school sector of the industry. The aims are to develop the candidate's skills to be competent to teach at a basic level. By teaching this Unit it is anticipated that the candidate should achieve the level of competence of someone who can teach to the specified level. They should also show an understanding of the basic principles of equitation, lesson planning, sports psychology, Child Protection and Health & Safety matters in relation to the teaching of riding.

- 1 Candidates will receive instruction on a knowledge of basic equitation principles; lesson planning, formats and subjects; simple sports psychology and Child Protection; Health and Safety in relation to the teaching of riding. This Outcome may be taught in a classroom environment and the use of IT for gathering up to date information may be useful. Lessons structure and content should cover the following types of lesson:

- private
- class
- lunge
- lead rein
- instructional hack
- stable management

Aspects of rider fitness should include:

- beginner adult
- beginner child
- signs of physical stress
- awareness of demanding too much warm up/down; stretching
- avoiding sprains and strains
- results of stress
- lengths of lessons

Sports Psychology should cover:

- how the rider learns
- motivation
- visualisation
- handling the a) over-confident rider b) the timid rider
- giving feedback

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Equine Studies: Equitation Instructional Techniques

Risk assessments should cover:

- number of riders
- safe work area
- safe use of equipment

Policies and current standards regarding the following should be covered:

- hats
 - body protectors
 - footwear
 - jewellery
 - accident procedure
- 2 Candidates will receive instruction on teaching a class lesson of 3–4 pupils, Lunge and Lead Rein lessons. Class lessons will be for riders at BHS Stage 2/SVQ level 2 and Lead and Lunge lessons will be for riders from beginner to BHS Stage 2/SVQ level. They will undertake practical sessions where the handling and content will be practiced in a variety of lesson scenarios. The lesson scenarios should include riding on the flat, use of ground poles and grids or jumps.
 - 3 Candidates will receive instruction on the production and delivery of stable management lectures of up to 5 minutes suitable for BHS HKC Stage 2, S/NVQ level 2 level. This will cover the structure, content and delivery of lectures and will include practical sessions where lectures are delivered. Centres will have a range of suitable topics for the candidates' lectures.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

This Unit can be delivered as a free standing Unit or as part of a Group Award. When delivered as part of a Group Award it would be beneficial for it to be delivered after or in conjunction with complimentary units eg Equitation. In these circumstances candidates will more easily appreciate the integration of certain material.

Visits to riding schools and trekking centres should be carried out as appropriate and contact with the general public would be beneficial as would access to visiting trainers.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of *Communication*, *Problem Solving* and *Working with Others* at SCQF level 6, however there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

Open learning

This Unit could be delivered by distance learning. However, it would require planning by the centre to ensure the sufficiency and authenticity of the candidate evidence.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Equine Studies: Equitation Instructional Techniques

Candidates with disabilities and/or additional support needs

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering alternative Outcomes for Units. Further advice can be found in the SQA document *Guidance on Assessment Arrangements for Candidates with Disabilities and/or Additional Support Needs* (www.sqa.org.uk).

General information for candidates

Unit title: Equine Studies: Equitation Instructional Techniques

This Unit is designed to enable you to develop skills associated with the riding school industry. Areas that will be covered will be teaching skills to an appropriate level, the ability to prepare for and deliver various types of lesson and instructional formats. This Unit will show the importance of a knowledge of basic equitation principles; lesson planning, formats and subjects; sports psychology and child protection issues; Health and Safety in relation to the teaching of riding. In addition you will develop good communication skills including the safe use of the voice.

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

- 1 Outline knowledge of basic equitation principles.
- 2 Demonstrate teaching techniques.
- 3 Produce and deliver stable management lectures.

In **Outcome 1** you will learn how to demonstrate your knowledge by showing that you understand the importance of various aspects involved in the teaching and delivery of riding lessons.

In **Outcome 2** you will learn how to demonstrate your knowledge and/or skills by showing that you can teach a class lesson and either a lunge or lead rein lesson.

In **Outcome 3** you will learn how to demonstrate your knowledge and/or skills by showing that you can deliver two 5 minute lectures on relevant equine subjects to BHS Stage 2, SVQ level 2 level candidates.