



Higher National Unit specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Equine Studies: Riding Techniques on the Flat

Unit code: DP3A 35

Unit purpose: This Unit is designed to enable candidates to develop the knowledge and skills of a variety of techniques used for training and assessing horses on the flat. These skills will be developed to a level of competence that will enable candidates to maintain and assess the current training level of horses on the flat up to and including novice standard dressage.

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

- 1 Assess the current level of training of a variety of horses on the flat.
- 2 Ride a variety of horses on the flat to maintain their current level of training.
- 3 Implement a training programme from the ground.

Credit points and level: 2 HN credits at SCQF level 8: (16 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 8*)

**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: Recommended prior knowledge and skills: Access to this Unit will be at the discretion of the centre. This Unit would ideally be taken after the Higher National Unit Equine Studies: Equitation. In addition it would be useful if the candidate had some experience of riding and training horses on the flat.

Core Skills: There are opportunities to develop the Core Skill of *Problem Solving* 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 Optional section of the HND in Equine Studies. It is a free-standing Unit and may be delivered for the purposes of continuing professional development.

Assessment: This Unit is assessed both practically and through oral and written reports.

Outcome 1 and 2 are assessed in a combined practical exercise. Outcome 3 is assessed by a project covering written and practical aspects.

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

Assess the current level of training of a variety of horses on the flat

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Assessment of the current level of training including conformation, age and soundness
- ◆ Techniques to assess horses on the flat
- ◆ Effective riding of horses to assess potential, suitability and current level of training

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ assess two selected horses' level of training on the flat over a given period of time
- ◆ provide feedback on assessment of the selected horses covering conformation, age and soundness, current level of training and their future potential on the flat

Assessment Guidelines

Outcomes 1 and 2 are assessed by one practical assignment to cover the Evidence Requirements

Candidates should be given set time period to ride and assess the two horses before presenting their oral reports. An observation checklist should be used to provide the evidence required

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Equine Studies: Riding Techniques on the Flat

Outcome 2

Ride a variety of horses on the flat to maintain their current level of training

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Ride a variety of horses on the flat
- ◆ Maintain their current level of training
- ◆ Develop the quality of work within the horse's repertoire

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ demonstrate ridden/ground techniques on selected horses to maintain their current level of training.
- ◆ describe the value of schoolwork in overall development of the horse

Assessment Guidelines

Outcome 1 and 2 are assessed by one practical assignment. An observation checklist should be used to cover all points in the Evidence Requirements.

Outcome 3

Implement a training programme from the ground

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Ground techniques to include lunging, long reining or loose schooling.
- ◆ Assessment of horses on the flat using ground techniques.
- ◆ Planning of training programmes for horses using ridden and ground techniques
- ◆ Implementation of training programmes over a specified period
- ◆ Appropriate tack for both ridden and ground training.
- ◆ Necessary modifications to the programme.

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ develop and produce a training plan to maintain and improve a selected horse on the flat using ground techniques
- ◆ implement the training plan over a given period.
- ◆ carry out any modifications to the plan during implementation.
- ◆ prepare a written report to cover all stages of the programme and evaluate the success of the programme.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Equine Studies: Riding Techniques on the Flat

Assessment Guidelines

This Outcome is assessed by a project which assesses the candidate's ability to plan, implement and evaluate a training programme for a selected horse. The practical element is carried out over a given period and a practical checklist should be used to monitor progress. A written case study will provide evidence of the range of knowledge and skills.

Administrative Information

Unit code: DP3A 35

Unit title: Equine Studies: Riding Techniques on the Flat

Superclass category: SH

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History of changes:

Version	Description of change	Date

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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Equine Studies: Riding Techniques on the Flat

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

This Outcome provides the candidate with the knowledge and skills required to assess and report on the current level of training of a variety of horses on the flat. Candidates should be made aware of the techniques used to assess horses on the flat and the assessment of the level of training should cover conformation, age and soundness.

Outcome 2

This Outcome provides the candidate with the knowledge and skills to ride a variety of horses on the flat to maintain their current level of training.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

Outcome 1

In this Outcome the candidate should develop the skills to be able to effectively ride horses in order to assess their suitability and current level of training and their future potential on the flat.

Outcome 2

In this Outcome candidates are not expected to improve on the horse's level of training but only to maintain the existing level. The level of training would include up to novice standard dressage. Techniques to maintain the level of training would include both ground and ridden techniques. Candidates should be made aware of the importance of schoolwork to the overall development of the horse.

Outcome 3

Candidates are not required to ride the horse for this Outcome.

The candidate will be required to develop and implement a training plan for a selected horse. Examples of ground techniques would include lunging, long reining and loose schooling. Candidates should be able to modify the training programme as required to ensure it is suitable for the selected horse.

Candidates will be required to evaluate the success of the training programme and present this information in the form of a report.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Equine Studies: Riding Techniques on the Flat

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

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

Open learning

For information on normal open learning arrangements, please refer to the SQA guide *Assessment and Quality Assurance of Open and Distance Learning* (SQA, 2000).

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: Riding Techniques on the Flat

This Unit is designed to enable you to develop the knowledge and skills in riding techniques on the flat. The Unit assesses you on the planning, implementing and evaluating of a programme for a selected horse. You will be required to reach an agreed level of competence in riding and assessing horses and will be required to demonstrate you can maintain their current level of training up to and including novice standard dressage.

The Unit consists of three Outcomes:

- 1 Assess the current level of training of a variety of horses on the flat.
- 2 Ride a variety of horses on the flat to maintain their current level of training.
- 3 Implement a training programme from the ground.

You will be assessed by a practical assignment for Outcome 1 and 2 and by a project for Outcome 3.