



Higher National Unit specification: general information

Unit title: Public Health: An International Perspective

Unit code: FN68 35

Superclass: PA

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Unit purpose:

This Unit is designed to enable candidates to identify statistically relevant health priorities and to gain an understanding of the factors contributing to the development of these issues. The candidate will investigate current policies and initiatives and international collaboration required to address current policies and initiatives and international collaboration required to address these public health concerns. In addition the candidate will investigate the factors required for a successful health improvement campaign and any subsequent long term implications for care provision.

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

- 1 Discuss current international health priorities.
- 2 Investigate current international initiatives which support health and wellbeing.
- 3 Analyse the requirement for an effective Health Improvement Programme.

Recommended prior knowledge and skills

Access to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre however it is recommended that candidates should be able to demonstrate, a thorough understanding of health care. This may be evidenced by significant experience of working within a health care, social care or an early years setting.

Credit points and level

1 Higher National credit at SCQF level 8: (8 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.*

General information (cont)

Core Skills

Opportunities to develop aspects of Core Skills are highlighted in the Support Notes of this Unit specification.

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skill components in this Unit.

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 in the framework of HNC/HND Care and Administrative Practice. It may be suitable for delivery as a stand-alone Unit for candidates with a specific interest in this area, or those studying health or social care.

Assessment

It is recommended that the evidence for Outcomes 1, 2 and 3 are assessed holistically.

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

Discuss current international health priorities.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Statistics relating to international health priorities
- ◆ Current health issues
- ◆ Contributing factors to international health issues
- ◆ Current Health Care Services/provision

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ investigate the statistics relating to one major international health priority
- ◆ investigate 1 contemporary international health issue
- ◆ examine the contributing factors to the selected health issues, health care services/provision.

Assessment Guidelines

It is recommended that Outcomes 1, 2 and 3 are assessed holistically. Candidates could be asked to participate in a group presentation on a health improvement programme. Each candidate should support their contribution by submitting 500 words of written evidence, academically written and referenced.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Public Health: An International Perspective

Outcome 2

Investigate current international initiatives which support health and wellbeing.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Contributing factors
- ◆ Current policies and initiatives
- ◆ International collaboration
- ◆ Partnership working and community involvement
- ◆ Factors influencing implementation
- ◆ Controversial issues surrounding current initiatives

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ explore the contributing factors to the development of a public health concern
- ◆ investigate current initiatives/policies that relate to 1 relevant health programme
- ◆ research international agency collaboration
- ◆ examine the implementation strategies from this programme
- ◆ investigate strategic partnerships and community involvement
- ◆ investigate cultural, religious and economic influences on implementation.

Assessment Guidelines

It is recommended that Outcomes 1, 2 and 3 are assessed holistically. Candidates could be asked to participate in a group presentation on a health improvement programme. Each candidate should support their contribution by submitting 500 words of written evidence, academically written and referenced.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Public Health: An International Perspective

Outcome 3

Analyse the requirements for an effective Health Improvement Programme.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Need for Health improvement programme
- ◆ Objectives relevant to programmes
- ◆ Factors necessary for a successful programme including service providers
- ◆ Long term applications
- ◆ Importance of participation and cooperation of partnership working

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ identify relevant objectives for one Health improvement programme
- ◆ evaluate the effectiveness of the aims and objectives in terms of improving health
- ◆ discuss the factors necessary for a successful health improvement programme
- ◆ analysis of long term implications.

Assessment Guidelines

It is recommended that Outcomes 1, 2 and 3 are assessed holistically. Candidates could be asked to participate in a group presentation on a health improvement programme. Each candidate should support their contribution by submitting 500 words of written evidence, academically written and referenced.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Public health: An International Perspective

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 40 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

Outcome 1

Candidates will be expected to research the statistics relating to a range of current health conditions in a variety of geographical areas. In doing so, they will have to identify any statistically significant health priorities.

The geographical areas to be examined could include:

- ◆ Asia
- ◆ Africa
- ◆ America

Candidates will be expected to investigate one health priority which should be one of the following:

- ◆ Malnutrition
- ◆ TB
- ◆ Maternal and Child health
- ◆ HIV/AIDS
- ◆ Obesity
- ◆ Diabetes
- ◆ Malaria
- ◆ Hepatitis B

Having investigated their chosen health priority candidates should then explore the contributing factors to the development of the health issue, these could be social, economic, political, historical factors.

Outcome 2

This Outcome will explore the factors that have contributed to the development of the chosen public health priority; these could be social economic or historical factors. Candidates will examine current international policy and initiatives relating to 1 relevant health and well being programme pertaining to the priority identified in LO1. The candidate will examine how this programme is implemented in the local area to meet the needs of the target group and whether it is successful or not. This may mean researching available data. Candidates should explore the collaboration between international and national agencies aimed at addressing this health priority; this should include examining the targets, guidelines and strategies identified by these agencies. This should then be linked to how the programme is implemented at local level through partnership and community involvement.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Public health: An International Perspective

International agencies should include World Health organisation and others such as UNICEF, Save the Children, Red Cross and Oxfam. In determining the success of the initiatives the candidate should identify any cultural, religious or economic influences that may impact on the success of the programme, eg condom use in HIV prevention in Africa, the cost of vaccination programmes, the use of contraception.

Outcome 3

The candidate has to describe in depth the identified international health improvement programme and explain the objectives of this programme and whether the programme has been successful in meeting those objectives. The candidates will explore what factors are necessary for a successful health improvement campaign, eg finance, identification of targets, appropriate communication approaches, co-ordination and teamwork and education. Any long term implications for continued health promotion, eg on-going aid, education programmes, training of local people and changes in local/national government involvement should be analysed and evaluated by the candidate.

Sources of Information

www.globalissues.org
www.who.int
<http://www.unicef.org.uk>
<http://www.wateraid.org.uk>

Journals

Global health Promotion
International Journal of Health Promotion and Education

Textbooks

McQueen D Jones C (2007) *Global Perspectives on Health Promotion Effectiveness*, Springer: New York

Mercon M Black R Mills A.(2006) *International Public Health*. Jones and Bartlett Publishers: London

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

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.

Care Planning is a mandatory Unit in the HND Care and Administrative Practice. It is essential that candidates are aware that they need to achieve all Evidence Requirements for the award. It can however, be taken as a stand-alone Unit.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Public health: An International Perspective

This Unit will be assessed holistically; it is recommended that Outcomes 1, 2 and 3 are assessed holistically. Candidates could be asked to participate in a group presentation on a health improvement programme. Each candidate should support their contribution by submitting 500 words of written evidence, academically written and referenced.

Open learning

The Unit could be delivered by open or distance learning. However, it would require planning by the centre to ensure sufficiency and authenticity of candidate evidence. Arrangements would have to be made to ensure that the assessment was conducted under supervision.

Opportunities for the use of e-assessment

E-assessment may be appropriate for some assessments in this Unit. By e-assessment we mean assessment which is supported by Information and Communication Technology (ICT), such as e-testing or the use of e-portfolios or e-checklists. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all candidate evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the Evidence Requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. Further advice is available in *SQA Guidelines on Online Assessment for Further Education (AA1641, March 2003)*, *SQA Guidelines on e-assessment for Schools (BD2625, June 2005)*.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

There are opportunities for developing Core Skills of *Communication* at SCQF level 6, *Working with Others* SCQF level 6, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

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.

History of changes to Unit

Version	Description of change	Date

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General information for candidates

Unit title: Public Health: An International Perspective

This Unit is all about exploring a current health issue from an international perspective. So what you are going to start with is looking at the statistics relating to current health issues from a variety of places around the world, eg Asia, Africa or America. These issues could be any one of the following:

- ◆ Malnutrition
- ◆ TB
- ◆ Maternal and child health
- ◆ HIV/Aids
- ◆ Obesity
- ◆ Diabetes
- ◆ Malaria
- ◆ Hepatitis B

You will investigate the factors that have contributed to the development of your chosen health issue, these could be: social, economic, or historical factors. Then you are going to identify and investigate one relevant health campaign. This will involve investigation what is happening from an international perspective with regard to this health issue and examining the implementation of the programme. This will mean considering the international collaboration required to create such programmes and how these mean programmes are implemented at local level through partnerships working and community involvement. Bear in mind that local customs, religious beliefs or local/national economies may have an effect on the implementation and ultimate success of these programmes.

You will then examine your chosen health programme and analyse its effectiveness in meeting its aims and objectives. Through this analysis you should be able to identify the contributing factors necessary to the implementation of an effective health improvement campaign. When considering the requirements for a successful campaign you will need to consider; continued international involvement, management of the programme, any long term implications for health care provision, cost, on-going aid, education programmes, training of local people, change in local/national government involvement and the ultimate sustainability of the programme.

There is one assessment for this Unit and it takes the form of a group presentation. You will have to submit 500 words of supporting evidence which should be academically written and referenced. The presentation may be supported by the use of:

- ◆ Posters/display — photographic evidence
- ◆ Leaflets/booklets
- ◆ DVD
- ◆ E portfolio