



## Higher National Unit specification: general information

**Unit title:** Music History 1

**Unit code:** H1M9 34

**Superclass:** LF

**Publication date:** June 2012

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**Version:** 01

### Unit purpose

This Unit is designed to give candidates a broad knowledge of a period in music history. This Unit is suitable for candidates who wish to develop a range of skills (research, analysis, evaluation and presentation) and will give them the underpinning knowledge to apply these skills in other areas.

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

- 1 Demonstrate an understanding of a period of music history.
- 2 Demonstrate knowledge of stylistic evolution.
- 3 Compare and contrast works from a chosen period.

### Recommended prior knowledge and skills

Entry to this Unit will be at the discretion of the centre. Candidates should have good communication skills and these may be demonstrated by the possession of Core Skill Communication at SCQF level 6, by possession of Higher English or a suitable NQ Communication Unit (SCQF level 6).

### Credit points and level

1 Higher National Unit credit at SCQF level 7: (8 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.*

## **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**

This is an optional Unit in the frameworks for HNC/D Music and Music Business Group Awards. It is recommended that it is taught and assessed within the context of the particular Group Award to which it contributes.

The assessment exemplar for this Unit provides assessment and marking guidelines that exemplify the national standard for achievement. It is a valid, reliable and practicable instrument of assessment. Centres wishing to develop their own assessments should refer to the assessment exemplar to ensure a comparable standard. Assessment exemplars are available on SQA's secure website.

## 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

Demonstrate an understanding of a period of music history.

#### Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Chronology of historical period of study.
- ◆ Main genres of period.
- ◆ Seminal figures within period.
- ◆ Important social, political, economic, cultural and technological influences and factors.

#### Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ produce an overview of a period of music history by correctly identifying, in chronological order, the main musical developments that occurred during the period of study
- ◆ identify the main genres of music from period of study
- ◆ recognise seminal figures within period of study and comment on the nature of their influence
- ◆ briefly describe any important social, political, economic, cultural or technological factors that have been influential

Evidence for the Knowledge and/or Skills in this Outcome will be provided in the form of written and/or oral evidence and the above elements must be included. The chronology of the evidence presented should be accurate and should include the correct identification of the main genres. Candidates should also identify one seminal figure within each of the genres they have outlined and indicate the nature of their influence. At least two of the following factors should be discussed in terms of their influence on the music of the period:

- ◆ social
- ◆ political
- ◆ economic
- ◆ cultural
- ◆ technological

## Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

**Unit title:** Music History 1

### Outcome 2

Demonstrate knowledge of stylistic evolution.

#### Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Outline the development of a musical style.
- ◆ Identify the origin of a musical style.
- ◆ Trace the development of stylistic evolution over a period of time.

#### Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need evidence to demonstrate their skills and/or knowledge by showing that they can:

- ◆ report on the development of a musical style
- ◆ identify the origins of the major stylistic features of the chosen style
- ◆ plot a course of development through a chosen period to show stylistic evolution

Evidence for the Knowledge and/or Skills in this Outcome will be provided in the form of written and/or oral evidence which includes the elements above.

### Outcome 3

Compare and contrast works from a chosen period.

#### Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Selection of two contemporary works and identification of suitable elements for comparison/contrast.
- ◆ Detailed factual information on chosen composer/performers' work(s).
- ◆ Analysis of selected elements, comparing and contrasting the works.

#### Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ select suitable works from two contemporaries for comparison and contrast
- ◆ identify at least two elements from chosen works and make meaningful comparison and contrast between them
- ◆ show a wider knowledge of the works of the chosen period

Evidence for the Knowledge and/or Skills in this Outcome will be provided in the form of written and/or oral evidence which includes the elements above.

## **Higher National Unit specification: support notes**

### **Unit title:** Music History 1

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**

This Unit is designed to give candidates historical knowledge and provide useful insight into the areas of music being studied. In addition to providing context to the music that candidates listen to and play, it should also provide opportunities to develop skills in research, analysis, evaluation and presentation. It is also intended to provide the opportunity for candidates to research an area of special interest.

### **Guidance on the delivery of this Unit**

Whilst it may not be appropriate in some instances for candidates to use all criteria (oral, written, visual and audio) in any presentation, it is desirable that they should include at least two.

If this Unit is assessed using one integrated assessment, it should be of a more comprehensive nature than that required for a single Outcome.

As it is possible for candidates to use research they have gathered for the purpose of one Outcome as a basis for subsequent Outcomes, tutors should encourage candidates to recognise potential for this in their Unit delivery wherever possible.

Candidates should be made aware of the value of appropriate referencing if they are submitting written evidence in the form of an essay or report.

### **Guidance on the assessment of this Unit**

The Unit could be assessed by a single instrument of assessment that requires learners to produce a comprehensive written report or oral presentation.

It would also be possible to break this assessment down into three separate assessment events that assess each Outcome separately. In this case evidence could be gathered in the form of three written reports or oral presentations, or combination thereof.

Candidates should be encouraged at all times to be aware of the relationships that exist between the Outcomes so that elements of the research undertaken for Outcome 1 can be used as a basis for research in Outcome 2 and research from both Outcome 1 and 2 can form the basis of the work presented for Outcome 3.

## Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

**Unit title:** Music History 1

### Assessment Guidelines

#### Outcome 1

The assessment for this Outcome could be a written or oral report, or form part of a larger integrated presentation if the assessment of Outcomes is to be combined.

Should there be ambiguity regarding a candidate's response, oral questioning may be used to eliminate any doubt as to the candidate's understanding. The lecturer should note questions and responses.

For candidates undertaking the Group Award this Outcome may also provide opportunities for integration with Outcomes from *Music First Study 1: Instrument, Music First Study 1: Composition* and *Songwriting 1*.

#### Outcome 2

The assessment for this Outcome could be a written or oral report, or form part of a larger integrated presentation if the assessment of Outcomes is to be combined.

This Outcome requires the candidate to select a suitable style of music from an early part of the period of study, outline its development as a style and identify its origins. Once this has been established, the candidate should plot a course through the period of history showing how their original style has influenced a subsequent musical style and how that style has been influential to another. This should continue through the period of study until a clear line of stylistic evolution is evident.

Candidates should give a brief description of the origins and development of the style chosen. The majority of their work should concentrate on stylistic development and should clearly show how elements of the previous style have been influential. Any significant musical developments should be identified and their relationship with the previous style established.

#### Outcome 3

The assessment for this Outcome could be a written or oral report, or form part of a larger integrated presentation if the assessment of Outcomes is to be combined.

Candidates should select two contemporaries from within the period of study and compare and contrast one or more of their major works. Suitable elements for comparison and contrast could include melodic content, harmony, lyric content, form, production values, etc. They should also be able to demonstrate detailed knowledge of the works of contemporaries chosen by referencing other works.

Should there be ambiguity regarding a candidate's response, oral questioning may be used to eliminate any doubt as to the candidate's understanding. The lecturer should note questions and responses.

## Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

**Unit title:** Music History 1

For candidates undertaking the Group Award this Outcome may also provide opportunities for integration with Outcomes from Music First Study 1: Instrument, Music First Study 1: Composition and Songwriting 1.

### Online and Distance Learning

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

### Opportunities for developing Core Skills

This Unit provides excellent opportunities to develop aspects of the Core Skill of Communication as candidates will produce written and/or oral evidence for all Outcomes. Should candidates choose to undertake some of their research online then there may be opportunities to develop aspects of the Core Skill of *Information and Communication Technology (ICT)*.

### 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](http://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: Music History 1

This Unit is designed to give you an overview of a period of music history. It will be beneficial to all candidates studying towards an HNC/D Music qualification. An increased awareness of the context of the music you are studying should also enhance your musical performance. You will be expected to undertake research to supplement information received in class and will be supported in your efforts to develop skills in analysis, evaluation and presentation. Your own research is fundamental to the successful completion of this Unit.

Outcome 1 requires you to have an overview of a period of music history by showing evidence of the chronology, the major styles and seminal figures of the period and an awareness of any wider social/political/economic/technological and/or cultural influences. The assessment for this Outcome is a written or oral presentation/report.

Outcome 2 requires you to identify a style of music from the early part of your historical period of study and describe what is distinctive about it. You should also indicate the origin of the style you have chosen. Once this has been established, you will be asked to plot a linear course through the period of study showing how the original style has influenced a subsequent musical style and how that style has been influential to another. This should continue through the period of study until a clear line of stylistic evolution is evident. The assessment for this Outcome is a written or oral presentation/report.

In Outcome 3 you will select two contemporaries from within a period of study and compare and contrast one or more of their major works. Suitable elements for comparison and contrast could include melodic content, harmony, lyric content, form, production values, etc. You should also be able to demonstrate a wider, more comprehensive knowledge of the works of contemporaries chosen by referencing other works that add weight to your case and commenting on the works' wider influences. The assessment for this Outcome will be a written report or oral presentation. Where appropriate you may use oral, text, visual and audio elements to supplement and enhance any presentation.

It is possible that you will undertake this Unit as a project which will encompass all three Outcomes. In this case, you will be required to give a comprehensive report or presentation demonstrating your knowledge of the information required for these Outcomes. You are encouraged at all times to be aware of the relationships that exist between the Outcomes so that elements of the research you undertake for Outcome 1 can be used as a basis for your research in Outcome 2 and research from both Outcome 1 and 2 can form the basis for your presentation in Outcome 3.