

National Unit Specification: general information

UNIT Gàidhlig: Gaelic Language and Culture (Higher)

NUMBER D234 12

COURSE Gàidhlig (Higher)

SUMMARY

This unit aims to develop the ability to engage in an in-depth focused study of a specific aspect related to the Gaelic language and culture. Candidates will be required to engage in a considerable amount of investigation and research. The unit will provide candidates with greater understanding of Gaelic culture and of the Gaelic-speaking community.

OUTCOMES

- 1 Demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of an issue related to Gaelic language and culture.
- 2 Present the result of investigation and research.

RECOMMENDED ENTRY

While entry is at the discretion of the centre, candidates would normally be expected to have attained either:

- Standard Grade Gàidhlig at Credit level
- Intermediate 2 Gàidhlig or its component units.

or

- other appropriate award.

CREDIT VALUE

1 credit at Higher.

Administrative Information

Superclass: FK

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National Unit Specification: general information (cont)

UNIT Gàidhlig: Gaelic Language and Culture (Higher)

CORE SKILLS

This unit gives automatic certification of the following:

Complete core skills for the unit	None
Core skills components for the unit	Planning and Organising Int 2 Reviewing and Evaluating Int 2

Additional information about core skills is published in the *Catalogue of Core Skills in National Qualifications* (SQA, 2001).

National Unit Specification: standard of statements

UNIT Gàidhlig: Gaelic Language and Culture (Higher)

Acceptable performance in this unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the unit specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to the Scottish Qualifications Authority.

OUTCOME 1

Demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of an issue related to Gaelic language and culture.

Performance criteria

- a) Records a plan of action for the research.
- b) Draws and analyses appropriate evidence from source materials.
- c) Demonstrates reasonably comprehensive and accurate knowledge and understanding of the issue.

Evidence requirements

Plan of action related to the research.

Candidates will present evidence that they have acquired knowledge and understanding of the specific issue related to Gaelic language and culture which they are studying.

The evidence will be presented continuously while the candidates engage in investigation and research in order to prove to staff that work is progressing satisfactorily.

Evidence of the acquired knowledge and understanding can be presented in a variety of forms. It can be presented in written form or it can be presented orally.

The teacher/lecturer and the candidate should keep a record of progress by retaining and regularly updating a candidate log. The teacher/lecturer must be satisfied that the candidate is making adequate progress in terms of locating appropriate sources, collating evidence from these sources and drawing conclusions from the evidence which is used.

OUTCOME 2

Present the result of investigation and research.

Performance criteria

- a) Identifies clearly the issue being investigated.
- b) Presents sustained and comprehensive analysis.
- c) Draws conclusions clearly and makes recommendations with detailed reference to sources.
- d) Presents work in an appropriate form demonstrating control of a wide range of vocabulary, awareness of register and control of necessary language structures.

Evidence requirements

The evidence provided at the end of this unit will be in the form of a draft report of approximately 1,000 words in Gaelic.

The report will be compiled under controlled conditions in the presenting centre. The candidate will have access to source materials and notes when completing the draft.

The draft report will be the culmination of a candidate's work throughout the unit. It will demonstrate clearly that the candidate is able to present the final result of the investigation and research in an appropriate fashion.

National Unit Specification: support notes

UNIT Gàidhlig: Gaelic Language and Culture (Higher)

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

Candidates will engage in planning research into an aspect of Gaelic language and culture in depth. Research could focus on Gaelic education, media, history, literature, the arts or any other appropriate topic.

Results of research will be collated in a report.

GUIDANCE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING APPROACHES FOR THIS UNIT

Source materials can encompass a wide range of evidence which can be accessed by candidates. The evidence can be written, oral, visual, etc. The main criteria should be the suitability of the material and its direct relevance to the topic being studied.

Candidates could access suitable resource materials in many ways. A few examples include:

- making use of local libraries
- using material available in Comuinn Eachdraidh
- interviewing people
- using the media - TV, radio, newspapers
- communicating with various organisations.

GUIDANCE ON APPROACHES TO ASSESSMENT FOR THIS UNIT

Outcome 1

A specific issue should be identified for investigation within the chosen area of study. There must be a particular focus for a candidate's investigation and research. For example, within the media area of study, candidates could currently address such issues as:

- the role of the media in supporting the teaching of Gaelic as a second language
- the extent of CCG control over the content of Gaelic programmes
- the role of Gaelic in local and national newspapers.

The specific issue to be addressed should be negotiated between the candidate and the teacher.

Outcome 2

Teachers/lecturers should offer candidates advice and guidance with regard to the presentation. However, it cannot be overemphasised that the candidates should accept responsibility for their own studies and that they should shoulder the ultimate responsibility for the presentation of their own work.

Part of the additional 40 hours allocated to the course could be used for the purpose of writing up the final version of the report.

National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

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SPECIAL NEEDS

This unit specification is intended to ensure that there are no artificial barriers to learning or assessment. Special needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments or considering alternative outcomes for units. For information on these, please refer to the SQA document *Guidance on Special Assessment Arrangements* (SQA, 2001).