

National Unit Specification: general information

UNIT Gàidhlig: Gaelic Language and Culture (Advanced Higher)

NUMBER D234 13

COURSE Gaidhlig (Advanced Higher)

SUMMARY

This unit aims to engage candidates in an in-depth focused study of a specific aspect related to 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 in a report.

RECOMMENDED ENTRY

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

course or units in Higher Gàidhlig

or

• other appropriate award

Administrative Information

Superclass: FK

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National Unit Specification: general information (cont)

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CREDIT VALUE

1 credit at Advanced 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 H

Reviewing and Evaluating H

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

National Unit Specification: statement of standards

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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) Identifies a range of source materials appropriate to the issue being investigated.
- (c) Draws and analyses appropriate and detailed evidence from identified source materials.
- (d) Presents arguments, based on evidence, which are logical, sustained and reflect a personal stance.
- (e) Draws appropriate conclusions from the collated evidence.
- (f) Shows accurate and comprehensive knowledge and understanding of an issue.

Evidence requirements

Plan of action related to the research.

Candidates will present evidence that they have acquired knowledge and understanding of, and insights into, 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 the teacher/lecturer 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.

National Unit Specification: statement of standards (cont)

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OUTCOME 2

Present the result of investigation and research in a report.

Performance criteria

- (a) Clearly identifies the issue being investigated.
- (b) Presents sustained and comprehensive analysis in a logical manner.
- (c) Draws conclusions clearly and makes recommendations with detailed reference to sources.
- (d) Presents work in an appropriate form showing an awareness of the conventions necessary for discussion and exposition of the topic.

Evidence requirements

The evidence provided at the end of this unit will be in the form of a draft report of approximately 2,000 words in length.

The draft report will be the culmination of a candidate's work throughout the unit and will demonstrate clearly that the candidate is able to present the final result of the investigation and research in an appropriate fashion. The final draft will be completed under controlled conditions in the presenting centre and the candidate will have access to source materials and notes.

National Unit Specification: support notes

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This part of the unit specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the time allocated to this unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 40 hours.

GUIDANCE ON CONTENT AND CONTEXT FOR THIS UNIT

Candidates will plan for a detailed research into an aspect of Gaelic education, media, history, literature, the arts or any other appropriate topic.

Candidates will be expected to engage in independent study and research findings will be written up in the form of a report.

GUIDANCE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING APPROACHES FOR THIS UNIT

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

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

Outcome 2

Teacher/lecturers should offer candidates advice and guidance with regard to the presentation. However, candidates should accept responsibility for their own studies and should shoulder the ultimate responsibility for the presentation of their work.

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).