

National Unit Specification: general information

UNIT A World of Values (Intermediate 1)

NUMBER DF11 10

COURSE

SUMMARY

The Unit has been designed to provide a broad overview on issues of morality, and is based on the Short Course of the same title. This Unit allows individual candidates and teachers/lecturers to choose aspects of social issues and investigate them further, examining differing moral responses to these issues, while allowing candidates to form their own views.

OUTCOMES

1. Demonstrate understanding of the moral dimension underlying a number of social issues.
2. Explain the moral dimension of the responses to these social issues.
3. Express a personal opinion on these social issues, and justify this with reasons.

RECOMMENDED ENTRY

There are no formal entry requirements.

CREDIT VALUE

1 credit at Intermediate 1 (6 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 4*)

**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.*

Administrative Information

Superclass: DD

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National Unit Specification: general information (cont)

CORE SKILLS

Information on the automatic certification of any core skills in this unit is published in *Automatic Certification of Core Skills in National Qualifications* (SQA, publication code BA0906).

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 understanding of the moral dimension underlying a number of social issues.

Performance criteria

- a) Describe one aspect of a major social issue.
- b) Explain why this issue causes concern to people.

Evidence requirements

PCs (a) and (b): evidence in the form of a restricted response for one out of three issues. The restricted response should describe an aspect of a major social issue, and explain why this issue causes people concern, taking account of the moral dimension of the issue.

The response should be approximately 50 words. Time allocation is approximately 15 minutes.

OUTCOME 2

Explain the moral dimension of the responses to these social issues.

Performance criteria

- a) On one aspect of a given issue, explain a religious response to the social issue.
- b) Explain an additional relevant response to the given issue.

Evidence requirements

PCs (a) and (b): evidence in the form of a restricted response for one out of three issues. The restricted response should explain a religious response and at least one other response to the given issue, which need not be religious.

The response should be approximately 100 words. Time allocation is approximately 30 minutes.

OUTCOME 3

Express a personal opinion on these social issues, and justify this with reasons.

Performance criteria

- a) Express a clear personal opinion on the moral dimension of a social issue.
- b) Justify this opinion by supporting it with at least two appropriate reasons.

Evidence requirements

PCs (a) and (b): evidence in the form of a restricted response for one out of three issues. The restricted response should consist of a clear personal opinion supported by at least two reasons.

The response should be approximately 50 words. Time allocation is approximately 15 minutes.

National Unit Specification: statement of standards (cont)

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Please note that candidates are required to explore aspects of three social issues, and that they need to generate evidence of successful attainment in relation to at least one of these.

National Unit Specification: support notes

UNIT A World of Values (Intermediate 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 free-standing. Therefore, this Unit cannot be used by candidates intending to undertake the full Intermediate I course.

Candidates are required to examine different aspects of social issues. Here are some suggestions:

Human Rights, e.g. torture, abortion, euthanasia, capital punishment, etc.

Prejudice, e.g. racism in a given context, ageism, sexism, bigotry, religious intolerance, etc.

Rich and Poor, e.g. debt, trade, aid, distribution of wealth, etc.

War and Peace, e.g. any given war, nuclear war, the arms race, etc.

GUIDANCE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING APPROACHES FOR THIS UNIT

This Unit will demand a variety of learning and teaching approaches with an emphasis on the development of skills. These skills will include the skills of discussing, analysing, evaluating, reasoning and investigating. Group work should encourage discussion and interaction between candidates. Teacher/lecturer input will vary, but will constitute an essential part of the course.

Since the Unit is broad, and the choices of study so extensive, candidates can be given the opportunity to choose some or all of their areas to examine in depth. Indeed, this Unit allows candidates to investigate topics individually or as part of a group, before undertaking the Unit assessments.

To heighten candidates' awareness of major social issues in the world today and the moral dimensions of these, the following approaches are recommended:

Paired, group and class discussion; Personal Investigations; Case Studies; Teacher/lecturer exposition; Group/class collage of newspaper articles; listening to music related to the social issue; judicious use of internet resources; use of TV/Video resources for discussion and research purposes; visiting speakers.

GUIDANCE ON APPROACHES TO ASSESSMENT FOR THIS UNIT

Wherever possible, assessment should be used judiciously and efficiently to provide evidence of the achievement of all the outcomes in the Unit. The evidence can be gathered during or at the end of the Unit and must be completed under controlled conditions, i.e. under supervision without collaboration and the assistance of teacher/lecturer advice. The evidence should be composed of assessments relating to each of the outcomes with equal weighting given to each outcome. The evidence should be based on at least one out of the three issues within the chosen area of study.

National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

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The marking scheme should reflect the standard embodied in the performance criteria. This would allow the evidence to be considered as a whole. The attainment required for successful completion of the Unit should represent satisfactory attainment of all the performance criteria.

NB: Due to the nature of this free-standing Unit, teachers/lecturers are encouraged to submit their own NABs to the SQA for prior moderation

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 special alternative outcomes for units. For information on these, please refer to the SQA document *Guidance on Special Assessment Arrangements* (SQA, publication code AA0645).