



**National Qualifications 2012
Internal Assessment Report**

Modern Studies

The purpose of this report is to provide feedback to centres on verification in National Qualifications in this subject.

National Qualifications (NQ) Units

Titles/levels of NQ Units verified:

Political Issues in the United Kingdom	DV52 12, 11, 10, 9
Social Issues in the United Kingdom	DV53 12, 11, 10
International Issues	DV54 12, 11, 10, 9

General comments

Modern Studies was verified at all levels across all study themes.

The Verifiers were delighted to observe that all of the centres verified were working to the National Standard and that all centres were Accepted. It was clearly evident that candidates are being presented at the correct level.

Unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials

Modern Studies as a subject requires regular updating of materials and it is vital that the most recent edition of the assessment items is used. All the centres that were verified should be commended for using the most recent edition of the National Assessment Bank (NAB) and for marking at a correct and consistent standard. The Verifiers were also delighted to note that no outdated NABs were used during this year's verification process.

Evidence Requirements

All materials presented to the verification team were accompanied with full documentation. There was clear evidence of first-class delivery of the subject and a full understanding of the requirements of the verification process. It was pleasing to observe that all evidence verified met the requirements of the National Standard.

Administration of assessments

The verification team were pleased to note that all assessment within centres had been carried out in an appropriate manner. There was evidence of high-quality practice including substantial feedback to candidates, and further use of cross-marking. The majority of centres are also clearly keeping up to date with regulations and procedures regarding verification, and many are clearly introducing verification procedures into their own centres.

Areas of good practice

Most centres are introducing cross-marking, and this is clearly leading to greater consistency with National Standards. There is also evidence that centres are providing much more in the way of feedback to candidates, usually to explain why something is wrong but also to provide a positive message if a candidate has done well. Centres are also using the most up-to-date editions of NABs.

Specific areas for improvement

All centres should ensure that cross-marking is introduced. There is clear evidence that those centres that apply cross-marking are much more likely to achieve consistency with National Standards.

If centres have any questions the qualifications manager, qualifications officer, verification unit and verification team can be contacted for advice and support. Guidelines are also available in all centres and on SQA's website:

www.sqa.org.uk