

## Politics



This update contains information relevant to your subject and details of the support available to you.

We also publish updates on the new National Courses in the 'Updates and Announcements' section of the relevant **subject pages**. I would encourage you to make regular use of our subject pages, where you will find support documents, answers to common questions, and links to other areas of interest. You can also sign up for 'My Alerts', SQA's e-mail update service, that notifies you whenever content you are interested in is added or updated on SQA's website. Visit **[www.sqa.org.uk/myalerts](http://www.sqa.org.uk/myalerts)** to register.

For information, Hilary Rutherford (former Qualifications Manager) has recently moved posts within SQA. As the new Qualifications Manager for Politics, I look forward to working with you in future. I hope you find the following update helpful, and please contact me if you have any questions.

**Jillian Hendry**  
Qualifications Manager

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## The Qualifications Team

**Jillian Hendry**  
Qualifications Manager

**Duncan Cox**  
Qualifications Officer

## Documents and assessment support materials

It is important that you read the full suite of documents for your Course, as well as those relating to assessment. Further information on documents and assessment support materials can be found at [www.sqa.org.uk/supportdocuments](http://www.sqa.org.uk/supportdocuments)

### Updates to documents

The following mandatory documents have been updated and are available now for Higher Politics: **Course Specification**, **Course Assessment Specification** and the **Unit Specification** for *Politics: Political Theory*. The update to the *Political Theory* Unit has been made following feedback from centres. The additional text and minor rewording is intended to provide clarification and reduce the assessment burden of this Unit.

The **Course Assessment Specification** is accompanied by a comparison document. The comparison document clearly illustrates what changes have been made and will help you to quickly and easily identify the updates. The comparison document is available from the **subject pages** and sits alongside the 'clean' version of the updated document.

Where required, **Course and Unit Support Notes** will be updated to correspond with these changes and will be published by the end of May 2015.

The Notification of Changes spreadsheets have been updated to reflect the latest changes to documents. You can view these spreadsheets at [www.sqa.org.uk/cfesubjectchanges](http://www.sqa.org.uk/cfesubjectchanges)

## Looking ahead to 2015/16

### Understanding Standards

In June 2015, we will publish further Understanding Standards packs for Higher, which will contain candidate evidence and commentaries for Unit assessment.

The Understanding Standards programme will continue throughout session 2015/16, and will include Nominee training events, Understanding Standards events for Higher, and Understanding Standards packs. Relevant Understanding Standards packs and prior verified assessments will be reviewed in due course.

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The Nominee training event for Politics will take place on the following date:

- Tuesday 29 September 2015

Understanding Standards events for Higher Politics will take place in the autumn.

For more information on Understanding Standards, visit

[www.sqa.org.uk/understandingstandards](http://www.sqa.org.uk/understandingstandards)

## **Continuing Professional Development support**

We will continue to offer subject-specific CPD support for new National Courses, where particular areas of concern are identified that are not already addressed by the Understanding Standards programme.

### **Contact SQA**

For centre enquiries, please contact our Customer Support Team:

**Tel:** 0303 333 0330

**Fax:** 0345 213 5000

**E-mail:** [mycentre@sqa.org.uk](mailto:mycentre@sqa.org.uk)