



**National Qualifications 2013
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 Courses

Titles/levels of National Courses verified:

Political issues in the UK	DV52 09 10 11 12
Social issues in the UK	DV53 10 11 12
International issues	DV54 09 10 11 12

General comments

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

There is clear evidence that centres are presenting candidates at the correct level. The Verifiers were delighted to observe that practitioners were clearly working to the national standard and that all centres that were verified were Accepted.

Course Arrangements, Unit specifications, instruments of assessment and exemplification materials

Modern Studies is a vibrant subject which requires practitioners to be constantly updating materials. It is also a requirement for centres to ensure that they use the most current instruments of assessment. The Verifiers were delighted to observe that no outdated National Assessment Bank (NAB) materials were used during this year's verification process. The Verifiers were also delighted with the consistent approach towards marking as all centres were clearly on the national standard.

Evidence Requirements

All centres should be commended for ensuring that all documentation was present for the verification procedures. There is clear evidence that centres are providing high quality delivery of Courses, and that centres are fully aware of the requirements of the national standard.

Administration of assessments

The Verifiers were delighted to observe that all centres had carried out assessment in the correct manner. It was pleasing to observe that virtually all centres are providing high quality feedback to candidates and that cross-marking is clearly being used in most centres. Centres must also be commended for ensuring that the regulations and procedures relating to verification were all undertaken to a high standard. It was also pleasing to observe that most centres have introduced verification procedures into their own schools.

Areas of good practice

It is good to observe that most centres are using cross-marking. This has greatly enhanced their marking and has ensured that the national standard is being met. Candidates are also benefitting from centres providing much more in the way of feedback both in a positive manner if a candidate has done well, but also to explain if the candidate has made an error. It is also pleasing that all centres verified used the most recent and up-to-date NABs.

Specific areas for improvement

All centres should ensure that cross-marking is introduced as it a vital component in ensuring the national standard is being met.

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