



NQ Verification 2013–14

Key Message Reports

Verification group name:	Philosophy
Levels	N5
Date published:	July 2014

This Report combines all Verification Key Messages for the academic session 2013-14.



NQ Verification 2013–14

Key Messages Round 1

01

Section 1: Verification group information

Verification group name:	Philosophy
Verification event/visiting information	Verification event
Date published:	January 2014

National Courses/Units/Awards verified:

H24J 75 Arguments in Action

02

Section 2: Comments on assessment

Assessment approaches

Centres are reminded that assessment approaches should cover all Assessment Standards and should not be designed to cover more or less than the minimum Assessment Standards. This may result in candidates being over - or under-assessed, which may disadvantage them.

Assessment judgements

Centres are reminded that the judging evidence tables in the SQA-produced Unit assessment support packs describe how the Assessment Standards can be met. Assessment judgments have to be made against each Assessment Standard.

The purpose of external verification is to ensure that appropriate Unit assessment decisions have been made and to provide support in how to meet national standards. To allow External Verifiers to make an informed decision, you must show how you have marked/judged candidate work against Assessment Standards. Advice on the type of evidence that should be retained for external verification is given on each subject webpage.

Section 3: General comments

Verification evidence was submitted by a small number of centres for Round 1 of verification activity. This report is based on that evidence and this has resulted in limited comments in the 'Assessment approaches' and 'Assessment judgement' sections.

Centres should review SQA guidelines for assessment approaches and conditions and apply these.

It is useful for centres to provide evidence of internal verification, eg cross-marking. If centres offering SQA qualifications have an effective internal quality assurance system, this ensures that all candidates are assessed accurately, fairly and consistently to national standards.

It is good practice to include a note of explanation regarding the internal quality assurance policies and procedures used. For further information about internal verification visit: www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/46174.html.



NQ Verification 2013–14 Key Messages Round 2

01

Section 1: Verification group information

Verification group name:	Philosophy
Verification event/visiting information	Event
Date published:	March 2014

National Courses/Units/Awards verified:

H24M 75 Moral Philosophy
H24J 75 Arguments in Action
H24K 75 Knowledge and Doubt

02

Section 2: Comments on assessment

Assessment approaches

There was clear evidence that centres had used the appropriate assessment materials. It was evident that centres are successfully customising Unit assessment support packs for other contexts.

There was good evidence of internal verification and centres should continue to apply this practice.

Assessment judgements

The Assessment Standards were often clearly indicated on the marked evidence and most judgements were appropriate.

Sometimes it was not clear where the candidate had met the Assessment Standard. It is strongly recommended that centres indicate on candidates' evidence exactly where the Assessment Standard was met.

There were examples when judgements made by assessors were not always in line with the standards to be met. In general, more attention should be paid to the 'judging evidence' tables in the Unit assessment support packs.

03

Section 3: General comments

There is evidence that centres are moving towards assessment that arises naturally out of learning and teaching.

Centres have accessed material and identified Assessment Standards; however, assessment judgements have been made without appropriate reference to the 'making assessment judgements' section (column 3) and 'assessment for candidates (appendix 1 — commentary on assessment judgements)' section (column 4) of the 'judging evidence' tables in the Unit assessment support packs.