

## NQ Modern Studies Higher Course material checklist

### The Essentials

What do I need?	Why?	Where can I find it?	When is it published?
<b>Arrangements documents</b>	Provides essential information on all aspects of Course content and assessment.	<a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk">www.sqa.org.uk</a> > NQ> Subjects> Modern Studies> <a href="#">Arrangements Documents</a>	The Arrangements documents are updated as and when necessary. The most up-to-date document is the revised edition 1, September 2006.
<b>National Assessment Bank Materials</b>	Essential instruments of assessment containing marking guidelines and other useful information relating to internal assessment.	Please contact your SQA Co-ordinator for access to materials.	These documents are updated as and when necessary. A list of what NABs are available can be found on the Modern Studies section of SQA's main website-  <a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk">www.sqa.org.uk</a> > NQ> Subjects> Modern Studies> <a href="#">National Assessment Bank Materials</a>
<b>Subject Update Letters</b>	Details developments in Modern Studies Courses.	<a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk">www.sqa.org.uk</a> > NQ> Subjects> Modern Studies> <a href="#">Update Letters</a>	Usually twice a year, in autumn/winter and spring/summer.
<b>Operational Help Centre (formerly Operational Guide)</b>	Provides information relevant to the certification of National Qualifications. Also outlines submission dates and instructions.	<a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk">www.sqa.org.uk</a> > SQA > News > <a href="#">Operational Help Centre</a>	Published in August to centres and uploaded on to SQA's website in October.
<b>Conditions and Arrangements</b>	Provides a summary of the Course requirements.	<a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk">www.sqa.org.uk</a> > NQ> <a href="#">Conditions &amp; Arrangements 2008/09</a>	Annually in time for the start of the new session in August.

## Understanding Standards

What do I need?	Why?	Where can I find it?	When is it published?
<b>Specimen Question Papers</b>	Demonstrate format of question paper and style of question	<a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk">www.sqa.org.uk</a> > NQ> Subjects> Modern Studies> <a href="#">Specimen Question Paper</a>	Specimen question papers will only be updated following a change to the format of the question paper.
<b>Course Assessment Specification</b>	Outlines the structure and mark allocation of the Course Assessment.	<a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk">www.sqa.org.uk</a> > NQ> Subjects> Modern Studies> <a href="#">Course Assessment Specification (pp 2-5)</a>	Course Assessment Specification will only be updated following a change to the format of the question paper.
<b>Past Papers</b>	Provides past External Course Assessment papers, from 2007 onwards, to download.	<a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk">www.sqa.org.uk</a> > NQ> Subjects> Modern Studies> <a href="#">Past Papers</a>	Annually following the completion of the examination diet.
<b>Marking Instructions</b>	Provide comprehensive answers to the External Course Assessments, from 2003 onwards. Useful when creating prelims.	<a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk">www.sqa.org.uk</a> > NQ> Subjects> Modern Studies> <a href="#">Marking Instructions</a>	Annually following the completion of the examination diet.
<b>Exemplification Material</b>	Exemplifies marking of Papers 1 and 2. A highly useful means of understanding the application of SQA Standards.	<a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk">www.sqa.org.uk</a> > NQ> Subjects> Modern Studies> <a href="#">Exemplification</a>	This material is revised and updated as and when necessary.
<b>Advice to Centres on Improving Performance: Preparing Candidates for Essay Questions</b>	Provides advice on preparing and assessing candidates for essay questions.	<a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk">www.sqa.org.uk</a> > NQ> Subjects> Modern Studies> Improving Performance> <a href="#">Improving Performance in Higher - Essay Questions: Preparing Candidates, Setting and Assessing</a>	This material is revised and updated as and when necessary.

<p><b>Advice to Centres on Improving Performance:</b></p> <p><b>Preparing Candidates for Social Issues in the UK</b></p>	<p>Provides advice on preparing candidates for Social Issues in the UK</p>	<p><a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk">www.sqa.org.uk</a>&gt; NQ&gt; Subjects&gt; Modern Studies&gt; Improving Performance&gt; <u>Improving Performance in Higher - Advice on Preparing Candidates for Social Issues in the UK</u></p>	<p>This material is revised and updated as and when necessary.</p>
--	--	--	--

### Feedback on the Diet

What do I need?	Why?	Where can I find it?	When is it published?
<p><b>External Assessment Reports</b> (formerly Principal Assessor Reports)</p>	<p>Provides details of entry numbers, distribution of awards, grade boundaries and passmarks, and general comments on candidate performance.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk">www.sqa.org.uk</a>&gt; NQ&gt; Subjects&gt; Modern Studies&gt; <u>External Assessment Reports</u></p>	<p>Annually following the completion of the examination diet.</p>
<p><b>Internal Assessment Reports</b> (formerly Senior Moderator/ Verifier Reports)</p>	<p>Covers general and specific issues arising from central and visiting moderation, such as centre and candidate performance.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk">www.sqa.org.uk</a>&gt; NQ&gt; Subjects&gt; Modern Studies&gt; <u>Internal Assessment Reports</u></p>	<p>Annually following the completion of the examination diet.</p>
<p><b>Statistics</b></p>	<p>Provides details of pre-Appeal results for all NQ Courses for all candidates.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk">www.sqa.org.uk</a>&gt; A-Z Index&gt; <u>Statistics</u></p>	<p>Annually following the completion of the examination diet.</p>
<p><b>The Scottish Standard</b></p>	<p>Explains how National Course passmark meetings contribute to setting and maintaining standards over time.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk">www.sqa.org.uk</a>&gt; A-Z Index&gt; Research and Information&gt; <u>The Scottish Standard</u></p>	<p>This document was published in August 2005 following the 2005 diet.</p>

## Other useful documents

What do I need?	Why?	Where can I find it?	When is it published?
<b>Estimates, Absentees and External Assessment Appeals</b>	Gives generic and subject-specific guidance on evidence requirements, absentee consideration and external assessment appeals.	<a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk">www.sqa.org.uk</a> > NQ> <a href="#">Estimates, Absentees and Assessment Appeals 2009</a>	This document is updated as and when necessary. The most up-to-date version available was published in June 2008.
<b>Approvals</b>	Details the steps taken in the Approval process.  Schools and colleges are automatically approved for this Course.	<a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk">www.sqa.org.uk</a> > A-Z Index> <a href="#">Approval</a>	There is no document to download here. Information provided can be printed off directly from relevant section.
<b>Assessment arrangements for candidates with disabilities</b>	Guides for centres and candidates on who can benefit from additional support and assessment arrangements, what kinds of arrangements are available, and how to request them.	<a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk">www.sqa.org.uk</a> >A-Z Index> <a href="#">Assessment Arrangements</a>	These documents are updated as and when necessary.
<b>Verification (formerly Moderation)</b>	Outlines the Verification process and details why it takes place.	<a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk">www.sqa.org.uk</a> > A-Z Index> <a href="#">Verification</a>	There is no document for schools to download here. Information provided can be printed off directly from the page. A guide for colleges can be downloaded (Verification Visits - a Guide for Colleges and ETPs).
<b>Quality Assurance and Assessment</b>	Provides an overview of assessment/quality assurance processes, the validation of SQA's qualifications and Approvals.	<a href="http://www.sqa.org.uk">www.sqa.org.uk</a> >A-Z Index> Publications, Sales and Downloads> Information for Centres > Assessment and Quality Assurance > <a href="#">Guide to Assessment and Quality Assurance for Secondary Schools</a>	This document is updated as and when necessary. The most up-to-date version available was published in August 2003 (Third Version).

### **Learning and Teaching Materials**

Teaching materials for NQ Courses are developed and published by LTScotland. There are some available for this Course. They can be accessed via the LTS website ( <http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/nq/subjects/modernstudies.asp> ).