



Higher National Unit specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Equine Studies: Progressive Training Programmes for the Young Horse

Unit code: DP21 35

Unit purpose: This Unit is designed to enable candidates to develop knowledge and skills for training and managing young horses, from subsequent to their being started and up to their first competitive outing.

On completion of the Unit the candidate should be able to:

- 1 Develop a programme for breaking a young horse.
- 2 Develop a training programme on the flat for a newly started young horse.
- 3 Develop a training programme for the young horse up to its first competitive outing.

Credit points and level: 2 HN credits at SCQF level 8: (16 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 8*)

**SCQF credit points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification in the Framework is allocated a number of SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

Recommended prior knowledge and skills: Prior achievement of the HN Unit 'Selection of the Horse' would be beneficial, as would some years of practical experience and /or an appropriate certificate in horse management.

Core Skills: There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of *Communication* and *Working with Others* in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

Context for delivery: If this Unit is delivered as part of a Group Award, it is recommended that it should be taught and assessed within the subject area of the Group Award to which it contributes.

This Unit forms part of the optional section of the HND in Horse Management. It will normally be delivered as part of the Group Award. It is a free-standing Unit and can be delivered for the purposes of continuing professional development.

Assessment: This Unit is assessed by two instruments of assessment. Outcome 1 should be assessed by a written test, consisting of structured questions. The assessment for Outcomes 2 and 3 should be integrated by use of a project. Candidates should provide evidence in the form of charts, diagrams, drawing and pictures.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards

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The sections of the Unit stating the Outcomes, Knowledge and/or Skills, and Evidence Requirements are mandatory.

Where evidence for Outcomes is assessed on a sample basis, the whole of the content listed in the Knowledge and/or Skills section must be taught and available for assessment. Candidates should not know in advance the items on which they will be assessed and different items should be sampled on each assessment occasion.

Outcome 1

Develop a programme for breaking a young horse

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ stages of development
- ◆ recognised techniques for breaking
- ◆ three specimen daily feed charts for the young horse, one for the beginning, middle and end of the training programme
- ◆ reasons for any changes
- ◆ design of an annual worming and vaccination programme for the young horse
- ◆ regular health checks the young horse requires
- ◆ ways of reducing stress levels in the young horse
- ◆ type of muscular development that could be expected in the young horse throughout this training programme
- ◆ health and safety requirements

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ design a feeding programme to suit the young horse
- ◆ design a health and welfare programmes for the young horse
- ◆ explain any modifications of the management programme

Assessment Guidelines

The assessment for this Outcome is a written test, consisting of structured questions, undertaken in controlled conditions and lasting one hour.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Equine Studies: Progressive Training Programmes for the Young Horse

Outcome 2

Develop a training programme on the flat for a newly started young horse

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ list of the tack most suitable for the young horse at this stage of training
- ◆ problems that may occur and how to handle these problems
- ◆ suitable exercises (Lunging; Long reining; Loose schooling) and explain how they may be beneficial to the training
- ◆ advantages and disadvantages of working the young horse in an enclosed area and a large open field
- ◆ guidelines on the time scale required with each progression
- ◆ progression of flat training
- ◆ health and safety requirements

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ explain the requirements for an effective training programme
- ◆ design a training programme to suit a newly started young horse.
- ◆ explain any necessary modifications to the programme

Assessment Guidelines

The Unit is assessed by an integrated assessment with Outcome 3.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Equine Studies: Progressive Training Programmes for the Young Horse

Outcome 3

Develop a training programme for the young horse up to its first competitive outing

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ evaluating the standard of previous/initial training
- ◆ appropriate equipment the young horse requires for specific competition
- ◆ exercises used when ridden and from the ground that may be beneficial to the jump training
- ◆ guidelines on the time scale required with each progression
- ◆ problems that may occur and how to handle these problems
- ◆ ways to monitor the success of the jump training
- ◆ health and safety requirements

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ design a training programme to suit a newly started young horse
- ◆ explain any necessary modifications to the programme
- ◆ give an explanation of the success of the training programme

Assessment Guidelines

The assessment for this Outcome may be combined with Outcome 2. This should be in the form of a project that ensures that all points in the Evidence Requirements are covered. Candidates may provide evidence in the form of charts, diagrams, drawings and pictures to clarify their knowledge of some areas. This assessment should be undertaken partly in class time and in the candidate's time. Assessors should complete the marking checklist.

Administrative Information

Unit code: DP21 35

Unit title: Equine Studies: Progressive Training Programmes for the Young Horse

Superclass category: SH

Original date of publication: August 2004

Version: 01

History of changes:

Version	Description of change	Date

Source: SQA

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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Equine Studies: Progressive Training Programmes for the Young Horse

This part of the Unit specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 80 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

This Unit is aimed at enabling candidates to develop and utilise a sound knowledge in the management and training of the young horse. They should develop the knowledge to prepare the young horse for its first competitive outing on the flat and over fences. It is aimed at those who have some experience of general horse riding.

Outcome 1 looks at designing a management programme for young horses. It gives the candidate an understanding of the nutritional requirements, development stages, health and welfare requirements and handling procedures of the youngster. Common injuries that may arise, teething problems, correct shoeing and changes required in tack should all be explained in depth. The candidate should be made familiar with the muscular development and condition of the young horse and how the horse can be affected by stress throughout his training.

Outcome 2 looks at the reintroduction of tack, including lungeing and/or long-reining equipment and the introduction of school movements (rhythm, balance, forward, straightness, bend, outline, lateral etc.). The candidate should be made familiar with the new environments the horse will encounter when being ridden in preparation for his first flat competition and the problems that may arise. The programme should be covered over a sixteen week period.

Outcome 3 looks at the horse being prepared for his first competitive outing over fences. The introduction of the horse to poles, different types of show-jumps, fillers, water, ditches and other cross-country fences should all be explained with regard to expected problems and how to handle these. The benefits of using loose schooling, lunging and lane jumping should all be explained. The candidate should understand the advantages/disadvantages the different location of these fences can cause for the horse and trainer. The candidate should be made familiar with the type of setbacks that may arise throughout the jump training and how these should be handled. The programme should be covered over a sixteen week period.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

This Unit is designed to enable the candidate to acquire the knowledge necessary to enable them to manage and train the young horse up to his first competitive outing on the flat and over fences.

Much of this Unit should be covered in the classroom and stable yards and by riding, handling and observing young horses at work and rest to assess their management and training needs.

Class discussion would be useful following practical/yard sessions.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Equine Studies: Progressive Training Programmes for the Young Horse

It is recommended that Outcome 1 should be assessed by a written test, consisting of structured questions, and last for one hour. Outcomes 2 and 3 of this Unit should be assessed holistically using a project that ensures that all points in the Evidence Requirements are covered. Candidates may provide evidence in the form of charts, diagrams, drawings and pictures to clarify their knowledge of some areas. Assessors would then complete the marking checklist appropriately.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of *Communication* and *Working with Others* in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

Open learning

This Unit may be delivered by open or distance learning methods. For further information and advice on assessment and quality assurance, please refer to SQA guide: *Assessment and Quality Assurance for Open and Distance Learning*.

Candidates with disabilities and/or additional support needs

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering alternative Outcomes for Units. Further advice can be found in the SQA document *Guidance on Assessment Arrangements for Candidates with Disabilities and/or Additional Support Needs* (www.sqa.org.uk).

General information for candidates

Unit title: Equine Studies: Progressive Training Programmes for the Young Horse

This Unit is designed to allow you to develop and utilise your knowledge of training and managing young horses, subsequent to their being started and up to their first competitive outing. By the end of the Unit you should have learned how to manage the health requirements of the young horse, plan his training on the flat and over fences.

This Unit is aimed at those who have had some practical experience with horses.

The Unit is organised into 3 Outcomes, covering the following topics:

- 1 Develop a programme for breaking a young horse.
- 2 Develop a training programme on the flat for a newly started young horse.
- 3 Develop a training programme for the young horse up to its first competitive outing.

In **Outcome 1** you will learn about designing a management programme for the young horse. You will gain an understanding of the nutritional requirements, development stages, health and welfare requirements and handling procedures of the youngster. You will also be made familiar with the muscular development and condition of the young horse and how the horse can be affected by stress throughout his training.

In **Outcome 2** you will learn about the reintroduction of tack, including lungeing and/or long-reining equipment and the introduction of school movements. You will also be made familiar with the new environments the horse will encounter when being ridden in preparation for his first flat competition and the problems that may arise.

In **Outcome 3** you will learn about the horse being prepared for his first competitive outing over fences. The introduction to poles, different types of show-jumps and cross-country fences. You will be made familiar with the advantages and disadvantages the different location of these fences can cause for the horse and trainer, and the type of setbacks that may arise throughout the jump training and how these should be handled.

Outcome 1 should be assessed as a written test, consisting of structured questions, and last for one hour. Outcomes 2 and 3 of this Unit should be assessed holistically using a project. Candidates may provide evidence in the form of charts, diagrams, drawing and pictures to clarify their knowledge of some areas.