



Higher National Unit specification

General information

Unit title: Equine Studies: Riding and Training Techniques over Fences (SCQF level 8)

Unit code: HC4C 35

Superclass: SH

Publication date: March 2016

Source: Scottish Qualifications Authority

Version: 02

Unit purpose

This Unit is designed to enable learners to develop their knowledge and skills in training techniques for jumping. The Unit assesses the learner on the planning, implementation and evaluation of a programme for a selected horse. Learners will require to reach an agreed level of competence in evaluating and training horses and will require to demonstrate that they can maintain the current level of training over a course of show jumps up to 1 m and courses of cross country fences up to 90 cm.

There is no requirement for the learner to ride in order to complete this Unit.

This Unit is suitable for those wishing to pursue a career in the equine industry.

Outcomes

On successful completion of the Unit the learner will be able to:

- 1 Assess and report on the current level of training of a variety of horses over fences.
- 2 Evaluate a variety of horses over fences to maintain their current level of training.
- 3 Implement a training programme from the ground using poles and fences.

Credit points and level

2 Higher National Unit credits at SCQF level 8: (16 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 8)

Higher National Unit Specification: General information (cont)

Unit title: Equine Studies: Riding and Training Techniques over Fences (SCQF level 8)

Recommended entry to the Unit

Entry to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre. Learners would benefit from having completed Higher National Unit *Equine Studies: Equitation* at SCQF level 7. In addition learners would benefit from practical experience of training and/or riding horses.

Core Skills

Achievement of this Unit gives automatic certification of the following:

Complete Core Skill Problem Solving at SCQF level 6

Core Skill component None

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.

Equality and inclusion

This Unit specification has been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to learning or assessment. The individual needs of learners should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment methods or considering alternative evidence.

Further advice can be found on our website www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements.

Higher National Unit specification: Statement of standards

Unit title: Equine Studies: Riding and Training Techniques over Fences (SCQF level 8)

Acceptable performance in this Unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the Unit specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to SQA.

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. Learners 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

Assess and report on the current level of training of a variety of horses over fences.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Assessment of current levels of training, including:
 - Conformation
 - Age
 - Fitness
 - Soundness
- ◆ Techniques used to assess horses over fences
- ◆ Evaluation of:
 - Potential
 - Suitability
 - Current level of training

Outcome 2

Evaluate a variety of horses over fences to maintain their current level of training.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Evaluation of horses over fences
- ◆ Maintenance of level of training
- ◆ Techniques to develop quality of work within horse's repertoire
- ◆ Safe working practices

Higher National Unit specification: Statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Equine Studies: Riding and Training Techniques over Fences (SCQF level 8)

Outcome 3

Implement a training programme from the ground using poles and fences.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Assessment of selected horses
- ◆ Planning of training programmes for horses using ridden and ground techniques
- ◆ Implementation of training programmes over time
- ◆ Ground techniques, including:
 - Lunging
 - Long reining
 - Loose schooling
 - Jumping
- ◆ Appropriate tack for ridden and ground training
- ◆ Necessary modifications to the programme
- ◆ Evaluation of training programmes
- ◆ Safe working practices

Evidence Requirements for this Unit

Learners will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills across all Outcomes by showing that they can:

For Outcomes 1 and 2:

- ◆ Assess two selected horses level of training over fences over a given period of time.
- ◆ Provide feedback on the selected horses including:
 - Conformation
 - Age
 - Soundness
 - Fitness
 - Current level of training
 - Potential over fences
- ◆ Implement ridden and/or ground techniques on selected horses to maintain their current level of training.
- ◆ Evaluate the value of schoolwork in the overall development of the horse.
- ◆ Comply with all relevant Health and Safety requirements.

For Outcome 3:

- ◆ Develop a training plan to maintain and improve a selected horse over fences using ridden and ground techniques.
- ◆ Implement the training plan over a given period.
- ◆ Carry out any necessary modifications to the plan during implementation.
- ◆ Evaluate the success of the programme.
- ◆ Comply with all relevant Health and Safety requirements.



Higher National Unit Support Notes

Unit title: Equine Studies: Riding and Training Techniques over Fences (SCQF level 8)

Unit Support Notes are offered as guidance and 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 has been designed to allow learners to develop the knowledge and skills required to train horses over fences. There is no requirement within the Unit for the learner to ride.

Outcome 1 provides the learner with the Knowledge and Skills required to assess and report on the current level of training of a variety of horses over fences.

Outcome 2 provides the learner with the Knowledge and Skills required to evaluate and monitor a variety of horses over fences to maintain and to implement a programme which will maintain their current level of training. The programme could consist of either ridden or ground work training.

Outcome 3 provides the learner with the Knowledge and Skills required to implement a training programme from the ground using poles and fences.

Guidance on approaches to delivery of this Unit

For Outcome 1 learners should be made aware of the techniques used to assess horses over fences, including assessment of conformation, age and soundness. The learner should develop the skills to be able to effectively evaluate horses in order to assess their suitability and current level of training and their future potential over fences.

For Outcome 2 learners are not expected to improve on the horse's level of training but only to maintain the existing level. Techniques to maintain the level of training would include both ground and ridden techniques (although the learner is not required to ride themselves). Learners should be made aware of the importance of schoolwork to the overall development of the horse.

In Outcome 3 examples of ground techniques would include lunging, long reining, loose schooling and jumping. Learners should be able to modify the training programme as required to ensure it is suitable for the selected horse.

The Outcomes of this Unit will normally be delivered sequentially as Outcome 2 builds on the knowledge and skills developed in Outcome 1 and Outcome 3 follows naturally from Outcome 2.

Higher National Unit Support Notes (cont)

Unit title: Equine Studies: Riding and Training Techniques over Fences (SCQF level 8)

A mix of practical and theoretical delivery methods would be suitable given the practical nature of this Unit. Visits and guest speakers could be used to introduce learners to a wider variety of horses and facilities.

Throughout delivery of this Unit the importance of safe working practices should be emphasised, to minimise the risk to all people and horses involved.

Guidance on approaches to assessment of this Unit

Evidence can be generated using different types of assessment. The following are suggestions only. There may be other methods that would be more suitable to learners.

Centres are reminded that prior verification of centre-devised assessments would help to ensure that the national standard is being met. Where learners experience a range of assessment methods, this helps them to develop different skills that should be transferable to work or further and higher education.

Outcomes 1 and 2 could be assessed jointly by a practical assignment supported by some additional written or oral questioning to cover all the Evidence Requirements.

Outcome 3 could be assessed by the production of a written and/or oral report covering the implementation and evaluation of the training programme, including any adjustments to the training programme. An assessor's checklist could be used to evidence the practical aspects of Outcome 3.

Opportunities for e-assessment

E-assessment may be appropriate for some assessments in this Unit. By e-assessment we mean assessment which is supported by Information and Communication Technology (ICT), such as e-testing or the use of e-portfolios or social software. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all learner evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the Evidence Requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. The most up-to-date guidance on the use of e-assessment to support SQA's qualifications is available at www.sqa.org.uk/e-assessment.

Opportunities for developing Core and other essential skills

This Unit has the Core Skill of Problem Solving embedded in it, so when learners achieve this Unit their Core Skills profile will be updated to show that they have achieved Problem Solving at SCQF level 6.

History of changes to Unit

Version	Description of change	Date
02	Core Skill Problem Solving at SCQF level 6 embedded.	20/05/16

© Scottish Qualifications Authority 2016

This publication may be reproduced in whole or in part for educational purposes provided that no profit is derived from reproduction and that, if reproduced in part, the source is acknowledged.

Additional copies of this Unit specification can be purchased from the Scottish Qualifications Authority. Please contact the Business Development and Customer Support team, telephone 0303 333 0330.

General information for learners

Unit title: Equine Studies: Riding and Training Techniques over Fences (SCQF level 8)

This section will help you decide whether this is the Unit for you by explaining what the Unit is about, what you should know or be able to do before you start, what you will need to do during the Unit and opportunities for further learning and employment.

This Unit is designed to enable you to develop the knowledge and skills required to train a variety of horses over fences. You will be assessed on your ability to plan, implement and evaluate a programme for a selected horse.

It is possible to successfully complete this Unit without actually having to ride.

On completion of this Unit you will be able to:

- ◆ assess and report on the current level of training of a variety of horses over fences.
- ◆ evaluate a variety of horses over fences to maintain their current level of training.
- ◆ implement a training programme from the ground using poles and fences.

This Unit is suitable for you if you wish to pursue a career in the equine industry.

This Unit has the Core Skill of Problem Solving embedded in it, so when you achieve this Unit your Core Skills profile will be updated to show that you have achieved Problem Solving at SCQF level 6.