



National 2
Course
Specification



National 2 Modern Languages Course Specification

C730 72	French
C731 72	Gaelic (Learners)
C734 72	German
C742 72	Italian
C769 72	Spanish

Valid from August 2013

First edition: April 2012
Revised: May 2014, version 1.2

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Please refer to the note of changes at the end of this Course Specification for details of changes from previous version (where applicable).

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Course outline

Course title: National 2 Modern Languages

SCQF: level 2 (18 SCQF credit points)

Course code:

C730 72 French
C731 72 Gaelic (Learners)
C734 72 German
C742 72 Italian
C769 72 Spanish

Mandatory Units

Life in Another Country (National 2) 6 SCQF credit points
H270 72 French
H27L 72 German
H213 72 Italian
H26M 72 Spanish
H6DT 72 Gaelic (Learners): Life in a Gaelic Speaking Area

Optional Units

Personal Language (National 2) 6 SCQF credit points
H271 72 French
H6DV 72 Gaelic (Learners)
H27M 72 German
H215 72 Italian
H26N 72 Spanish

Transactional Language (National 2) 6 SCQF credit points
H272 72 French
H6DW 72 Gaelic (Learners)
H27N 72 German
H216 72 Italian
H26P 72 Spanish

Language in Work (National 2) 6 SCQF credit points
H273 72 French
H6DX 72 Gaelic (Learners)
H27P 72 German
H217 72 Italian
H26R 72 Spanish

The Course comprises **one** mandatory Unit and **two** optional Units from the list above.

Recommended entry

Entry to this Course is at the discretion of the centre. However, relevant experiences and outcomes may also provide an appropriate basis for doing this Course.

Progression

This Course or its Units may provide progression to:

- ◆ other qualifications in Modern Languages or related areas
- ◆ further study, employment and/or training

Equality and inclusion

This Course 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. For further information, please refer to the *Course Support Notes*.

Rationale

All new and revised National Courses reflect Curriculum for Excellence values, purposes and principles. They offer flexibility, provide more time for learning, more focus on skills and applying learning, and scope for personalisation and choice.

In this Course, and its component Units, there will be an emphasis on skills development and the application of those skills. Assessment approaches will be proportionate, fit for purpose and will promote best practice, enabling learners to achieve the highest standards they can.

This Course provides learners with opportunities to continue to acquire and develop the attributes and capabilities of the four capacities, as well as skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work.

All Courses provide opportunities for learners to develop breadth, challenge and application, but the focus and balance of the assessment will be appropriate for the subject area.

Relationship between the Course and Curriculum for Excellence values, purposes and principles

The National 2 Modern Languages Course builds on the principles and practice and experiences and outcomes for modern languages.

Learning about other countries, communities and cultures enables learners to make connections to other people and therefore play a fuller part as global citizens in the wider world. We reflect, communicate and develop our ideas through language.

The Course encourages learners to appreciate their own community and culture and other communities and/or the culture of another country. Learners will also develop their understanding of simple words and phrases in the modern language by reading and listening. They will use communication skills in the modern language to apply this knowledge.

Learners will develop communication skills in the modern language. Their social and interpersonal skills will be developed through sharing information with others in another language. Learners will build confidence and the ability to contribute by engaging and interacting with others.

Learners will communicate in a range of practical and relevant contexts to provide a motivating and realistic language experience. The *Life in Another Country* Unit (or the *Life in a Gaelic Speaking Area* Unit) provides a clear context for the language learning in any of the other three Units.

Learners living in diverse linguistic settings will develop an awareness of other cultures and of simple vocabulary in another language. They might also wish to develop their language skills for employability in this or another country. Learners who wish to travel or work abroad may also benefit from this Course.

Purpose and aims of the Course

The Course will develop learners' awareness of other communities and cultures and will develop learners' language skills.

In particular, the Course aims to enable learners to:

- ◆ compare aspects of their own community and culture with another community and culture
- ◆ show an understanding of simple words and phrases in the modern language
- ◆ use simple words and phrases in the modern language

Course activities also provide opportunities for learners to develop the following broad, generic and transferable skills; communication and social and interpersonal skills.

The integrative design of the Course will foster learners' understanding and use of the modern language, helping them experience the language in the context of community and culture.

Information about typical learners who might do the Course

The Course is suitable for all learners with an interest in modern languages. It is suitable for learners with a general interest in modern languages and other cultures and for those wanting to progress to higher levels of study.

The Course may also be suitable for those wishing to work towards a qualification in modern languages for the first time.

This qualification will allow learners to consolidate and further extend their skills developed through the experiences and outcomes for languages across learning.

The Course takes account of the needs of all learners by providing sufficient flexibility to enable learners to achieve in different ways and at a different pace.

On completing the Course, learners will have developed their skills in comparing different communities and cultures and in understanding and using language.

The skills within this Course have applications in many other subject areas. Skills developed in this Course support progression to other curriculum areas, as well as to the Modern Languages for Life and Work Award.

Course structure and conditions of award

Course structure

This Course consists of a combination of mandatory and optional Units. Learners who complete the mandatory Unit and any combination of optional Units will be able to show their ability in the same skills. The mandatory Unit provides breadth by introducing learners to the language of another country in the context of its community and culture. The optional Units provide depth, with scope for personalisation and choice, and provide learners with opportunities to develop language skills in different contexts.

Some learners may choose to complete additional optional Units from within the Course. Learners will benefit from this opportunity to extend their learning.

This Course enables learners to develop skills in comparing aspects of their own community and culture with another community and culture and show an understanding of simple words and phrases in the modern language. The optional Units support learners to interact in the modern language within conversations/transactions.

Units are statements of standards for assessment and not programmes of learning and teaching. They can be delivered in a number of ways.

Mandatory Unit

Life in Another Country (National 2)

The general aim of this Unit is to develop learners' awareness of the lives, cultures and communities of others and an appreciation of the ways in which they are both similar to and different from their own. Learners will also be given opportunities to become familiar with simple words and phrases in the modern language.

Candidates doing the Gaelic (Learners) Course must complete a different mandatory Unit from those doing the other language Courses. Instead of the *Life in Another Country* Unit, candidates doing the Gaelic (Learners) Course must complete the Unit *Life in a Gaelic Speaking Area*.

Optional Units — any two from the following three Units

Personal Language (National 2)

The general aim of this Unit is to develop learners' basic language skills in understanding simple personal information in the modern language. Learners will also communicate in the modern language.

Any two topics can be chosen from lifestyles and/or education.

Transactional Language (National 2)

The general aim of this Unit is to develop learners' basic language skills in understanding information in the modern language. Learners will also communicate by using the modern language in a transaction.

Any two topics can be chosen from shopping, eating out, travel/touring, accommodation or an equivalent topic.

Language in Work (National 2)

The general aim of this Unit is to develop learners' basic language skills in understanding instructions or requests for information, goods and/or services in a modern language. Learners will also provide information in a modern language.

Any two topics can be chosen from work (shops, café/restaurant, travel/tourism or hospitality).

Conditions of award

To achieve the National 2 Modern Languages Course, learners must pass all of the required Units. The required Units are shown in the Course outline section.

National 2 Courses are not graded.

Skills, knowledge and understanding

Full skills, knowledge and understanding for the Course are given in the *Course Support Notes*. A broad overview of the subject skills, knowledge and understanding that will be covered in the Course is given in this section.

In the Mandatory Unit:

- ◆ developing an understanding of the similarities and differences between the learner's own community and culture and the culture of another country or community.
- ◆ identifying simple words and phrases in the modern language

In the Optional Units:

- ◆ using simple words and phrases in the modern language
- ◆ interacting with a user of the modern language by communicating and responding appropriately
- ◆ developing knowledge about the modern language

Skills, knowledge and understanding to be included in the Course will be appropriate to the SCQF level of the Course. The SCQF level descriptors give further information on characteristics and expected performance at each SCQF level (www.sqa.org.uk/scqf).

Assessment

Further information about assessment for the Course is included in the *Course Support Notes*.

Unit assessment

All Units are internally assessed against the requirements shown in the Unit Specification.

They can be assessed on an individual Unit basis or by using other approaches which combine the assessment for more than one Unit.

They will be assessed on a pass/fail basis within centres. SQA will provide rigorous external quality assurance, including external verification, to ensure assessment judgements are consistent and meet national standards.

The assessment of the Units in this Course will be as follows:

Life in Another Country or Life in a Gaelic Speaking Area (National 2)

For either of these Units, learners will be able to:

- ◆ show an understanding of aspects of the learner's own community and culture and the culture of another country or community
- ◆ identify simple words and phrases in the modern language

Personal Language (National 2)

For this Unit, learners will be able to:

- ◆ show understanding of simple words and phrases in the modern language in the context of lifestyle and/or education
- ◆ interact with another user of the modern language by communicating and responding in the context of lifestyle and/or education

Transactional Language (National 2)

For this Unit, learners will be able to:

- ◆ show understanding of simple words and phrases in the modern language in the context of shopping, eating out, travel/touring, accommodation or an equivalent topic
- ◆ interact with another user of the modern language by communicating and responding in the context of shopping, eating out, travel/touring, accommodation or an equivalent topic

Language in Work (National 2)

For this Unit, learners will be able to:

- ◆ show understanding of simple words and phrases in the modern language in the context of work
- ◆ interact with another user of the modern language by communicating and responding in the context of work

Development of skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work

It is expected that learners will develop broad, generic skills through this Course. The skills that learners will be expected to improve on and develop through the Course are based on SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work* and drawn from the main skills areas listed below. These must be built into the Course where there are appropriate opportunities.

1 Literacy

- 1.1 Reading
- 1.3 Listening and talking

4 Employability, enterprise and citizenship

- 4.3 Working with others

5 Thinking skills

- 5.1 Remembering
- 5.2 Understanding
- 5.3 Applying

Amplification of these skills is given in SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work*. The level of these skills will be appropriate to the level of the Course. Further information on building in skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work for the Course is given in the *Course Support Notes*.

Administrative information

Published: May 2014, version 1.2

History of changes to National Course Specification

Course details	Version	Description of change	Authorised by	Date
	1.1	Corrections of typographical errors/grammar.	Qualifications Development Manager	June 2013
	1.2	Addition of Gaelic (Learners) as one of the possible language contexts.	Qualifications Manager	May 2014

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