

National Unit Specification: general information

UNIT	Classical Mythology (Intermediate 1)
NUMBER	D078 10
COURSE	Classical Studies (Intermediate 1)

SUMMARY

This unit seeks to develop understanding of classical mythology, and to encourage comparisons with the myths and beliefs of other cultures. There is also the opportunity to encourage an imaginative response to some seminal stories, upon which much of Western art is based, and which continue to inspire up to the present day.

OUTCOMES

- 1 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of classical myths as a result of study of the three prescribed areas (Creation, The Afterlife, Visitors to Hades).
- 2 Make a comparison between the beliefs of the Greeks and Romans, as revealed by their myths, and those of other cultures.

RECOMMENDED ENTRY

While entry is at the discretion of the centre, candidates would normally be expected to have attained:

- grade 5 or 6 at Standard Grade in Classical Studies or another social subject
- an Access award in one or more social subject units
- an Intermediate 1 course or component unit in another social subject

Administrative Information

Superclass:	FB
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National Unit Specification: general information (cont)

UNIT Classical Mythology (Intermediate 1)

CREDIT VALUE

1 credit at Intermediate 1.

CORE SKILLS

There is no automatic certification of core skills or core skills components in this unit.

Additional information about core skills is published in *Automatic Certification of Core Skills in National Qualifications* (SQA, 1999).

National Unit Specification: statement of standards

UNIT Classical Mythology (Intermediate 1)

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 the Scottish Qualifications Authority.

OUTCOME 1

Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of classical myths as a result of study of the three prescribed areas (Creation, The Afterlife, Visitors to Hades).

Performance criteria

- (a) References to the classical myths are accurate.
- (b) A possible meaning of classical myth is outlined clearly.

OUTCOME 2

Make a comparison between the beliefs of the Greeks and Romans, as revealed by their myths, and those of other cultures.

Performance criteria

- (a) The knowledge of the beliefs is broadly accurate.
- (b) The comparison between beliefs is valid.

Evidence requirements

Evidence of attainment for the above outcomes can be provided through a series of assessment tasks related to the outcomes. These items should be mainly short responses. While these items could be undertaken as a single assessment event, the evidence generated for each outcome must demonstrate or imply satisfaction of the performance criteria. The assessment must be completed under supervision, and without collaboration, the assistance of notes, or staff advice.

National Unit Specification: support notes

UNIT Classical Mythology (Intermediate 1)

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

While the time allocated to this unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 40 hours.

GUIDANCE ON CONTENT AND CONTEXT FOR THIS UNIT

The content of this unit is detailed under Course Content in the Course Details.

GUIDANCE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING APPROACHES FOR THIS UNIT

Mythology at this level should be studied in the first instance as a collection of short stories. Only after this stage of the study has been completed should an investigation of possible meanings be done. It should be noted that the meaning of some of the myths can be interpreted in a number of ways.

The next task should be to consider how much information can be deduced about the systems of beliefs in classical societies from the myths which have been studied. A comparison with the beliefs of another culture, either medieval or modern, should also be undertaken.

The main issues raised here will be developed more fully in the Subject Guide and the accompanying support materials.

GUIDANCE ON APPROACHES TO ASSESSMENT FOR THIS UNIT

Full details are given in the Subject Guide of the patterns of external and internal assessment, of the relationship between the two, and of the management of assessment.

SPECIAL NEEDS

This unit specification is intended to ensure that there are no artificial barriers to learning or assessment. Special needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments or considering alternative outcomes for units. For information on these, please refer to the SQA document *Guidance on Special Assessment and Certification Arrangements for Candidates with Special Needs/Candidates whose First Language is not English* (SQA, 1998).