

## National Unit Specification: general information

**UNIT** Social Aspects of the Classical World –  
Evidence-Based (Higher)

**NUMBER** D079 12

**COURSE** Classical Studies (Higher)

### SUMMARY

This unit seeks to develop the ability to provide in-depth knowledge and broad understanding of aspects of the classical world through study of relevant evidence. It will develop skills of evaluating and investigating. Through such activities, it will also develop the ability to think independently and to construct and communicate arguments. A successful candidate will demonstrate knowledge and understanding of social aspects of the classical world, and will be able to analyse and make judgements about events and sources in context. The candidate will also be able to respond to issues raised, using structured and reasoned argument, and to reach relevant and well-supported conclusions.

### OUTCOMES

- 1 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of defined aspects of the classical world
- 2 Draw comparisons between the classical civilisations, and with modern British society
- 3 Make informed judgements on the reliability of sources.

### RECOMMENDED ENTRY

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

- Grade 1 or 2, or possibly 3, at Standard Grade in Classical Studies or another social subject
- Intermediate 2 Classical Studies or its component units
- a course or component units at Intermediate 2 or Higher level in another social subject

### CREDIT VALUE

2 credits at Higher.

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## Administrative Information

**Superclass:** ED

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## **National Unit Specification: general information (cont)**

**UNIT**                      Social Aspects of the Classical World –  
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### **CORE SKILLS**

This unit gives automatic certification of the following:

<b>Complete core skills for the unit</b>	None
<b>Core skills components for the unit</b>	Critical Thinking   Higher

Additional information about core skills is published in the *Catalogue of Core Skills in National Qualifications* (SQA, 2001).

## **National Unit Specification: statement of standards**

### **UNIT**                      Social Aspects of the Classical World – Evidence-Based (Higher)

#### **OUTCOME 1**

Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of defined aspects of the classical world.

##### **Performance criteria**

- a) Descriptions of defined aspects of the selected context are accurate and relevant.
- b) Explanations of defined aspects of the selected context are clear and based on evidence.

#### **OUTCOME 2**

Draw comparisons between the classical civilisations, and with modern British society.

##### **Performance criteria**

- a) For a selected social aspect, the similarities and differences between Greek and Roman society are thoroughly analysed and comparisons are supported by evidence.
- b) For a selected social aspect, the similarities and differences between a classical civilisation and modern British society are thoroughly analysed and evaluated.
- c) The comparison of political and social structures of the classical world and modern British society is clear and coherent.

#### **OUTCOME 3**

Make informed judgements on the reliability of sources.

##### **Performance criteria**

- a) The response is well argued and has a relevant conclusion.
- b) The approach used is justified by reference to the sources.

##### **Evidence requirements**

Evidence of attainment of the above outcomes can be provided through the medium of short and extended responses. For each outcome, evidence must demonstrate or imply satisfaction of the performance criteria. For Outcome 3, PC (b), candidates should justify the approach used by appropriate reference to: viewpoints expressed in the sources, bias detected, comparisons between sources, other historical evidence, or other appropriate reference. The task, which will constitute one assessment event, must be completed under supervision, and without collaboration, the assistance of notes, or staff advice.

## **National Unit Specification: support notes**

### **UNIT                    Social Aspects of the Classical World – Evidence-Based (Higher)**

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

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

#### **GUIDANCE ON THE CONTENT AND CONTEXT FOR THIS UNIT**

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

#### **GUIDANCE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING APPROACHES FOR THIS UNIT**

Regardless of which context (Power and Freedom or Religion and Belief) is selected, the study must encompass three distinct systems - those of democratic Athens, of late republican Rome and of early imperial Rome. It is important that the selected context should be studied through consideration of the suggested aspects and not as a historical narrative.

Evidence should be evaluated carefully, and considerable emphasis placed on its reliability and on identifying those factors which affect that reliability.

The evidence available should also be used to examine, with reference to the suggested aspects, areas of similarity and difference between each of the three classical societies and modern society.

#### **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 Arrangements* (SQA, 2001).