

## National Unit Specification: general information

<b>UNIT</b>	Music: Training and Directing (Advanced Higher)
<b>NUMBER</b>	D358 13
<b>COURSE</b>	Music (Advanced Higher)

### SUMMARY

This unit seeks to allow candidates, taking responsibility under supervision, prepare, rehearse and direct a programme of music for performance. They will show awareness of the aural and technical skills associated with conducting and directing. The organisation and direction of a musical performance is a natural development for candidates, allowing the application of performing, inventing and listening skills in a musical context. In addition, it offers opportunities to exercise interpersonal skills associated with leading and inspiring others.

### OUTCOMES

- 1 Prepare a programme of music for performance.
- 2 Rehearse and direct a programme of music in performance.
- 3 Integrate aural and reading skills.

### RECOMMENDED ENTRY

While entry is at the discretion of the centre, candidates will normally benefit from having attained one of the following:

- a unit or a course in Music at Higher
- or equivalent

---

### Administrative Information

<b>Superclass:</b>	LH
<b>Publication date:</b>	July 2000
<b>Source:</b>	Scottish Qualifications Authority
<b>Version:</b>	02

© Scottish Qualifications Authority 2000

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. The cost for each unit specification is £2.50 (minimum order £5).

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

**UNIT** Music: Training and Directing (Advanced Higher)

**CREDIT VALUE**

1 credit at Advanced Higher.

**CORE SKILLS**

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

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

### **UNIT Music: Training and Directing (Advanced Higher)**

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**

The standard of the music selected will be appropriate to the nature of, and the abilities within, the performance group.

Prepare a programme of music for performance.

##### **Performance criteria**

Preparation of selected repertoire is appropriate and demonstrates that:

- (a) Musical features which are appropriate to the style have been identified.
- (b) Literacy skills to ensure knowledge and understanding of appropriate musical features are apparent.
- (c) Likely musical challenges for performers have been identified.
- (d) Account is taken of the need for effective organisation of resources for the performance venue, and is carried out.

##### **Evidence requirements**

A rehearsal log (see support notes and Appendix 4), detailing information on the preparation of music.

#### **OUTCOME 2**

Rehearse and direct a programme of music in performance.

##### **Performance criteria**

- (a) Demonstrate appropriate aural and communicative musical skills, by:
  - recognising errors in pitch, rhythm, entry, intonation and balance
  - communicating and explaining beat, tempo, dynamics, entry signals, with evaluative comment to improve performance
- (b) Demonstrate appropriate management skills, through:
  - effective time management of rehearsals and rehearsal schedule
  - effective interpersonal skills which improve performance
  - striking a good balance of informed, constructive criticism and encouragement
  - creating and sustaining a positive and motivating rapport with performers
- (b) Demonstrate appropriate evaluative skills (in rehearsals/within the rehearsal log), through:
  - recognising the challenges for performers
  - preparing incisively for rehearsals

## **National Unit Specification: statement of standards (cont)**

### **UNIT Music: Training and Directing (Advanced Higher)**

#### **Evidence requirements**

- performance evidence on video tape of:
  - i an early rehearsal demonstrating the starting point
  - ii a rehearsal mid-point, illustrating the development which has taken place
  - iii a final performance of 5-15 minutes' duration with teacher/lecturer observation notes

The total length of performance evidence need be no more than 30 minutes' duration.

- candidate's rehearsal log containing planning and evaluative information

### **OUTCOME 3**

Integrate aural and reading skills.

#### **Performance criteria**

- (a) Demonstrate appropriate aural perception skills, by:
- recognising errors in pitch, rhythm, entry, intonation and balance
  - analysis of stylistic features.
- (b) Demonstrate appropriate reading skills, by:
- analysis of stylistic features.
- (c) Demonstrate ability to prepare an unseen score by:
- identifying rehearsal issues.

#### **Evidence requirements**

- evidence from short tests of the candidate's ability to identify inaccuracies aurally and comment on features listed in the performance criteria
- evidence of the candidate's ability to identify rehearsal issues from previously unseen scores

#### **Moderation requirements**

Details of the moderation arrangements which will apply to the internal assessment of this unit will be issued in due course by the SQA.

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

### **UNIT Music: Training and Directing (Advanced Higher)**

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 LEARNING AND TEACHING FOR THIS UNIT**

The video camera should be viewed not only as an assessment requirement which documents the development which has taken place during the duration of the unit, but as a valuable teaching and discussion tool. It will allow teachers/lecturers and candidates to review the performance of both trainer/director and performers thereby enabling candidates to consider appropriate remediation strategies for ensuing rehearsals. Such material will also be referred to in a candidate's rehearsal log helping to illustrate how the video information has been deployed as a natural part of continuous self-evaluation.

#### **GUIDANCE ON APPROACHES TO ASSESSMENT FOR THIS UNIT**

Candidates should be continuously assessed to assist in the development of skills and techniques, and informal self/peer assessment should be encouraged.

Summative assessment should be related to the requirements of each outcome.

Guidance on specific performance issues is given in Appendix 5.

#### **Rehearsal Log**

The rehearsal log should be an ongoing series of notes containing:

- the candidate's comments on selection, preparation and target setting for repertoire and rehearsal
- a checklist for use in preparation and implementation stages
- rehearsal and performance evaluations, review and remediation strategies
- plans for rehearsal procedures and time management

Further advice on assessment and standards to assist in determining an overall pass for the unit may be found in the course specification.

#### **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).