



National 2
Course
Specification



National 2 Social Subjects Course Specification (C767 72)

Valid from August 2013

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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 Social Subjects

SCQF: level 2 (18 SCQF credit points)

Course code: C767 72

Mandatory Units

This Course comprises three mandatory units from the following:

H26F 72	Social Subjects: Making a Decision (National 2)	6 SCQF credit points
Or		
H6SM 72	Social Subjects: Making a Decision with a Scottish Context (National 2)*	6 SCQF credit points
H26G 72	Social Subjects: Making a Contrast (National 2)	6 SCQF credit points
Or		
H6SN 72	Social Subjects: Making a Contrast with a Scottish Context(National 2)*	6 SCQF credit points
H26H 72	Social Subjects: Organising and Communicating Information (National 2)	6 SCQF credit points
Or		
H6SP 72	Social Subjects: Organising and Communicating Information with a Scottish Context (National 2)*	6 SCQF credit points

*Scottish Studies Award contributing Unit: This Course Specification should be read in conjunction with the relevant Scottish Studies Unit Specification on the [Scottish Studies Award web page](#)

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 social subjects 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 Social Subjects Course builds on the principles and practices and the experiences and outcomes of the social studies and the religious and moral education curriculum areas.

The Course provides a flexible framework to enable learners to develop generic thinking skills and basic knowledge and understanding within the context of social subjects (Geography, History, Modern Studies, Classical Studies) and/or religious, moral and philosophical studies. Within this framework, for example, learners are provided with opportunities to develop their understanding of the world by considering other people and their values and beliefs, in different times, places and circumstances. Learners are also provided with opportunities to develop their understanding of their environment and how that environment has been shaped.

The Course also provides learners with opportunities to develop other skills, attributes and capabilities. For example, learners will be provided with opportunities to: extend their horizons as they are encouraged to look at the world in new ways; understand more about their sense of identity and place in the world; and develop an understanding of historical, geographical and religious contexts and knowledge about society.

The Course also develops a range of skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work. These skills could include the development of numeracy, language and communication, problem solving, reflective skills and ICT skills.

Purpose and aims of the Course

The purpose of the Course is to provide a flexible framework to enable learners to develop generic thinking skills and basic knowledge and understanding within the context of social subjects (Geography, History, Modern Studies, Classical Studies) and/or religious and moral education.

The aims of the Course are to enable learners to develop skills in:

- ◆ making a decision
- ◆ making a contrast
- ◆ collecting and using information
- ◆ organising and communicating information
- ◆ showing knowledge and understanding of contexts from the social subjects and/or religious and moral education curriculum areas

The contexts chosen for study can be drawn from across the social subjects and/or religious and moral education curriculum areas, or from a single subject discipline within them.

In addition, learners will have the opportunity to develop generic and transferable skills including numeracy, problem solving and ICT.

Information about typical learners who might do the Course

This Course is suitable for all learners with an interest in social subjects and/or religious and moral education and who wish to learn more about their environment and about people and society, values and beliefs.

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

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

On completing the Course, learners will have developed skills in using information to make decisions and understand contrasts. Learners will also have developed skills in organising and communicating information in a variety of formats.

Additionally, learners are likely to be provided with opportunities to: work individually and as part of a team; take part in learning outwith their centre; and use ICT to communicate information.

The skills developed within the Social Subjects (National 2) Course can be applied to learning in other subject areas. Skills developed in this Course also support progression in other curriculum areas, as well as in the Personal Achievement Award and the Personal Development Award at National 2.

Course structure and conditions of award

Course structure

This Course consists of three mandatory Units.

This Course enables learners to develop skills within social subjects and/or religious and moral education curriculum areas in: making a decision; contrasting, organising and communicating information; and showing knowledge and understanding of chosen contexts.

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

Social Subjects: Making a Decision (National 2)

The general aim of this Unit is to enable the learner to make a decision about a context within the social subjects (Geography, History, Modern Studies, and Classical Studies) and/or religious and moral education curriculum areas. The learner will make a decision based on the context studied. This might, for example, be whether or not they would like to have lived in Roman times. Throughout the decision making process, learners will develop an understanding about collecting information from a variety of sources.

Social Subjects: Making a Contrast (National 2)

The general aim of this Unit is to enable learners to make a contrast between different features of a context within the social subjects (Geography, History, Modern Studies, and Classical Studies) and/or religious and moral education curriculum areas. For example, contrasts might be between town and country, rich and poor, religious festivals, and past and present day comparisons.

Social Subjects: Organising and Communicating Information (National 2)

The general aim of this Unit is to enable learners to organise and communicate information about a context they have studied within the social subjects (Geography, History, Modern Studies, and Classical Studies) and/or religious and moral education curriculum areas. The form of communication used may vary according to personal choice and the availability of resources. Examples of forms of communication may include: a poster, a sequence of photographs, a wall display, or an aural recording or short film.

Conditions of award

To achieve the National 2 Social Subjects 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. These include:

- ◆ making a decision
- ◆ making a contrast
- ◆ collecting and using different sources of information
- ◆ organising information
- ◆ communicating information
- ◆ basic knowledge and understanding within the context of social subjects (Geography, History, Modern Studies, Classical Studies) and/or religious and moral education

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 judgments are consistent and meet national standards.

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

Social Subjects: Making a Decision (National 2)

For this Unit, learners will be able to:

- ◆ Collect information about a chosen context in order to make a decision
- ◆ Make a decision using the key or important pieces of information linked to the chosen context

Social Subjects: Making a Contrast (National 2)

For this Unit, learners will be able to:

- ◆ Collect information about a context which allows a contrast to be made
- ◆ Make a contrast based on the important pieces of information selected

Social Subjects: Organising and Communicating (National 2)

For this Unit, learners will be able to:

- ◆ organise information
- ◆ communicate information

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

5 Thinking skills

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

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History of changes to National Course Specification

Course details	Version	Description of change	Authorised by	Date
	1.1	Scottish Studies Award Unit contributing information added. No other changes made to document content.	Qualificaitons Manager	September 2014

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