



National 4
Unit
Specification



Understanding 20th and 21st Century Music (National 4)

SCQF: level 4 (6 SCQF credit points)

Unit code: H245 74

Unit outline

The general aim of this Unit is to enable learners to develop knowledge and understanding of 20th and 21st century musical styles and genres, and an understanding of related music technology developments through investigation and listening activities.

Learners who complete this Unit will be able to:

- 1 Describe, in broad terms, technological developments related to 20th and 21st century music
- 2 Use listening skills in the context of 20th and 21st century music

This Unit is a mandatory Unit of the National 4 Music Technology Course and is also available as a free-standing Unit. The Unit specification should be read in conjunction with the *Unit Support Notes*, which provide advice and guidance on delivery, assessment approaches and development of skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work. Exemplification of the standards in this Unit is given in *Unit Assessment Support*.

The *Added Value Unit Specification* for the National 4 Music Technology Course gives further mandatory information on Course coverage for learners taking this Unit as part of the National 4 Music Technology Course.

Recommended entry

Entry to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre. However learners would normally be expected to have attained the skills, knowledge and understanding required by the following or equivalent qualifications and/or experience:

- ◆ National 3 Music Technology Course

In terms of prior learning and experience, relevant experiences and outcomes may also provide an appropriate basis for doing this Unit.

Equality and inclusion

This Unit 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 *Unit Support Notes*.

Standards

Outcomes and assessment standards

Outcome 1

The learner will:

- 1 Describe, in broad terms, technological developments related to 20th and 21st century music by:**
 - 1.1 Describing the main features of significant genres and styles
 - 1.2 Describing significant technologies related to 20th and 21st century music

Outcome 2

The learner will:

- 2 Use listening skills in the context of 20th and 21st century music by:**
 - 2.1 Identifying examples of a range of significant genres and their main features
 - 2.2 Identifying examples of a range of relevant music concepts

Evidence Requirements for the Unit

Assessors should use their professional judgement, subject knowledge and experience, and understanding of their learners, to determine the most appropriate ways to generate evidence and the conditions and contexts in which they are used.

For this Unit, learners must provide evidence of their understanding of aspects of 20th and 21st century music, and related technological developments. Evidence for Outcomes 1 and 2 could be generated through a single activity but is more likely to be generated over a series of activities.

Evidence for Outcome 1 should be in an appropriate format that can be presented to others, which may be visual, written, oral, electronic or some other format.

Evidence for Assessment Standard 1.1 should refer to at least two different genres. Appropriate genres could include jazz, blues, rock, disco, ragtime, swing, skiffle, synth pop, electronica, dance music and rap.

Relevant music concepts for Outcome 2 should include a range of terms relating to melody and harmony, rhythm and tempo, texture, structure and form, and timbre and dynamics.

Exemplification of assessment is provided in *Unit Assessment Support*. Advice and guidance on possible approaches to assessment is provided in the *Unit Support Notes*.

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

It is expected that learners will develop broad, generic skills through this Unit. The skills that learners will be expected to improve on and develop through the Unit 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 Unit where there are appropriate opportunities.

4 Employability, enterprise and citizenship

4.2 Information and communication technology (ICT)

5 Thinking skills

5.1 Remembering

5.2 Understanding

Amplification of these is given in SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work*. The level of these skills should be at the same SCQF level as the Unit and be consistent with the SCQF level descriptor. Further information on building in skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work is given in the *Unit Support Notes*.

Administrative information

Published: June 2014 (version 1.2)

Superclass: LF

History of changes to National Unit Specification

Version	Description of change	Authorised by	Date
1.1	Amended list of genres and technologies in Evidence Requirements.	Qualifications Development Manager	June 2013
1.2	Page 3 'musical concepts' changed to 'music concepts'	Qualifications Manager	June 2014

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