

even AIM HIGHER

Introducing Advanced Higher Modern Studies

Advanced Higher is SQA's highest level of National Course. It is very demanding. Advanced Higher extends students' knowledge and skills beyond Higher. Students will face new academic and personal challenges, requiring them to develop their knowledge and abilities, and to think and work independently.

ADVANCED HIGHER MODERN STUDIES

This course has two compulsory Units: Political and Social Issues (80 hours) and Practical Research (40 hours). The former offers a choice of studies: Comparative Politics, looking at the political systems of the UK (including Scotland) and the USA; Crime and the Law, studying crime-related issues, including the prison and penal systems, in the UK; and the European Union, an issues-based approach to the EU.

The Practical Research Unit is based on planning, organising, researching, producing and reviewing a dissertation or similar investigation based on an issue drawn from the Political and Social Issues Unit.

Candidates can enter for the Course without prior experience of Modern Studies, but its primary function is to develop the skills learned at Higher. This includes analysing complex issues, evaluating sources of information and using evidence to support sustained and developed arguments.

MORE...



The Course aims to produce confident independent learners who will live in and contribute towards a tolerant democratic society

The Course Assessment consists of one three-hour question paper (where candidates must answer two essay questions plus a series of shorter questions based on research methods) worth 90 marks, and a dissertation which they have planned and produced themselves, worth 45 marks.

Unit assessment for the Political and Social Issues Unit is of similar format to the examination, while the Practical Research Unit is assessed by way of a checklist attested by the teacher/lecturer.

FURTHER INFORMATION

You can find the detailed Course Arrangements on the Modern Studies page of SQA's website (www.sqa.org.uk). A specimen examination paper is also available here, together with other information and guidance.

Copies of past examination papers (for the last two years) can be purchased from SQA's Customer Contact Centre – tel 0845 279 1000. The Contact Centre can also send you our free leaflet **Introducing Advanced Higher** (publication code BD2803).