

Higher National Qualifications

And

Scottish Vocational Qualifications

Senior Moderator Report

2006

Subject: Media Studies

The purpose of this report is to provide feedback to centres on moderation which has taken place within Higher National and Scottish Vocational Qualifications in this subject.

HIGHER NATIONAL UNITS

FEEDBACK TO CENTRES

General comments:

Moderation of the centres visited indicated that centres are teaching units to the appropriate standards required by SQA with a positive and thoughtful approach to assessment. Many of the units in Media Studies require the candidate to produce programmes for television or radio reflecting industry practice as well as the theory of these media. Teaching and assessment need to be planned so that theory informs practice and vice versa, centres are doing this well and this assists candidates to marry skills and theory.

Advice on good practice and areas for further development:

Assessments for Media Studies are enhanced by practical assessments which reflect industry practice. Examples of these units would be: making a radio programme; creating web pages; creating a television programme. Centres are aware of this and generally their assessments reflect this to the advantage and learning experience of students aiming for these qualifications. Centres should continue this good practice.

Master folders containing all appropriate documentation continue to be helpful to external moderators as well as proving a useful resource for centre staff.

SVQ AWARDS

TITLES/LEVELS OF SVQ AWARDS MODERATED

There were no SVQ Awards moderated in this group.

FEEDBACK TO CENTRES

General comments:

Advice on good practice and areas for further development:

NATIONAL UNITS

(i.e. Freestanding units which contribute to NPAs or NCs etc.)

TITLES/LEVELS OF NATIONAL UNITS MODERATED

D6V0 12, D6V7 11, D6V5 10, D6V7 12, D6V4 11, EF5V12, DF15 11,

DF14 10, DF15 11, DF16 12 – MEDIA ANALYSIS AND PRODUCTION INT 1 AND 2, HIGHER, CENTRALLY MODERATED

FEEDBACK TO CENTRES

General comments:

All centres visited showed that the units which were verified were being taught and moderated to a level in accordance with the quality demands of SQA. As with HN Units centres are aware of the practical nature of many Media Units and assessments are constructed with this in mind. Centres are also aware of media industry practice and assessments reflect this. Units such as making a radio programme demand the skills of script writing, recording, editing, microphone technique and all are done to industry standards.

Advice on good practice and areas for further development:

Master folders containing all relevant documentation are most helpful and assist external verifiers as well as creating a valuable staff resource and all centres had these for each unit.

Good checklists are essential for the practical media units and all centres used these.

All centres provided notes of internal verification meetings but in some cases samples of student work used in the verification were not readily available. Centres should make samples of student work used in internal verification available to the external verifiers.