

Updates to Higher Sociology Course



Unit Specification, Unit assessment support packs and Course Assessment Specification

We have updated one Unit Specification and the Course Assessment Specification for Higher Sociology. This follows feedback gathered from centres during session 2014–15.

As a result of these changes some Unit assessment support packs have also been amended. The updated Unit Specification, Course Assessment Specification and assessment support materials are now available and are dated 'August 2015'.

Please refer to the following 'Notification of Changes' tables for your curricular area, as these provide a summary of the changes to each document and include details of the revised version numbers.

- [Health and Wellbeing National 3 to National 5 Notification of Changes Log](#)
- [Health and Wellbeing Higher Notification of Changes Log](#)

Notification of Changes tables for all subjects are available from www.sqa.org.uk/cfesubjectchanges

The use of SQA-produced Unit assessments is not mandatory; however, if you are using them, we strongly encourage you to use the most up-to-date versions. Please note that you may continue to use existing versions of the Unit assessments until the end of session 2015–16 and both will be accepted for verification purposes.

The updated Unit assessment support materials are available from our secure website and you can arrange access to them through your SQA Co-ordinator.

Further information on the reasons for these changes, and guidance on the next steps to take, is provided below.

Subject	Document	Reason for change	Next steps for centres
Higher Sociology	Course Assessment Specification	Clarification made within Culture and Identity section to emphasise that aspects of identify must include both age and gender.	Centres are advised to download new copies of the revised document.
Higher Sociology	Human Society Unit Specification	Outcome 2, Assessment Standard 1 has been amended to include theories. <i>2.1 Explaining features, strengths and</i>	Centres are advised to download new copies of the revised document.

		<p><i>weaknesses of structural and action perspectives and theories</i></p> <p>This amendment brings the Unit Assessment Standard in line with the Course Assessment Specification which states that all of the following theories must be studied: Consensus, Conflict, Functionalism, Marxism, Feminism, Symbolic Interactionism, Labelling, Weberism and can be assessed within the question paper.</p> <p>Amending the Assessment Standard reduces the gap between Unit and Course assessment, ensuring the assessment of both perspectives and theories is embedded from Unit level through to Course assessment.</p>	
Higher Sociology	Unit assessment support pack: Human Society package 1 Unit-by-Unit approach	<p>As above, Assessment Standard 2.1 has been amended to include theories. As a result, the judging evidence table has been updated for Assessment Standard 2.1 and the assessment for candidates has been amended to ensure theories and perspectives are being assessed.</p>	<p>Centres are advised to be aware of these changes.</p>
Higher Sociology	Unit assessment support pack: package 2 portfolio approach		
Higher Sociology	Unit assessment support pack: package 3 combined approach		