Session 2022–23 modification summary: Modern Studies

National 4, National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher

This document is for teachers, lecturers and training practitioners.

To support you and your candidates, the modifications to assessment that were in place for session 2021–22, which we reiterate below, remain in place for session 2022–23. For all levels of Modern Studies the types of modifications remain the same, however there are some differences from last year in the specific subtopics that will not be directly assessed in the National 5 question paper.

We made these modifications to assessment in response to the disruption to learning caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. These modifications helped to reduce the volume of assessment and provide more time for learning and teaching of course content, while maintaining the integrity and credibility of the qualifications.

National 4

Added value unit

There is no requirement to complete the added value unit. To achieve the overall course award for National 4 this session, candidates must pass all other contributing units in the National 4 course. You must submit a ‘pass’ result for the added value unit to ensure your candidates are certificated for the course award.

You are not required to gather evidence for the added value unit this session; however, it is important you give candidates opportunities to develop and demonstrate the skills, knowledge and understanding outlined in the National 4 added value unit specification, where possible. This will support your candidates as they progress to further learning and assessment at SCQF level 5.

National 5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Marks</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Question paper</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>2 hours and 20 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Question paper

♦ the 8-mark ‘explain’ question will be in Section 1: Democracy in Scotland and the United Kingdom
♦ in each option within each section, there will be a subtopic area of content that will not be directly assessed in the 2023 question paper. These subtopics are:

— Section 1: Democracy in Scotland and the United Kingdom
  Option 1: Democracy in Scotland
  Representation
  Option 2: Democracy in the United Kingdom
  Representation

— Section 2: Social Issues in the United Kingdom
  Option 1: Social Inequality
  Nature of social inequality
  Option 2: Crime and the Law
  Nature of crime

— Section 3: International Issues
  Option 1: World Power
  Effectiveness in tackling social and economic issues
  Option 2: World Issue
  Evaluation of international organisation(s) in tackling the conflict/issue

We recommend that centres aim to deliver the course as normal, however teachers and lecturers are free to decide on timing, depth of delivery, and any internal assessment of the subtopics not being assessed in the 2023 question paper.

Assignment

The coursework component (assignment) has been removed.

Higher

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Marks</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Question paper 1</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>1 hour and 45 minutes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Question paper 2</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>1 hour and 15 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Question paper 1

Section 1 will have four extended-response questions and sections 2 and 3 will each have three extended-response questions. Candidates will be required to answer one question from each section.

Question paper 2

No changes.
Assignment
The coursework component (assignment) has been removed.

Advanced Higher

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Component</th>
<th>Marks</th>
<th>Duration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Question paper</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>3 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project–dissertation</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>see ‘Course assessment’ section in the Advanced Higher Modern Studies Course Specification</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Question paper
Within part A of each section, each topic area will contain a choice of two 30-mark extended-response questions. Candidates will be required to answer two questions from separate topics.

Project–dissertation
No changes.

Keeping you updated
We continue to follow the latest public health advice on COVID-19. In the event of changes to public health advice, we will work with our partners on the National Qualifications Steering Group to consider any impact on arrangements for assessing National Qualifications this session. We will keep you updated with the latest news and information.

You can find up-to-date information for National Qualifications (www.sqa.org.uk/nq) and frequently asked questions (www.sqa.org.uk/faq) on our website.

If you have any questions about this information, please email qualification.development@sqa.org.uk.