



National 3
Course
Specification



National 3 Classical Studies Course Specification (C715 73)

Valid from August 2024

This edition: May 2024, version 2.0

This specification may be reproduced in whole or in part for educational purposes provided that no profit is derived from reproduction and that, if reproduced in part, the source is acknowledged. Additional copies of this Course Specification can be downloaded from SQA's website: www.sqa.org.uk.

Please refer to the note of changes at the end of this Course Specification for details of changes from previous version (where applicable).

© Scottish Qualifications Authority 2012, 2024

Course outline

Course title: National 3 Classical Studies

SCQF: level 3 (18 SCQF credit points)

Course code: C715 73

Mandatory Units

H21N 73	Life in Classical Greece (National 3)	6 SCQF credit points
H21P 73	Classical Literature (National 3)	6 SCQF credit points
H21S 73	Life in the Roman World (National 3)	6 SCQF credit points

Recommended entry

Entry to this Course 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 2 Social Subjects Course or relevant component Units

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

Progression

This Course or its Units may provide progression to:

- ◆ Classical Studies Course or its component Units at National 4
- ◆ further study, employment and/or training

Further details are provided in the Rationale section.

Equality and inclusion

This Course 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 *Course Support Notes*.

Rationale

All new and revised National Courses reflect Curriculum for Excellence values, purposes and principles. They offer flexibility, provide more time for learning, more focus on skills and applying learning, and scope for personalisation and choice.

In this Course, and its component Units, there will be an emphasis on skills development and the application of those skills. Assessment approaches will be proportionate, fit for purpose and will promote best practice, enabling learners to achieve the highest standards they can.

This Course provides learners with opportunities to continue to acquire and develop the attributes and capabilities of the four capacities as well as skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work.

All Courses provide opportunities for learners to develop breadth, challenge and application, but the focus and balance of the assessment will be appropriate for the subject area.

Relationship between the Course and Curriculum for Excellence values, purposes and principles

This Course builds on the social studies principles and practice paper and will be developed primarily, although not exclusively, from the experiences and outcomes of the social studies curriculum area.

This Course will encourage learners to develop important attitudes, including: an open mind and respect for the values, beliefs and cultures of others; openness to new thinking and ideas; a sense of responsibility; and global citizenship.

This Course contributes to learners' understanding of the society in which they live and work by helping them to develop an understanding of classical societies and how the issues of the classical world remain relevant to an understanding of modern society. This will, in turn, assist them in functioning as effective contributors to society and responsible citizens, as well as giving them more individual confidence in their learning and working lives.

There is no requirement to study the Greek or Latin languages.

This Course encourages learners to develop the attributes and capabilities of the four capacities in many respects. For example, learners' horizons are extended and they are challenged to look at the world in new ways. They begin to understand more about their sense of identity and place in the modern world by building up a framework of religious, political, social, moral and cultural knowledge and understanding.

Through this Course, learners will progressively develop literacy skills, as well as contributing to group work. Through the focus on using sources, learners will develop important knowledge of classical societies, contributing to citizenship. The supported critical thinking activities in this Course will provide learners with important transferable skills for their life and work.

Purpose and aims of the Course

Classical Studies opens up the world of classical society for learners. The purpose of this Course is to develop the learner's knowledge and understanding of classical Greek and Roman civilisations by comparing these societies with the modern world. This will be achieved through successful study of the Course Units.

The Course will develop information handling skills to help learners to understand and link the classical and modern worlds.

This Course makes a distinctive contribution to the curriculum through its study of the religious, political, social, moral and cultural values and practices of classical Greek and Roman societies. It therefore explores the breadth of human relationships within these societies and helps learners explore how these compare to modern life.

The main aims of this Course are to enable learners to develop:

- ◆ an awareness of how the classical world is relevant to an understanding of modern society
- ◆ a range of skills including the ability to understand and comment on sources of evidence, and respond to issues raised by classical literature
- ◆ basic knowledge and understanding of religious, political, social moral or cultural aspects of life in classical Greek and Roman societies
- ◆ basic knowledge and understanding of some ideas, themes or values raised by classical literature

Information about typical learners who might do the Course

This Course is appropriate for a wide range of learners, from those who wish to achieve a greater understanding of classical and modern societies, to learners who wish to progress to further study.

Entry to this Course is at the discretion of the centre. However, it may be beneficial for the learner to have the skills and knowledge from the relevant experiences and outcomes from the broad general education or equivalent qualifications.

Through the successful completion of this Course, learners will develop a range of important and transferable skills, including using and commenting on sources of evidence, including archaeological evidence; using classical literature to draw basic conclusions about universal ideas, themes or values; comparing the classical and modern worlds; and communicating points of view.

Classical Studies Units and Courses are offered from SCQF level 3 to SCQF level 7. Vertical progression is possible through the levels of Classical Studies qualifications and lateral progression is possible to other qualifications in the social studies suite of Courses.

This Course provides an entry qualification for further study, employment and training. This Course is a preparation for a diverse range of occupations and careers.

Course structure and conditions of award

Course structure

This Course develops a range of cognitive skills. It encourages active learning in the process of acquiring and applying relevant knowledge. Learners will develop communicating skills in order to understand and link the classical and modern worlds.

Through the successful completion of this Course, learners will develop a range of important and transferable skills, including using and commenting on sources of evidence, including archaeological evidence; using classical literature to draw basic conclusions about universal ideas, themes or values; comparing the classical and modern worlds; and communicating points of view.

The skills listed above will be developed and applied over a range of contexts in the following Units. Each Unit also offers opportunities for learners to focus on particular skills.

The Course has three mandatory Units. Within each Unit there is a considerable degree of flexibility in the contexts and themes which can be addressed, to allow for personalisation and choice.

Units are statements of standards for assessment and not programmes of learning and teaching. They can be delivered in a number of ways.

Life in Classical Greece (National 3)

In this Unit, learners will develop skills to comment on sources of evidence about life in classical Greece. Learners will develop basic knowledge and understanding of religious, political, social, moral or cultural aspects of life in classical Greece.

Classical Literature (National 3)

In this Unit, learners will develop skills to comment on classical literature. Learners will be required to study classical literature from either the classical Greek or classical Roman worlds. Learners will develop basic knowledge and understanding of universal ideas, themes or values which link the classical and modern worlds.

Life in the Roman World (National 3)

In this Unit, learners will develop skills to use sources of evidence, including archaeological evidence, to compare the classical Roman and modern worlds. Learners will develop basic knowledge and understanding of religious, political, social, moral or cultural aspects of life in the classical Roman world.

Conditions of award

To achieve the National 3 Classical Studies Course, learners must pass all of the required Units. The required Units are shown in the Course outline section.

National 3 Courses are not graded.

Skills, knowledge and understanding

Full skills, knowledge and understanding for the Course may be given in the *Course Support Notes*. A broad overview of the subject skills, knowledge and understanding that will be covered in the Course is given in this section.

This covers:

- ◆ commenting on sources of evidence about the classical world
- ◆ using sources of evidence, including archaeological evidence, to compare the classical and modern worlds
- ◆ drawing basic conclusions about ideas, themes or values raised in classical literature
- ◆ basic knowledge and understanding of religious, political, social, moral or cultural aspects of life in classical Greek and Roman societies.
- ◆ basic knowledge and understanding of ideas, themes or values raised by classical literature

Skills, knowledge and understanding to be included in the Course will be appropriate to the SCQF level of the Course. The SCQF level descriptors give further information on characteristics and expected performance at each SCQF level (www.sqa.org.uk/scqf).

Assessment

Further information about assessment for the Course is included in the *Course Support Notes*.

Unit assessment

All Units are internally assessed against the requirements shown in the Unit Specification.

They can be assessed on an individual Unit basis or by using other approaches which combine the assessment for more than one Unit.

They will be assessed on a pass/fail basis within centres. SQA will provide rigorous external quality assurance, including external verification, to ensure assessment judgments are consistent and meet national standards.

The assessment of the Units in this Course will be as follows:

Life in Classical Greece (National 3)

The learner will be required to give evidence of:

- ◆ the ability to use and comment on sources of evidence about life in classical Greece
- ◆ basic knowledge and understanding of life in classical Greece

Classical Literature (National 3)

The learner will be required to give evidence of:

- ◆ the ability to comment on classical literature
- ◆ basic knowledge and understanding of classical literature

Life in the Roman World (National 3)

The learner will be required to give evidence of:

- ◆ the ability to use sources of evidence, including archaeological evidence, to compare the classical Roman and modern worlds
- ◆ basic knowledge and understanding of life in the Roman world

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

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

1 Literacy

1.1 Reading

4 Employability, enterprise and citizenship

4.6 Citizenship

5 Thinking skills

5.2 Understanding

5.3 Applying

Amplification of these skills is given in SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work*. The level of these skills will be appropriate to the level of the Course. Further information on building in skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work for the Course is given in the *Course Support Notes*.

Administrative information

Published: May 2024 (version 2.0)

History of changes to National Course Specification

Version	Description of change	Date
2.0	In the 'Unit assessment' section under 'Life in the Roman World', a typographical error in the first bullet has been corrected as follows: ◆ the ability to use sources of evidence, including archaeological evidence, to compare the classical Roman and modern worlds	May 2024

This specification may be reproduced in whole or in part for educational purposes provided that no profit is derived from reproduction and that, if reproduced in part, the source is acknowledged. Additional copies of this specification can be downloaded from SQA's website at www.sqa.org.uk.

Note: You are advised to check SQA's website (www.sqa.org.uk) to ensure you are using the most up-to-date version of the Course Specification.

© Scottish Qualifications Authority 2012, 2024