National 5 Modern Studies

Course Rationale

The National 5 Modern Studies course enables learners to develop knowledge and understanding of contemporary political and social issues in local, Scottish, United Kingdom and International contexts. The course is also available at National 4 level. Learners develop skills to interpret and participate in the social and political process they will encounter in their lives.

Course Content

3 Units

- Political Issues: Democracy in Scotland and the UK
- Social Issues in the UK: Crime and the Law
- International Issues: World Powers: China

Skills

- Use a range of information to develop arguments to support and oppose views
- Reach a decision based on evidence
- Research and analytical skills
- Team working skills
- Extended writing and communication skills
- Organisational skills
- Thinking skills

Course Assessment

Question Paper

This is worth 80 marks. This question paper lasts 2 hours 20 minutes.

The question paper has three sections. Candidates must answer one part from each section. There are options in each section to allow opportunities for personalisation and choice.

Assignment

This is worth 20 marks. This paper lasts 1 hour and is completed in March.

Learners have an open choice of a Modern Studies topic or issue. Their choice should refer to a contemporary political, social or international issue.

Progression

Successful candidates at National 5 level can progress to Higher Modern Studies in S5 or S6. Progression into a Higher or National 5 in another Humanities subject is also encouraged.

Successful candidates at National 4 level can progress to National 5 Modern Studies in S5 or S6. Progression into a National 4/5 in another Humanities subject is also encouraged.

Career Pathways

Law	Journalism	Teaching	Forensics	Politics	Police
Police	Armed Forces	Civil Service	Financial Sector	Healthcare and Social Services	