

# Higher French/German/Spanish

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## Course Rationale

Learning a new language enables candidates to make connections with different people and their cultures and to play a fuller part as global citizens. The ability to use language effectively lies at the centre of thinking and learning. The study of a modern language has a unique contribution to make to the development of cultural awareness, providing candidates with opportunities to enhance their understanding and enjoyment of other cultures and of their own.

## Course Content

The course provides candidates with the opportunity to develop reading and listening, talking and writing skills in the modern language, and to develop their knowledge and understanding of **detailed and sophisticated** language in 4 overall contexts:

- society
- learning
- employability
- culture

## Skills

- reading, listening, talking, and writing skills in a modern language in the contexts of society, learning, employability, and culture
- knowledge and understanding of **detailed and sophisticated** language required to understand and use a modern language
- applying knowledge and understanding of language to translate **detailed and complex** language
- applying grammatical knowledge and understanding

## Course Assessment

The course assessment has **five** components totalling **120 marks**:

- Component 1: question paper 1: Reading – worth 30 marks
- Component 2: question paper 1: Writing (Directed Writing) – worth 30 marks
- Component 3: question paper 2: Listening – worth 30 marks
- Component 4: assignment – Writing Assignment – worth 20 marks (**\* this element is not currently required**)
- Component 5: performance - Talking – worth 30 marks.

For the assignment component, you will be required to produce a piece of writing (200-250 words) in French based on one of the following contexts: society, learning, employability, culture.

For the performance component, you will take part in a discussion with your teacher or lecturer, using detailed and complex language on at least two different contexts, and respond to questions in French relating to each of the contexts.

The performance component is set and verified externally by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) and assessed and marked by your school.

Both the question papers and the assignment are set and externally marked by SQA.

The grade awarded is based on the total marks achieved across all course assessment components.

The course assessment is graded A-D.

## Progression

Successful candidates at Higher level can progress to Advanced Higher level. Self-study of an [Open University YASS Course](#) is also a possibility.

## Career Pathways

Knowledge of a modern foreign language is useful in a range of different careers, including law, finance, business administration, sales and marketing, public services, transport, tourism and hospitality and international aid. Speaking a foreign language is also useful if you want to work abroad.