

Supporting Your Learner

National 3 and 4 Modern Studies

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Course Outline

In National Modern Studies pupils study three main areas;

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

At National 3 and 4 levels there is no SQA examination. Pupils must complete unit assessments on each of the above units. Pupils will also complete a research assignment (the Added Value Unit) and report which will be judged on a pass or fail basis. All units must be completed before the end of the course if the SQA are to issue the qualification

National 5 candidates should aim to carry out regular independent research throughout the year – paying specific attention to news and quality newspaper articles which are relevant to the course.



Added Value Unit

As part of the course outcomes, pupils sitting National 4 are required to complete an Added Value Unit. This unit consists of a research task and involves a decision making element. Pupils must choose a topic area and carry out research from a variety of sources. Pupils must also present their research and come to a decision or conclusion about the issue.

Useful Websites

National 3 and 4 Modern Studies candidates should use a wide range of websites to help them develop their knowledge throughout the course. However, the most valuable way to enhance their knowledge is to regularly research the relevant issues that are in the news currently. Thus websites such as; The BBC, Guardian, Telegraph, Independent, Scotsman or any other quality newspaper will be of great use. Watching television programmes such as Question Time, Newsnight and Sunday Politics will also greatly help their understanding of key issues in Modern Studies. Revision websites such as BBC Bitesize can also be a good revision tool.

Useful Textbooks

The following websites sell revision and course notes as well as past papers. We have a sample copy in the department of most Modern Studies textbooks and can offer individual advice on what the best option for each pupil may be. These books will also be of use if your learners is keen to progress on to the next stage in Modern Studies.

- [Hodder Education](#)
- [Leckie and Leckie](#)
- [Bright Red Publishing](#)



Revision Classes

Currently, revision classes are offered by Miss Bulloch on a Wednesday and either Miss Bulloch or Mr Redford on a Tuesday and Thursday. Pupils are also always welcome to seek out either teacher for advice at lunch or at the start or end of the day.

SQA Support

The link below will allow you to access the SQA's Parent page which will provide an overview of National Qualifications as well as helping with decisions about next steps

[SQA Support for Parent](#)

