Route map through learning, teaching and assessment

Course: Media   Level: Higher

This route map is intended to assist staff in planning and delivering the overall vision for Curriculum for Excellence. It has been developed to signpost the relevant support materials available to assist staff in the planning of learning, teaching and assessment of Higher Media.

The vision for the new national qualifications is to create assessment opportunities that follow and support learning and teaching. This follows the principles laid out in *Building the Curriculum 5* and makes assessment a natural part of learning and teaching.

Education Scotland has published support materials to help staff develop programmes of learning drawn from three sources: course materials commissioned by Education Scotland, other support materials produced by staff seconded to Education Scotland and course materials provided by staff through their education authorities. Further materials will be added as they become available.

These support materials, which are neither prescriptive nor exhaustive, provide suggestions on approaches to learning and teaching that will promote development of the necessary knowledge, understanding and skills for Higher English. Staff are encouraged to draw on these materials, and existing materials, to develop their own programmes of learning which are appropriate to the needs of learners within their own context.

The link to Education Scotland's support materials can be found below together with a number of other subject-specific links staff may find helpful as they develop **programmes of learning** for Higher Media. These links are followed by a sequential list of the key guidelines, advice and support for the Higher Media **qualification**. This information is intended to support staff in deciding the most appropriate ways to generate evidence and assess learners.

Useful links for learning and teaching Higher Media

Education Scotland NQ Course Materials (Glow login and password required)
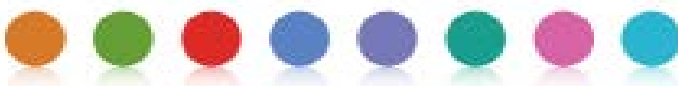http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/nqcoursematerials/subjects/media/coursematerials.asp

SQA course and unit support notes providing advice and guidance on learning and teaching
http://www.sqa.org.uk/files_ccc/CfE_CourseUnitSupportNotes_Higher_Languages_Media.pdf

National Assessment Resource (login and password required)
Materials that inform planning for learning, teaching, moderation and assessment.
https://www.narscotland.org.uk/

Into Film

A new organisation that is implementing a UK-wide programme of learning through and about film. The resources are based on a range of films and include guides to film-making, which may be of particular interest to Higher Media staff.

http://www.intofilm.org/

Moving Image Education

This site features a range of resources and activities that can be used with learners throughout the primary and secondary sectors, many of which can be used to support learning at Higher level.

http://www.movingimageeducation.org/

Media Knowall

A resource designed for learners and staff working at AS/A level, and full of useful guidance on a range of important media concepts, including the key aspects.

http://www.mediaknowall.com/as_alevel/alevkeyconcepts/alevelkeycon.php

Resources relating to current qualifications

Links to support materials for current national qualifications that may be adapted to suit new national qualifications.

http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/nationalqualifications/subjects/mediastudies.asp

http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/resources/nq/m/nqresource_tcm4230257.asp?strReferringChannel=educationscotland&strReferringPageID=tcm:4-615801-64

Higher Media course content

Most of the SQA information on the new national qualifications in media can be found at http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45666.html.

All of the information relating specifically to Higher can be found at http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/47908.html. Staff should also regularly check the updates and announcements section of this page.

There are two units: Analysing Media Content and Creating Media Content.

Analysing Media Content

http://www.sqa.org.uk/files_ccc/CfE_Unit_H_Media_AnalysingMediaContent.pdf

The purpose of this unit is to develop the skills required to analyse media content. The unit provides learners with the opportunity to develop knowledge and understanding of media contexts, roles and the key aspects of media literacy central to the detailed and complex analysis of media content.

Creating Media Content

http://www.sqa.org.uk/files_ccc/CfE_Unit_H_Media_CreatingMediaContent.pdf

The purpose of this unit is to develop the skills required to plan and create media content, and evaluate production processes. The unit provides learners with the opportunity to develop knowledge and understanding of the key aspects of media literacy central to creating media content.

There is a full package of unit assessment support available on the SQA Secure website for these mandatory units. The package includes unit assessments for both combined and unit-by-unit approaches.

Unit assessment

The two units are mandatory when taken as part of the Higher Media course but they can also be standalone units. Unit support notes follow on from the course support notes.
http://www.sqa.org.uk/files_ccc/CfE_CourseUnitSupportNotes_Higher_Languages_Media.pdf

To achieve the full Higher Media award learners must pass **both** of the units, as well as **both** components of the course assessment (assignment and external examination).

Course assessment

Component 1 – External question paper

The purpose of the question paper is to assess the learner's ability to apply their knowledge and understanding of the key aspects of media literacy by analysing both media content in context and the role of media.

The external question paper has 50 marks (50% of the total mark) and one section. Learners will answer two questions on two different examples of media content.

A specimen Higher Media question paper is available at http://www.sqa.org.uk/files_ccc/MediaSQPH.pdf.

Component 2 – Assignment

The purpose of the assignment is to assess the learner's ability to apply the skills, knowledge and understanding acquired through the course in a production of media content. The assignment has 50 marks and consists of two sections which have 25 marks each.

Section 1: Learners will research and plan media content, giving consideration to the actual or likely constraints that may apply and their potential impact.
Section 2: Learners will make their planned media content and reflect on the effectiveness of the development process as well as the finished product.

Further details for the course assignment are available at http://www.sqa.org.uk/files_ccc/GAInfoHigherMedia.pdf. There is also a full step-by step guide for staff on the course assignment on the SQA Secure site.

Verification

The verification process is intended be supportive and not onerous. Internal verification is the process of ensuring that standards are applied uniformly and consistently within a school in line with national standards. External verification is the process of ensuring that national standards are maintained consistently across all schools. Information on quality assurance can be found at http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/58448.html.

The following links will also support staff when preparing evidence for verification purposes, including prior verification, as well as internal and external verification:
http://www.sqa.org.uk/files_ccc/Prior%20Verification%20Centre%20Guidance%20FINAL.pdf
http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/files_ccc/InternalVerificationGuideforSQAcentres.pdf
http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/files_ccc/Evidence_required_for_verificationevents.pdf
http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/files_ccc/SQA_Evidence_retention_requirements_A3_table.pdf

Key messages from verification will be put up on the SQA website.

Results services

http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/files_ccc/FA6669_SQA_Results_Services_A5_8pp_brochure_web.pdf
http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/65427.html

SQA offer two services to replace the appeals process:
- Exceptional Circumstances Consideration Service (details to be provided to SQA within ten days of the learner sitting the external assessment)
- Post-results Service – this consists of a clerical check and/or a marking review if the centre has concerns about the results of an individual or group.