

MODERN STUDIES (National 5)

What are the aims of this course?

National 5 Modern Studies helps you to understand more about what is happening in the world today. You will be able to select and evaluate information, use evidence to explain bias and be able to come to relevant conclusions. This will help you understand more about your rights and responsibilities in today's society.

You will be involved in the use of the media such as newspapers and TV as well as information technology. You will use many of these skills in other subjects.

What are the recommended entry levels for this course?

Skills attained in National 4 Modern Studies or a suitable level in other related subjects (History, Geography and/or English).

What content is included in this course?

Topics covered:

Democracy in Scotland and the United Kingdom

Social Issues in the United Kingdom : Inequality

International Issues: World Powers – The USA

Assignment.

What skills will I develop?

Pupils will learn skills of Extended Writing as well as Enquiry skills using contemporary **political, social** and **economic** sources.

What learning and teaching approaches will I experience?

The emphasis in the department is on a variety of teaching approaches. Group-work exercises, debates, presentations and traditional teaching methods are all utilised. The use of contemporary audio-visual material `brings the subject alive`.

All the above learning and teaching approaches have proved effective and popular with pupils taking **National 5** Modern Studies.

How will I be assessed?

Pupils will be assessed during each unit. There will also be a prelim in January. Pupils will also be expected to complete exercises at home in preparation for the assessments. Pupils will complete an Added Value Unit at National 4 whilst at National 5 an **Assignment** will be completed.

What are the homework requirements?

Pupils will complete relevant homework exercises in each unit; usually enquiry skills.

What are the possible progression routes?

A pass at National 5 could lead onto entry into the Higher course.