**MODERN STUDIES NATIONAL 5**

**CONTENT**

The Course has 3 mandatory units:

**Democracy in Scotland and the United Kingdom**

Learners will develop skills by using sources of information in order to detect and explain examples of bias and exaggeration. Learners will develop a straightforward knowledge and understanding of democracy in Scotland. They will develop knowledge and understanding of the UK political structure including the place of Scotland within this and the debates around this arrangement. Learners will develop knowledge and understanding of the main institutions and organisations which make up political life in their chosen context. They will develop knowledge and understanding of the ways in which society is informed about the political system, able to participate in and influence the political system. They will develop an understanding of their rights and responsibilities in contemporary democratic political society.

**Social Issues in the United Kingdom**

Learners will develop skills by using sources of information in order to make and give straightforward justifications of decisions. Learners will develop knowledge and understanding of social issues in the United Kingdom, through studying the topic of Crime and the Law. Learners will develop knowledge and understanding of the causes of crime, the impact of crime on individuals and society and the role of individuals, the police, the legal system and the state in tackling crime.

**International Issues**

Learners will develop skills by using sources of information in order to draw and give straightforward support for conclusions. Learners will develop a knowledge and understanding of international issues. The study of a significant world power will focus on contemporary socio-economic issues and a study of its political system. The world power we use to undertake this task is the USA.

**ASSESSMENT**

To pass National 5 Modern Studies candidates must pass the final SQA exam at the end of the year, as well as be successful in their externally marked assignment, which is based on a Modern Studies related task of their choice, written up in school under exam conditions.

Presently, the final exam at National 5 Modern Studies lasts 2 hours and 20 minutes.

**HOMEWORK**

Homework will be issued on a regular basis and pupils are urged to regularly view topical programmes and read quality newspapers. Homework should last about an hour per week and may include specific activities, completion of classwork, consolidation of learning and revision.

**ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

* National 4 Modern Studies
* By negotiation with the department