

Starting to teach GCE Health and Social Care

Overview of the qualification

Totally New Qualification

- September 2005 → Teaching begins
- Divorce yourself from the VCE qualification and GNVQ qualifications
- The qualification is built on subject criteria agreed by QCA

New Structure

- There is a single award and a double award (both for AS and GCE)
 - Single GCE 3 AS + 3 A2 units
 - Double GCE 6 AS + 6 A2 units
- AS is the first half of the Advanced GCE course
- AS contributes 50% of the total Advanced GCE mark, A2 the second half

AS Single Award

Unit	Title	Unit code	Level	AS (Single)	Assessment mode	Assessment availability	First available
1	Human Growth and Development	6938	AS	Compulsory	External	Jan/June	Jan 06
2	Communication and Values	6939	AS	Compulsory	Internal	Jan/June	Jan 06
3	Positive Care Environments	6940	AS	Compulsory	Internal	Jan/June	Jan 06

AS Double Award

Unit	Title	Unit code	Level	AS (Double)	Assessment mode	Assessment availability	First available
1	Human Growth and Development	6938	AS	Compulsory	External	Jan/June	Jan 06
2	Communication and Values	6939	AS	Compulsory	Internal	Jan/June	Jan 06
3	Positive Care Environments	6940	AS	Compulsory	Internal	Jan/June	Jan 06
4	Social Aspects and Lifestyle Choices	6941	AS	Compulsory	External	Jan/June	Jan 06
5	Activities for Health and Well-being	6942	AS	Compulsory	Internal	Jan/June	Jan 06
6	Public Health	6943	AS	Compulsory	Internal	Jan/June	Jan 06

GCE Single Award

Unit	Title	Unit code	Level	GCE (Single)	Assessment mode	Assessment availability	First available
1	Human Growth and Development	6938	AS	Compulsory	External	Jan/June	Jan 06
2	Communication and Values	6939	AS	Compulsory	Internal	Jan/June	Jan 06
3	Positive Care Environments	6940	AS	Compulsory	Internal	Jan/June	Jan 06
7	Meeting Individual Needs	6944	A2	Compulsory	External	Jan/June	Jan 07
8	Promoting Health and Well-being	6945	A2	Compulsory	Internal	Jan/June	Jan 07
9	Investigating Disease	6946	A2	Compulsory	Internal	Jan/June	Jan 07

GCE Double Award

Unit	Title	Unit code	Level	GCE (Double)	Assessment mode	Assessment availability	First available
1	Human Growth and Development	6938	AS	Compulsory	External	Jan/June	Jan 06
2	Communication and Values	6939	AS	Compulsory	Internal	Jan/June	Jan 06
3	Positive Care Environments	6940	AS	Compulsory	Internal	Jan/June	Jan 06
4	Social Aspects and Lifestyle Choices	6941	AS	Compulsory	External	Jan/June	Jan 06
5	Activities for Health and Well-being	6942	AS	Compulsory	Internal	Jan/June	Jan 06
6	Public Health	6943	AS	Compulsory	Internal	Jan/June	Jan 06
7	Meeting Individual Needs	6944	A2	Compulsory	External	Jan/June	Jan 07
8	Promoting Health and Well-being	6945	A2	Compulsory	Internal	Jan/June	Jan 07
9	Investigating Disease	6946	A2	Compulsory	Internal	Jan/June	Jan 07
10	Using and Understanding Research	6947	A2	Compulsory	Internal	Jan/June	Jan 07
11	Social Issues and Welfare Needs	6948	A2	Compulsory	Internal	Jan/June	Jan 07
12	Understanding Human Behaviour	6949	A2	Compulsory	External	Jan/June	Jan 07

UCAS

The qualification is eligible for UCAS points as shown in the tariff:

GCE 6-Unit A Level	GCE 3-Unit AS Level	GCE 6-Unit AS Level	GCE 12-Unit A Level
120			$120 \times 2 = 240$
100			$100 \times 2 = 200$
80			$80 \times 2 = 160$
60	60	$60 \times 2 = 120$	$60 \times 2 = 120$
	50	$50 \times 2 = 100$	
40	40	$40 \times 2 = 80$	$40 \times 2 = 80$
	30	$30 \times 2 = 60$	
	20	$20 \times 2 = 40$	

Pathways

- There are four pathways available within the portfolio units
 - Health
 - Early years (care and education)
 - Care of older people
 - Individuals with specific needs
- It is SUGGESTED that centres work in at least two areas
- 8 portfolio units x 4 pathways = 32 possible options!
- Examined units will focus on 'generic' content and use the pathways to explore issues

Building on good practice

- The course builds on the GCSE (*completing this course is not a pre-requisite for starting the GCE*)
- We aim to have taken with us 'what is good from the VCE qualification' and left behind issues which caused problems

Assessment - External

- External
 - AS - Single (1)
 - AS - Double (2)
 - GCE - Single (2)
 - GCE - Double (4)
- Style of external examinations
 - New
 - AS & A2 pitched at different levels
 - Content based using pathways to explore concepts

Assessment - Internal

- Portfolio work
 - AS Single award (2)
 - AS Double award (4)
 - GCE Single award (4 units - 2 AS & 2 A2)
 - GCE Double award (8 units - 4 AS & 4 A2)
- AS & A2 units pitched at differing levels
- AS - 800 to 1200 words approximately
- A2 - 1500 approximately
 - **This is a suggestion!**

Assessment - Internal

- Comparable to coursework elements in any other AS or A2 Advanced GCE course
- All units are awarded
- Portfolio assessment is similar to GCSE in terms of process
- Samples are sent from centres to moderators at Edexcel's request
- *(See sheets in your pack on the further guidance for the assessment criteria)*

Support

- Edexcel
 - Specification
 - Teacher's guide - tutor support materials
 - Website with FAQ, information and a student guide to the qualification
 - 'Inside GCEs in Applied Subjects'
- Publishers
 - New textbooks
 - There will be a textbook to support all twelve units.
- A 'working together' team ethos

Professional Development & Training Programme

- Events for 2005 - 2006 will include:
 - Implementing the AS units
 - Coursework workshops
 - Feedback on AS tested units
 - Implementing the A2 units

Key Skills and language units

- Key Skills are mapped in the new specification
- There are no integral language units in the new GCEs Health and Social Care
- BTEC/Edexcel NVQ language units provide an appropriate and flexible form of additional accreditation to the main qualification
- These are available in a wide range of languages and at different levels

Key Dates

New GCEs in applied subjects

Autumn 2004

- Specifications and sample assessment material published

Spring 2005

- Support materials published
- “Implementing the new specification” training events

Autumn 2005

- First teaching of the new specification

Spring 2006

- First assessment series (availability of January units indicated in the specification)

Summer 2006

- First award of AS GCE qualification

Summer 2007

- First award of Advanced GCE qualification

VCE

Autumn 2004

- Last start date for teaching 2 year cohort

Autumn 2005

- Last start date for teaching 1 year cohort

Summer 2006

- Last assessment series

Spring 2007

- Last re-sit opportunity for tests normally offered in January

Awarding and Reporting

- raw mark translated by Edexcel into a uniform mark after an awarding meeting
- a unit will be reported as a UMS relating to a grade A - E
- unit results combined to give qualification grade - A-E or AA-EE (or ungraded)
- 'compensation' model

Contacts at Edexcel

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