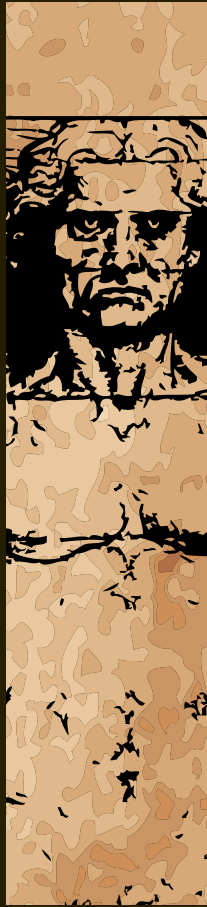




# Humanities

**GCSE HUMANITIES 2012**



**INTERESTING  
LEARNERS.**

# G AND MOTIVATING FOR

There's a wide range of cross-curricular subject areas, including citizenship, economic wellbeing and financial capability, the environment, health education, and religious and moral issues – so it's interesting and motivating for learners.

**Further benefits that our GCSE Humanities specification offers you and your learners include:**

- An opportunity for students to develop analytical skills through critical analysis, research and independent enquiry – these are all desirable skills to have when moving into further education
- An understanding of important topical issues relevant to everyday life – students not only develop critical analysis skills, but also learn to evaluate what they see in the world around them
- A choice of topics for assessment to suit a range of learning styles
- A wide range of support materials, to save you time while you're preparing for the new specification and to make teaching and studying the subject more enjoyable.



# CSE HUMANITIES

## SUBJECT OVERVIEW

Unit title and description	Assessment and duration	Weighting
<p>Unit B031: Cross-curricular Themes</p> <p>Learners gain a knowledge and understanding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issues of Citizenship</li> <li>• Issues of Economic Wellbeing and Financial Capability</li> <li>• Environmental Issues</li> <li>• Religious and Moral Issues</li> <li>• Issues of Health and Welfare.</li> </ul>	<p>Written examination 2 hours 100 marks</p>	(50%)
<p>Unit B032: Application of Knowledge</p> <p>Learners will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apply knowledge and understanding gained from the topic areas of Unit B031</li> <li>• Understand the range of research evidence found in Humanities</li> <li>• Critically evaluate methodology and findings.</li> </ul>	<p>Written examination 1 hour 15 minutes 50 marks</p>	(25%)
<p>Unit B033: Humanities Independent Enquiry</p> <p>Learners will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carry out one independent enquiry drawn from the topic areas of Unit B031</li> <li>• Select and evaluate evidence</li> <li>• Draw reasoned conclusions based on evidence</li> <li>• Present research findings coherently, understanding their limitations.</li> </ul>	<p>Controlled assessment Written report of 2,000 words 50 marks</p>	(25%)

## ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES

The assessment objectives are designed to reflect the non-statutory guidelines for Humanities. Learners are expected to demonstrate the following in the context of the content described:

- **AO1** Recall, select and communicate their knowledge and understanding of concepts, issues and terminology.
- **AO2** Apply their knowledge and understanding in familiar and unfamiliar contexts.
- **AO3** Analyse and evaluate information, sources, arguments and interpretations.





## GCSE 2012 CHANGES TO ASSESSMENT

The Government has now confirmed that unitised GCSEs will be replaced by linear assessment for candidates starting a two-year course from September 2012.

The reforms are designed to:

- Ensure that GCSE examinations are taken at the end of the course by making all assessment linear
- Remove the potential for re-sitting individual units, meaning that examinations for Humanities will only take place in the June series.

## WHAT THIS MEANS

- Candidates who start a two-year course in September 2012 will take all of their GCSE units in June 2014 at the end of their course and in the same series that they will certificate for their qualification.
- These changes will not affect any candidates on a two-year course that started in September 2011, or candidates who start a one-year course in September 2012, who will still be able to enter in a unitised way.
- These changes will have an impact on Year 9 candidates who started a three-year programme in September 2011. These candidates will now be required to take all of their assessment in June 2014.

## RE-TAKES/RE-SITS

The introduction of linear GCSEs will also prevent the mid-course re-sitting of units:

- Candidates who started a two-year course in September 2011 and are certificating in June 2013 will have the opportunity to re-sit a whole qualification, re-taking all their external assessments in the same sitting – in the June 2014 series where linear assessment rules apply. They will, however, be able to carry forward their most recent results used for certification from controlled assessment unit(s).
- Candidates starting a two-year course in September 2012 and who are certificating in June 2014 will have the opportunity to re-sit a whole qualification in the June 2015 series where linear assessment rules apply.
- There will be additional opportunities for candidates to re-take complete English, English Language and Maths GCSEs in a November 2013 examination series, where a 40% terminal rule applies. From November 2014, the linear 100% terminal rule will apply. These subjects are seen to be the most critical GCSEs for all progression paths. There is an expected demand for an additional opportunity to re-sit exams in these subjects.

**For more information about the changes to GCSEs from 2012, visit [www.ocr.org.uk/gcse2012](http://www.ocr.org.uk/gcse2012)**



# SUPPORT

## WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP TO SUPPORT YOU

Our aim is to help you at every stage and we work in close consultation with teachers and other experts to provide a practical package of high-quality resources and support.

We provide everything you need to teach our specifications with confidence and ensure that your students get as much as possible from our qualifications.

Our support materials are designed to save you time while you prepare for and teach our specifications. In response to what you have told us, we are offering detailed guidance on key topics, controlled assessment and curriculum planning.

Visit [www.ocr.org.uk/gcse2012](http://www.ocr.org.uk/gcse2012) to access all of our support by selecting the qualification you require.

### **Our essential FREE support includes:**

#### **Materials and resources**

- Specimen assessment materials and mark schemes
- Guide to controlled assessment
- Teacher's Handbook
- Sample schemes of work and lesson plans
- Past papers.

Visit [www.ocr.org.uk/gcse2012](http://www.ocr.org.uk/gcse2012) to access all of our support by selecting the qualification you require.

# OCR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME – MORE ACCESSIBLE, MORE COST-EFFECTIVE, SAME VALUED CONTENT

Here at OCR we're constantly looking for ways to improve the support we offer to teachers. Most recently we've been considering the increasing challenges that schools face in releasing teachers for INSET, and how OCR can make its professional development programme more accessible and convenient for all.

## FROM SEPTEMBER 2012, OUR NEW IMPROVED PROGRAMME WILL INCLUDE:

FREE online professional development units available when and where you want them

If you want to better understand the specification or keep abreast of information about previous examinations and important changes, then these are for you.

- **Available online 24/7** – view the training at a time and place to suit you
- **Free to access** – no travel or training costs, but the same helpful support and advice
- **Self-contained learning** – manage your own learning, so that you get a more focused and personalised experience – and return to it at any time

## FREE live web broadcasts of professional development events

Through webinars, studio discussions or multi-site broadcasts, these events will give you a chance to have your questions answered directly by OCR's qualification and assessment experts.

- **Interactive** – you can submit your queries prior to or during the broadcast for an immediate response
- **Live** – hear advice and guidance straight from OCR staff and Senior Assessors, with options to attend in person or watch online
- **Skills improvement** – focussing on improving your delivery skills and understanding of OCR qualifications

## A series of 'not to be missed' premier professional development events

Large-scale, subject-specific events focused on keeping you up to date with the latest developments in your subject area, innovative classroom delivery, and reigniting your passion for teaching.

- **Professional development** – new insights and ideas from leaders in their field
- **Networking** – opportunities to interact with a large number of subject-specialist teachers
- **Cost-effective** – reduced cost for teachers to attend these high-impact events
- **Face-to-face** – a reduced portfolio of more traditional INSET events
- **Training sessions** – to help you understand and manage controlled assessment and to support some vocational courses

## WHAT TO DO NEXT?

- **Visit [ocronlinetraining.org.uk](http://ocronlinetraining.org.uk)** to keep up to date with all the latest information about our new programme.
- **Sign up for updates** at [ocr.org.uk/updates](http://ocr.org.uk/updates) and be the first to find out about our exciting professional development programme.

## NEED MORE HELP?

You can contact our team at [professionaldevelopment@ocr.org.uk](mailto:professionaldevelopment@ocr.org.uk) who will be happy to help.



## SERVICES

**Answers @ OCR** – a web based service where you can access specific up to date information, browse hot topics and FAQs or e-mail us with your questions. Visit <http://answers.ocr.org.uk>

**Active Results** for GCSE is a free online results analysis service to help you review the performance of individual students or your whole school. Active Results provides access to detailed results data, enabling more comprehensive analysis of results in order to give you a more accurate measure of the achievements of your centre and individual students.

For more information, go to [www.ocr.org.uk/activeresults](http://www.ocr.org.uk/activeresults)

**OCR Interchange** is a secure website for centres which offers a variety of services for Exams Officers and teachers, including the ability to carry out day-to-day administrative online functions quickly and efficiently.

**OCR social network** is a free platform where teachers can engage with each other – and with OCR – to share ideas and best practice, offer guidance and access a range of support materials produced by other teachers. To sign up, go to <http://social.ocr.org.uk>



## A FEW GOOD REASONS TO WORK WITH OCR

- You can enjoy the **freedom and excitement** of teaching qualifications which have been developed to help you inspire students of all abilities.
- We've built specifications **with you in mind**, using a clear and easy-to-understand format, making them straightforward for you to deliver.
- Our **clear and sensible assessment** approach means that exam papers and requirements are clearly presented and sensibly structured for you and your students.
- **Pathways for choice** – we have the broadest range of qualifications and our GCSEs provide an ideal foundation for students to progress to more-advanced studies and into the workplace.
- **Working in partnership to support you** – together with teachers we've developed a range of practical help and support to save you time. We provide everything you need to teach our specifications with confidence and ensure your students get as much as possible from our qualifications.
- **A personal service** – as well as providing you with lots of support resources, we're also here to help you with specialist advice, guidance and support for those times when you simply need a more individual service.

## OUR AIM IS TO ASSIST YOU HOWEVER WE CAN

As well as providing you with a wide range of support services and resources to pick and choose from, we're also here to help you with specialist advice, guidance and support for those times when you simply need a more individual service.

## HERE'S HOW TO CONTACT US FOR SPECIALIST ADVICE:

By phone: 01223 553998

By email: [general.qualifications@ocr.org.uk](mailto:general.qualifications@ocr.org.uk)

By online: <http://answers.ocr.org.uk>

By fax: 01223 552627

By post: Customer Contact Centre, OCR, Progress House, Westwood Business Park, Coventry CV4 8JQ

**DON'T FORGET** – you can download specifications and all our support materials at [www.ocr.org.uk/gcse2012](http://www.ocr.org.uk/gcse2012)

## YOUR CHECKLIST

- Bookmark [www.ocr.org.uk/gcse2012](http://www.ocr.org.uk/gcse2012)
- Be among the first to hear about support materials and resources as they become available. Register for email updates at [www.ocr.org.uk/updates](http://www.ocr.org.uk/updates)
- Access FREE online training and book onto courses at [www.ocronlinetraining.org.uk](http://www.ocronlinetraining.org.uk)
- Learn more about Active Results at [www.ocr.org.uk/activeresults](http://www.ocr.org.uk/activeresults)
- Join our social network community for teachers at [www.social.ocr.org.uk](http://www.social.ocr.org.uk)

## Contact us

Keep up to date on the latest news by registering to receive e-alerts at [www.ocr.org.uk/updates](http://www.ocr.org.uk/updates)

Telephone 01223 553998

Facsimile 01223 552627

Email [general.qualifications@ocr.org.uk](mailto:general.qualifications@ocr.org.uk)

