1.7 RESTRICTIONS ON CANDIDATE ENTRIES

Candidates who enter for this GCSE specification **may not** also enter for any other GCSE specification with the certification title Humanities in the same examination series.

Every specification is assigned to a national classification code indicating the subject area to which it belongs.

Centres should be aware that candidates who enter for more than one GCSE qualification with the same classification code will have only one grade (the highest) counted for the purpose of the School and College Performance Tables.

The classification code for this specification is 4510.

1.8 CODE OF PRACTICE REQUIREMENTS

These specifications will comply in every respect with the revised Code of Practice requirements for courses starting in September 2001.

1.9 STATUS IN WALES AND NORTHERN IRELAND

This specification has been approved by ACCAC for use by Centres in Wales and by CCEA for use by Centres in Northern Ireland.

Candidates in Wales and Northern Ireland should not be disadvantaged by terms, legislation or aspects of government that are different from those in England. Where such situations might occur, including in the external assessment, the terms used have been selected as neutral, so that candidates may apply whatever is appropriate to their own situation.

OCR will provide specifications, assessments and supporting documentation only in English.

Further information on the provision of assessment materials in Welsh and Irish may be obtained from the OCR Information Bureau (telephone 01223 553998).

2   Specification Aims

- To stimulate an interest in and understanding of issues that affect human societies, locally, nationally and globally.

- To encourage active citizenship in a multi-cultural, multi-faith society by developing sensitivity and empathy towards people living in different contexts.

- To develop awareness that alternative strategies exist for dealing with problems facing contemporary societies.

- To encourage recognition of the influence of differing values and perspectives in forming judgements about contemporary issues.

- To develop research and decision-making skills through the personal and collaborative investigation of issues.

- To develop the ability to appreciate and use different types of information.

3   Assessment Objectives

Knowledge and Understanding (AO1)

Candidates should be able to demonstrate:

(a)   knowledge of appropriate specification content;

(b)   understanding of appropriate concepts, terms and issues;

(c)   knowledge and understanding of different research methodologies.

Interpretation and Evaluation (AO2)

Candidates should be able to:

(a)   derive meaning from information by analysing its content, interpreting that content in relation to particular questions or hypotheses, and synthesising information from different sources;

(b)   evaluate information by assessing its reliability and utility in relation to particular questions or hypotheses;

(c)   by the application of existing knowledge and understanding to new contexts, reach and communicate reasoned conclusions based on the skills above.