

## The NEW National Senior Certificate(NSC)

All first time matriculants (Grade 12s) of 2009, will be writing the National Senior Certificate exams, according to the National Curriculum Statement.

### The National Curriculum Statement

- This the new curriculum policy for Grades 10 to 12.
- The focus of the new curriculum is on SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE AND VALUES for a globalised 21st century.
- A range of skills are assessed, including the ability to apply knowledge and problem solving.
- Subjects are no longer divided into Higher Grade and Standard Grade.
- The question papers are set in such a way that both “Grades” (all learners’ ability in terms of performance on either higher grade and standard grade is recognised and) catered for.
- The curriculum stresses the key values of the Constitution.

### National Senior Certificate

- The qualification is at level 4 of the National Qualifications Framework
- Grade 12 is externally examined
- Final mark = 75% exams + 25% continuous assessment (CASS)
- All question papers (29 subjects) are set by the Department of Education.

### Continuous assessment

- The curriculum requires both formal and informal assessment
- The formal programme of assessment is recorded and reported on by the educators
- Assessment must be developmental, and learners must be given specific feedback.

### National Senior Certificate REQUIREMENTS

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MUST TAKE</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Home Language</li> <li>• Another language at least at First Additional Language level. (one must be the Language of Learning and Teaching)</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>MUST PASS</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Home Language – 40% min.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maths / Maths Literacy</li> <li>• Life Orientation</li> <li>• 3 other recognised subjects</li> </ul>	<p>2 other subjects at 40%</p> <p>3 other subjects at 30%</p> <p>Must complete CASS for all subjects</p>

### SCALE OF ACHIEVEMENT FOR NSC

Rating Code	Rating	Marks (%)
7	Outstanding achievement	80 – 100
6	Meritorious achievement	70 – 79
5	Substantial achievement	60 – 69
4	Adequate achievement	50 – 59
3	Moderate achievement	40 – 49
2	Elementary achievement	30 – 39
1	Not achieved	0 – 29

## CONTINUOUS ASSESSMENT (CASS) MODERATION

### Moderation takes place at three levels:

- **SCHOOL:** Internal moderation (school-based assessment)
- **DISTRICTS:** Moderation done in clusters
- **FINAL MODERATION**, which is controlled by Umalusi, where approval of evidence of learning is given

### Practical assessment tasks

- These are standardised tasks for practical subjects
- Tasks are undertaken over a period of time during the school year
- External moderation is also applicable
- Districts offer workshops for educators teaching the relevant subjects on the requirements for these tasks.

### Life Orientation

- This is a compulsory subject
- The assessment is 100% school-based
- The Subject Assessment Guidelines provide direction in terms of assessment requirements
- The Department of Education and Umalusi moderation processes apply.

### Mathematics/Mathematical Literacy

- A learner **MUST** take either Maths or Maths Literacy
- The two subjects are different, with distinctive cognitive demands
- Maths Literacy requires greater context application.

### Exam timetable (National Senior Certificate 2009)

- Exams commence in early November
- Practical subjects will be written in late October
- Teaching and learning will continue until the exams commence
- To register, all learners require an ID.

## HIGHER EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

- **Higher Certificate**  
Requires a NSC
- **Diploma**  
Requires NSC with 40% in 4 subjects
- **Bachelor's Degree**  
Requires NSC with **50%** in 4 subjects from the **designated subject list**

## DESIGNATED SUBJECTS

Agricultural Sciences	Dramatic Art	Consumer Studies
Visual Art	Accounting	Business Studies
Economics	Geography	History
Religious Studies	Information Technology	Life Sciences
Physical Sciences	Mathematics	Maths Literacy
Music	Engineering graphics and design	
	All official languages and some other languages	