

Higher National Unit Specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Music Second Study 1: Instrument

Unit code: DJ2X 34

Unit purpose: On completion of the unit the candidate should be able to perform in a range of appropriate solo and/or group situations, displaying correct technique and approach apposite to genre. This unit is aimed at candidates who wish to develop musicianship on a second instrument.

On completion of the Unit the candidate should be able to:

1. Demonstrate secure appropriate technique.
2. Perform music in an appropriate solo and/or group situation.

Credit points and level: 1 HN Credit at SCQF level 7: (8 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7*)

**SCQF credit points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification in the Framework is allocated a number of SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

Recommended prior knowledge and skills: Candidates should have a level of generally secure technique on their second study instrument which will allow them to develop skills to the level required by this unit. Where appropriate, candidates should also have experience playing in a group or ensemble situation. This may be evidenced by completion of a recognised programme of NQ units or by prior experience. This may be evidenced by Intermediate 2 Music (SCQF level 5). Candidates should also have good communication skills. These may be demonstrated by the achievement of core skill Communication at Higher level or by possession of Higher English and Communication or a suitable NQ Communication Unit (SCQF level 5/6).

Core skills: There may be opportunities to gather evidence towards core skills in this Unit although there is no automatic certification of core skills or core skills components.

Context for delivery: This is an optional unit included in the frameworks for HNC/D Music. It is recommended that it is taught and assessed within the context of the particular group award to which it contributes.

General information for centres (cont)

Assessment: There will be two separate assessments for this unit.

1. A set piece chosen by the assessor from a nationally moderated list.
2. A performance that demonstrates musicianship and breadth of repertoire.

Candidates undertaking the group award may find opportunities to integrate assessments with:

HN Unit	Unit Title
	Music: Live Performance 1
	Practical Musicianship
	Music History 1
	Songwriting 1
	Stagecraft.

When assessing individual performances the following criteria should be used.

A performance in which:

- ◆ notes and rhythm are sufficiently accurate
- ◆ the tempo is consistent and appropriate
- ◆ phrasing, articulation and dynamics are applied accurately
- ◆ tonal qualities are exploited
- ◆ improvisation imaginatively develops melodic and/or rhythmic ideas
- ◆ mood and character are conveyed sufficiently
- ◆ there is a sensitive awareness of other performers

All of the above criteria may not apply to every instrument or every performance.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards

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The sections of the Unit stating the Outcomes, knowledge and/or skills, and evidence requirements are mandatory.

Where evidence for Outcomes is assessed on a sample basis, the whole of the content listed in the knowledge and/or skills section must be taught and available for assessment. Candidates should not know in advance the items on which they will be assessed and different items should be sampled on each assessment occasion.

Outcome 1

Demonstrate secure appropriate technique.

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Secure technique on chosen instrument
- ◆ Awareness of a range of styles and stylistic parameters
- ◆ Ability to respond to idiomatic requirements
- ◆ Awareness of composers' intentions

Evidence requirements

Candidates will need evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by showing that they can:- play one randomly selected piece from a provided list which:

- ◆ demonstrates the stylistic features of the piece
- ◆ is performed in an idiomatically appropriate manner
- ◆ demonstrates secure technique

The performance should be recorded on a high quality format and kept as evidence for external moderation and an assessor's pro-form should provide commentary on the assessment process.

Assessment guidelines

A list of four contrasting pieces will be provided for each instrument. Candidates will select two pieces from this list and be assessed on one which shall be selected at random by the assessing tutor. Centres should ensure that the list provided is at the appropriate level for this unit. Assessment exemplars are available.

This will be a stand alone assessment which should occur towards the end of the period of study to allow the candidate to refine their performance through practice and the application of secure technique.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Music Second Study 1: Instrument

Should there be ambiguity regarding a candidate's response, oral questioning may be used to eliminate any doubt as to the candidate's understanding. The lecturer should note questions and responses.

Outcome 2

Perform music in an appropriate solo and/or group situations

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Secure technique on chosen instrument
- ◆ Awareness of a range of styles and stylistic parameters
- ◆ Ability to respond to idiomatic requirements
- ◆ Selection of a set
- ◆ Scheduling rehearsals
- ◆ Rehearsing effectively
- ◆ Awareness of composers' intentions.

Evidence requirements

Candidates will need evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ select, rehearse and perform a programme of music
- ◆ perform in an idiomatically appropriate manner

This must be evidenced by a recording on a high quality format of the performance, of at least three pieces, a short note explaining set selection and an evaluation of the effectiveness of the rehearsals. These kept as evidence for external moderation.

Assessment guidelines

Assessment of this outcome will take the form of one or more live performances in solo or group context.

For candidates undertaking the group award this may be assessed in conjunction with Music: Live Performance 1 and Practical Musicianship.

Administrative Information

Unit code: DJ2X 34
Unit title: Music Second Study 1: Instrument
Superclass category: LH
Date of publication: September 2004
Version: 02

History of changes:

Version	Description of change	Date
02	Removal of Word Count.	27/05/11

Source: SQA

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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Music Second Study 1: Instrument

This part of the Unit specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 40 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

This unit is intended to develop musical skills through study of a second instrument. To reach the required standard in the given time, some prior experience with the instrument may be necessary, as well as significant self study.

For Outcome 1 there are four assessment pieces for each instrument. Candidates will select two pieces for second study and be assessed performing one of these.

This unit is designed to aid the development of the performing musician. If the musician intends song writing to be central to their development, the skills required by the alternative unit Second Study 1: Composition may be more appropriate.

Outcome 2 relates to the planning and execution of a musical performance. A performance of at least three pieces would be required.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

For candidates undertaking the group award this unit may be integrated with Live Performance Skills 1, Stagecraft and Songwriting.

It is anticipated that some of the delivery of this unit will be carried out on a one-to-one basis or with small groups of similar abilities. While all candidates need to explore the required repertoire and techniques for their chosen second study instrument, they will also require to develop individual skills and to target specific weaknesses.

- ◆ Outcome 1 relates to selected pieces and it may be useful for groups of candidates playing the same instrument to work on one of the set pieces together.
- ◆ Outcome 2 requires the candidates to play in appropriate group or solo situations.

Candidates undertaking the group award HND Music may progress to the unit ‘Second Study 2: Instrument’

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Music Second Study 1: Instrument

Open learning

This unit could be delivered by open learning with suitable support material. The candidate would have to appear in person for assessment.

For information for normal open learning arrangements, please refer to the SQA guide *Assessment and Quality Assurance of Open and Distance Learning* (SQA, 2000).

Candidates with additional support needs

This Unit specification is intended to ensure that there are no artificial barriers to learning or assessment. The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments or considering alternative Outcomes for Units. For information on these, please refer to the SQA document *Guidance on Special Assessment Arrangements for Candidates with Additional Support Needs* (BA 2399, SQA, due 2004).

General information for candidates

Unit title: Music Second Study 1: Instrument

On completion of the unit you should be able to perform in appropriate solo and/or group situations, displaying correct technique in a number of styles.

This unit is designed to enable you to acquire a familiarisation with your second study instrument. It is also the progression route to 'Second Study 2: Instrument'

In addition to tuition you will be required to learn pieces in a variety of musical styles and to perform in solo or group situations. You will receive support and guidance in the selection of a suitable repertoire that will reflect the range of your instrument, focus on your individual needs and abilities as well as contributing to your musical understanding. A large amount of self study and individual practice is essential to successfully complete this unit. Tuition will be offered in a one-to-one basis, in small groups and in an appropriate rehearsal environment.

You will be required to ensure that your musical performance is of the necessary standard to allow assessment to take place. This performance will be recorded.

In Outcome 1 you will be required to rehearse two pieces from a set repertoire and perform one of these for assessment purposes.

In Outcome 2 you will be required to select, rehearse and perform a set of pieces (minimum of three pieces).