

Higher National Unit Specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Mixed Media

Unit code: DV67 34

Unit purpose: On completion of the Unit the candidate will understand and be able to apply practical knowledge of a range of media styles and techniques which could be employed in the production of an artefact within their chosen area of study.

As this Unit may be delivered within a number of HNC and HND Group Awards it is assumed that the approach is seen in as broad an understanding of the term ‘mixed media’ as possible.

Assessments should be carried out within the context of the particular Group Award in which it sits. Some evidence could be collected from a holistic approach to the delivery of this Unit.

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

- 1 Identify and describe mixed media pieces.
- 2 Research and develop solutions for the production of a mixed media piece.
- 3 Produce and present a piece of work using mixed media methods.

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: Access to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, but it is recommended that the candidate has some practical experience in the general use of media in their particular area of study.

Core Skills: There are opportunities to develop the Core Skill of Problem Solving at SCQF level 6 in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components. Further details are provided in the support notes.

Context for delivery: If this Unit is delivered as part of a Group Award, it is recommended that it should be taught and assessed within the subject area of the Group Award to which it contributes.

Assessment: Assessment for this Unit could include the following methods:
annotated case studies, exemplars, annotated research portfolios, production of mixed media work.

General information for centres (cont)

A holistic approach to gathering evidence for this Unit should be encouraged. This would require the candidate to follow the demands of a brief. A variety of media methods should be identified, experimented with, and a final mixed media piece, relevant to the specific Group Award, produced.

Alternatively the Unit evidence could be gathered from a more holistic approach across other Units within the specific framework.

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

Identify and describe mixed media pieces

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Function
- ◆ Media and techniques
- ◆ Styles

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ Describe the function of the piece
- ◆ Identify the range of media and techniques used
- ◆ Describe the range of styles used

Assessment guidelines

The tutor should provide a minimum of 10 case studies for candidate analysis.
The case studies should be appropriate to the Group Award.
Marking schemes should be produced for all case studies.

Outcome 2

Research and develop solutions for the production of a mixed media piece

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Research /reference
- ◆ Media experimentation
- ◆ Analysis

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Mixed Media

Evidence Requirements

Candidates need to produce evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ use a minimum of three research techniques
- ◆ analyse possible solutions
- ◆ produce potential solutions

Assessment guidelines

This Outcome could be assessed independently or be combined with Outcomes 1 and 3 as part of a single assessment for the Unit.

Outcome 3

Produce and present a piece of work using mixed media methods

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Selection and application of appropriate media
- ◆ Production of finished mixed media piece
- ◆ Analysis
- ◆ Presentation

Evidence Requirements

Candidates need to produce evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ produce a finished mixed media piece which clearly shows development from Outcome 2 and fulfils the criteria of a given brief
- ◆ select and apply the most appropriate media
- ◆ deliver a critical analysis on their final solution to the brief
- ◆ present a single finished mixed media piece of work

Assessment guidelines

The assessment for this Outcome could be combined with Outcomes 1 and 2 as part of a single project brief. This would require the candidate to analyse various mixed media methods already applied in an area of their study. The candidate would then experiment with these and other applicable techniques in order to develop and apply a possible solution to the production of a final piece.

Evidence of critical analysis and reflection could be gained through observation, question and answer or written/annotated response.

Administrative Information

Unit code:	DV67 34
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Superclass category:	JA
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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Mixed Media

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

Outcome 1: Candidates should be introduced to an appropriate area of mixed media, working from exemplars supplied by the tutor. The selected exemplars should be referenced from creative practitioners and enable the candidate to analyse a diverse range of mixed media methods, media, styles and techniques appropriate to the Group Award area.

The area studied in this Outcome should continue in the practical brief specified for Outcomes 2 and 3.

Outcome 2: Candidates should practically analyse and further develop mixed media techniques. This development could be used to produce a folio of techniques to become the basis for the production of a mixed media piece required in the final Outcome.

Outcome 3: Candidates will select and apply the most appropriate method in order to produce a final piece of work. An analysis of the process, and presentation of the final piece must be evident.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

It is envisaged that this could be delivered as a stand alone Unit. There may be a requirement to access evidence from other closely related Units in the course to provide sufficient evidence of experimentation of techniques required in Outcome 2. Another approach may be to use a second or third brief requiring the student to cover all Outcomes but producing a completely different final artefact.

All assessment should be conducted in conditions where arrangements have been put in place to ensure the authenticity of the candidate's work.

Opportunities to develop Core Skills

All elements of the Core Skill of Problem Solving, namely Planning and Organising, Critical Thinking, and Reviewing and Evaluating, should be fully developed and further enhanced as candidates undertake the Unit, applying theoretical knowledge to a complex practical task and meet the requirements of a given brief. Candidates could be supported in the use of recognised research techniques by checklists and/or software to encourage detailed analysis of potential solutions to the design brief.

Designing and producing potential solutions, identifying and maximising all available resources and recognising and overcoming any potential difficulties will involve a high level of critical thinking. Group discussion of issues may be useful although candidates should be independently able to justify and apply effective media techniques allowing on-going opportunities for review and potential adjustment. Candidates would benefit from individual discussions with the assessor to reinforce analytical evaluation of achievement as a guide to future activities and further development.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Mixed Media

Candidates should be encouraged to identify appropriate evaluative methods to measure achievement. Evaluation in which all aspects of the application of mixed media and their potential impact are analysed will be a critical underpinning aspect of presentation.

Open learning

This Unit could be delivered by open learning on the proviso that suitable online support was developed. There would have to be well-defined support materials and briefs, which took into account any factors specific to open learning.

If this Unit is delivered by open or distance learning methods, additional planning and resources may be required for candidate support, assessment and quality assurance. New authentication tools may have to be devised for assessment and re-assessment purposes. For further information and advice please refer to the SQA document *Assessment and Quality Assurance for Open and Distance Learning* (A1030) which is available on SQA's website www.sqa.org.uk.

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 Alternative Assessment Arrangements for Candidates with Disabilities and/or Additional Support Needs*, which is available on SQA's website: www.sqa.org.uk.

General information for candidates

Unit title: Mixed Media

You will be able to research current uses and application of Mixed Media within your area of study. Through collection of reference from suitable sources and the analysis and experimentation of materials and techniques, you should be made aware of the possibilities of using mixed media in your chosen area of study.

Your experimentation and development should form the basis for you to practically analyse and develop further mixed media techniques. From a given brief, specific to your area of study, this will form the basis for you to progress to the production and presentation of a finished mixed media piece.

Outcome 1

You will begin by analysing an area of mixed media in terms of the function of the mixed media pieces and a range techniques and styles used. You will then complete a minimum of four illustrated and annotated case studies either by portfolio or by oral presentation.

Outcome 2

You will research and source appropriate reference material for a mixed media brief.

Through critical analysis and personal reflection you will select appropriate solutions for development. You will also experiment with a range of media, techniques and styles that you identified in your initial analysis of the mixed media area.

This will be assessed by your production of a research and development book/worksheets that might include research and reference material, thumbnail sketches, development drawings and media/technique/style experimentation.

Outcome 3

Critical analysis and personal reflection will lead you to the selection of a format for a final piece. You will select an appropriate proposal, and produce and present a finished mixed media piece.

You will use critical analysis and personal reflection skills towards a critique of your final solution.