

Higher National Unit Specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Interior Design: Materials, Finishes and Products

Unit code: DX09 34

Unit purpose: This Unit will enable candidates to develop an awareness of a range of materials, finishes and products that are commercially available to fulfil an interior design solution. Candidates will be encouraged to develop the ability to source and identify suitable materials, finishes and products as well as develop an understanding of their application.

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

- 1 Explore and identify a range of materials, finishes and products for an Interior Design brief
- 2 Analyse the suitability of materials, finishes and products for an Interior Design brief
- 3 Present a range of materials, finishes and products for an Interior Design brief.

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 an understanding of the interior design process.

Candidates should have good communication skills. These may be demonstrated by the possession of SCQF level 6 in English or suitable Communication Unit or equivalent.

Core Skills: There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Problem Solving, Communication and Information Technology at SCQF level 6 in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

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: This Unit may be assessed by a single instrument of assessment, covering all three Outcomes. This would require candidates to produce a source book of collated data and a presentation board which should be in response to a given interior design brief. Each Outcome may also be assessed individually. This Unit could be delivered in conjunction with other Units.

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

Explore and identify a range of materials, finishes and products for an Interior

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Details, samples, images, manufacturers
- ◆ Sources of information
- ◆ Research and investigation
- ◆ Collation, presentation of information

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by showing that they can collect information using a variety of resources to produce an A4 source book or equivalent, which will contain:

- ◆ a minimum of 15 examples of materials, finishes and products
- ◆ a record of sources of information, identifying the use of a minimum of three resources/methods of investigation
- ◆ minimum of 4 A4 sheets or equivalent information on manufacturers of materials, finishes and products

Assessment guidelines

The assessment of this Outcome can be combined with that for Outcomes 2 and 3 as part of a single assessment for the Unit.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Interior Design: Materials Finishes and Products

Outcome 2

Analyse the suitability of materials, finishes and produces for an Interior Design brief

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Availability and use
- ◆ Environmental considerations
- ◆ Physical attributes
- ◆ Selection
- ◆ Application

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by showing that they can make decisions in the selection of commodities for use in an interior design solution. This may be presented as a written assignment, containing a minimum of 250 words, and/or the production of annotated orthographic drawings or equivalent, which should demonstrate:

- ◆ knowledge of commodity availability
- ◆ consideration to the environment in which the commodity is to be utilised
- ◆ understanding of physical attributes
- ◆ critical analysis of application of materials, finishes and products
- ◆ justification for selection

Assessment guidelines

The assessment of this Outcome can be combined with that for Outcomes 1 and 3 as part of a single assessment for the Unit.

Outcome 3

Present a range of materials, finishes and products for an Interior Design brief

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Equipment and tools
- ◆ Safe working practices
- ◆ Preparation
- ◆ Presentation

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Interior Design: Materials Finishes and Products

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by showing that they can produce a sample board/s or selection of samples and images for an interior design project presentation or equivalent. This should be evidenced by:

- ◆ selection of samples and images related to an Interior Design brief
- ◆ understanding of equipment and tools
- ◆ use of equipment
- ◆ preparation of samples and images
- ◆ consideration to layout of samples and images
- ◆ labelling of presentation board

Assessment guidelines

The assessment of this Outcome can be combined with that for Outcomes 1 and 2 as part of a single assessment for the Unit.

An observational checklist should be used to ensure the candidate has addressed all knowledge and/or skills requirements. The assessment of this Unit may be integrated with that of other Units.

Administrative Information

Unit code: DX09 34

Unit title: Interior Design: Materials, Finishes and Products

Superclass category: TJ

Original date of publication: August 2006

Version: 01

History of Changes:

| Version | Description of change | Date |
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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Interior Design: Materials, Finishes and Products

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

The Unit will provide candidates with the opportunity to accumulate knowledge of the commodities essential in the production of an interior design solution. The knowledge and understanding gained in this Unit will contribute to the quality of selections made by the candidate in relation to materials, finishes and products necessary in the creation of an interior design solution. Commodity knowledge is fundamental in the successful resolution of an interior design brief. Knowledge gained will be significant in the candidate's ability to source, select and present interior elements to a given brief.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

This Unit is likely to form part of a group award that is primarily designed to provide candidates with technical and professional knowledge and skills related to interior design. It can be delivered independently of other Units though the preference would be that it be integrated with any one of the four interior design project Units comprised within the group award of 3D Design.

It is suggested that candidates be encouraged to:

- ◆ use a range of information retrieval and communication skills, to include information computer technology (ICT)
- ◆ participate in group work while implementing information retrieval
- ◆ effectively log information to provide recurrent retrieval
- ◆ produce research with which to produce effective analysis
- ◆ adhere to a self-generated programme of work to ensure submission deadlines are met
- ◆ employ correct and safe techniques while using equipment and tools
- ◆ produce well developed, effectively laid out and attractively presented work

There are opportunities to:

- ◆ provide learning and teaching materials that are accessible and inclusive and, where applicable, positively promote equality and cultural diversity
- ◆ facilitate with open questions and group discussions the necessity for knowledge regarding commodities required for an interior design solution
- ◆ demonstrate information retrieval providing examples of a variety of resources eg library, Internet, email, trade journals
- ◆ employ guest lecturers with specialist knowledge
- ◆ demonstrate techniques employed in preparation and production of presentation boards, providing professionally produced examples
- ◆ provide lecturer prepared kits of samples and images for group work exercises in the preparation and production of presentation boards

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Interior Design: Materials, Finishes and Products

- ◆ provide opportunity for candidates to participate in self and/or peer evaluation for the assessment of a single and/or a combination of Outcomes

This Unit may be delivered by use of a Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) to support existing learning and teaching practices. Presentations generated by the lecturer, as well as coursework notes and assessments could be accessed on a VLE. Consideration should be given to the employment of On-line materials and assessments generally available on such websites as the National Learning Network (NLN) <http://www.nln.ac.uk>

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

Elements of the core skill of Problem Solving should be naturally developed and enhanced as candidates undertake the unit. Candidates have to analyse, select and justify materials, finishes and products for a design solution. Researching and assessing the importance of all factors impacting on the interpretation of a brief, including availability and consideration of the environment for use will involve a high level of critical thinking. Applying and demonstrating knowledge and understanding of physical attributes and applications will necessarily involve consideration of accuracy and safety. Candidates may benefit from personal interviews with the assessor to reinforce analytical and evaluative approaches to working practice.

Candidates should be encouraged to develop techniques for accessing, reading and evaluating a range of information as reference sources for knowledge and understanding of commodities essential in the production of an interior design solution. Instruction in the effective use of use of learning resources will allow candidates to access and evaluate appropriate web based and other sources of current data. Candidates need to be familiar with appropriate methods, which could be computer or paper based, to record, reference and organise notes and drafts. Although skills in communication are not formally assessed written responses should be structured effectively, express essential ideas and information coherently and use accurate spelling and punctuation.

Open learning

The practical nature of parts of this Unit would make it difficult to deliver on an open/distance learning basis. However, it may be possible for candidates to access source information and complete written work electronically.

For further information and advice please refer to Assessment and Quality Assurance for Open and Distance Learning (SQA, February 2001 — publication code A1030).

Candidates with disabilities and/or additional support needs

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: Interior Design: Materials, Finishes and Products

This Unit is designed to enable you to develop an awareness of the variety of products available to the professional interior designer. You will learn how use these products in a given situation and how they to present them as part of an interior design solution.

You will be introduced to methods of sourcing information about commercially available materials, finishes and products.

Outcomes 1 and 2 will create a resource that can be developed throughout the Unit and beyond. You will be encouraged, both independently and as a member of a group, to explore, investigate, analyse and appraise materials, finishes and products for a given situation.

For Outcome 3 you will present the samples and images of materials, finishes and products you have sourced.

In order to complete this Unit successfully, you will be required to achieve all three Outcomes.