

## Higher National Unit Specification

### General information for centres

**Unit title:** Printmaking: Advanced

**Unit code:** DX66 36

**Unit purpose:** This Unit is designed to enable the candidate to build upon previous experience and knowledge of printmaking in order to produce print editions of a professional quality. This Unit is appropriate for candidates undertaking a course within an art and design discipline who want to extend their skills in printmaking.

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

- 1 Investigate and select themes.
- 2 Prepare materials and equipment for printmaking.
- 3 Produce edition prints and evaluate.
- 4 Prepare editions to professional standard.

**Credit points and level:** 2 HN Credits at SCQF level 9: (16 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 9\*).

*\*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 center. The candidate should have completed HN Unit Printmaking and Producing Print DV92 34, DX64 35 Printmaking in Multiple Layers or equivalent and have experience in some of the following areas: drawing; painting; photography; experimental printmaking.

**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.

**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:** It is recommended that this unit could be assessed by a single instrument of assessment which would require the candidate to work through the process of the medium used, in a logical and practical order to enable the production of prints. Alternatively it could be assessed by individual assessments relating to each Outcome.

## **Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards**

**Unit title:** Printmaking: Advanced

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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**

Investigate and select themes

#### **Knowledge and/or skills**

- ◆ Select and develop themes
- ◆ Visual reference material
- ◆ Evaluate development ideas

#### **Evidence Requirements**

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

- ◆ investigate visual information which has thematic potential
- ◆ develop themes into a format suitable for printmaking
- ◆ evaluate visual information

Candidates must produce a minimum of four x A3 worksheets or equivalent in sketchbook format for each theme.

#### **Assessment guidelines**

A wide range of visual reference should be explored on the chosen themes which should be developed for their potential to make successful prints. Compilation of visual information should be evidenced by annotation within the sketchbook. Developing themes and evaluation is evidenced by a checklist or oral presentation of approximately five minutes

## **Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)**

**Unit title:** Printmaking: Advanced

### **Outcome 2**

Prepare materials and equipment for printmaking

#### **Knowledge and/or skills**

- ◆ Equipment and materials
- ◆ Prepare plates, stencils or screens
- ◆ Prepare paper or substrates
- ◆ Prepare inks
- ◆ Printing methods
- ◆ Organise printing area
- ◆ Health and Safety practices

#### **Evidence Requirements**

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

- ◆ prepare for printmaking using at least two of the following methods: relief; intaglio; planographic or silkscreen
- ◆ set up prior to printmaking
- ◆ observe relevant Health and Safety practices

#### **Assessment guidelines**

The assessment for this Outcome may be assessed as a single assessment for this Unit. The work undertaken must lead to the production of the final prints. The candidate's work should demonstrate the use of the knowledge and/or skills within this Outcome.

The knowledge and skills assessed during set up is evidenced by the tutor completing an observational checklist.

### **Outcome 3**

Produce edition prints and evaluate

#### **Knowledge and/or skills**

- ◆ Inking skills
- ◆ Registration
- ◆ Use of presses and/or equipment
- ◆ Handling and drying of prints
- ◆ Cleaning and care of equipment
- ◆ Presentation of prints
- ◆ Time management
- ◆ Evaluation

## Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

**Unit title:** Printmaking: Advanced

### Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ produce two print editions of at least four prints
- ◆ use multiple layers or processes in each print, in any combination
- ◆ use different processes for each of the print editions
- ◆ use accurate registration and multiple colours
- ◆ mount one print from each project
- ◆ present remaining in a clean condition
- ◆ adhere to agreed work schedule
- ◆ evaluate the creative process and professional practice (500 words or equivalent)

Evidence of knowledge and understanding of safe working practice should be observed by the tutor and evidenced in a checklist.

### Assessment guidelines

The assessment for this Outcome may be assessed as a single assessment for this Unit. Alternatively, this Outcome could be assessed in separate elements. As the Unit is project based the work produced should be the culmination of the processes undertaken in Outcomes 1-3. This may be evidenced by an edition of prints for at least two print processes.

## Outcome 4

Prepare editions to professional standard

### Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Editioning of prints
- ◆ Safe handling and collation of prints
- ◆ Proofing and signing of prints
- ◆ Storage and presentation of prints

### Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ observe the requirements of producing editions of prints
- ◆ observe the correct collating, proofing and sign prints to form editions
- ◆ safely store and present an edition of prints

Evidence should be recorded in a checklist.

## **Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)**

**Unit title:** Printmaking: Advanced

### **Assessment guidelines**

Knowledge of the professional requirements relating to producing editions of print could be further evidenced by candidates presenting their editions in the correct format in addition to answering oral questioning or submitting a written report (minimum 500 words or an oral response to at least 6 questions).

## Administrative Information

**Unit code:** DX66 36  
**Unit title:** Printmaking: Advanced  
**Superclass category:** JB  
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### History of Changes:

Version	Description of change	Date

**Source:** SQA

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## Higher National Unit specification: support notes

### Unit title: Printmaking: Advanced

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 80 hours.

### Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

This Unit is designed to allow the candidate to produce professional quality editions of prints using at least two print processes. The Unit's content should be delivered using a context related to the candidate's course of study. This Unit could be linked to outcome(s) in other design or drawing units. Candidates are expected to be highly self-motivated and produce work within a conceptual framework. They should be encouraged to evaluate and discuss their own work and that of their peers.

**Outcome 1** is the foundation for the rest of the unit. The candidate collates source materials to develop into final editions using different print processes. A selection of visual source material may be: sketchbooks or portfolio.

Visual sources suggested:

- ◆ drawings, paintings and photocopies
- ◆ photographs
- ◆ computer generated or manipulated images
- ◆ text

Manipulation of visual sources:

- ◆ drawing
- ◆ photocopy
- ◆ photography
- ◆ collage
- ◆ photo montage
- ◆ tracing
- ◆ digital output

**Outcome 2** covers the preparation and set up procedures required for printmaking in a form appropriate to the process to be undertaken. This may be achieved by:

- ◆ hand cut stencil
- ◆ prepared and exposed photosensitive screens
- ◆ prepared and etched intaglio plates
- ◆ prepared and etched litho plates
- ◆ prepared cut relief plates
- ◆ constructed collograph plates
- ◆ prepared paper or surfaces appropriate to process
- ◆ inks prepared appropriate to process
- ◆ organised and prepared printing area
- ◆ observance of Health and Safety practices

## Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

### Unit title: Printmaking: Advanced

Candidates should demonstrate their knowledge and skills through their performance at this time and modify procedures if necessary. This will be evidenced by tutor observation and opportunities for oral questioning may occur.

**Outcome 3** covers the production of prints and evaluation

- ◆ mixing and preparation of inks appropriate to process
- ◆ inking of plates or screens appropriate to process
- ◆ registration method appropriate to process
- ◆ use of presses, hand cut systems or screen-print table
- ◆ safe handling and drying of prints
- ◆ safe cleaning of equipment and materials
- ◆ presenting and storing the final prints
- ◆ evaluate and discuss work produced and processes used

Candidates should display efficient time management skills in the use of workshop facilities for the completion of self-directed work. Candidates should comply with safe workshop practice, demonstrating considerate interaction with other workshop members and staff. An evaluation of the candidate's creative process and professional practice (approximately 500 words or equivalent) should be submitted.

**Outcome 4** is concerned with the organising of prints into series/editions

- ◆ collating and sorting prints
- ◆ proofing, titling, numbering and signing prints
- ◆ storing and presenting prints

The requirements of producing editions of prints should be observed. This should be evidenced by submitting a written response or oral questioning

### Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

The tutor should show exemplar material of prints for the different print processes available at the centre. This would enable the candidate to choose an appropriate print process for the source materials and design plans produced. Studio demonstration of processes at critical stages would assist candidates' understanding of the medium and would extend their knowledge and practice. Candidates should work individually. Candidates should be encouraged to consider other workshop users and comply with safe working practice.

This unit could be delivered as a stand-alone unit or as part of a group award. It could be integrated with unit(s) which generate image or text, such as:

- ◆ drawing
- ◆ illustration
- ◆ photography
- ◆ mixed media

## Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

### Unit title: Printmaking: Advanced

- ◆ typography
- ◆ graphic design
- ◆ computer generated or manipulated imagery

This Unit could be integrated with unit(s) that require a quality printed image, such as:

- ◆ fine art
- ◆ mixed media
- ◆ printed textiles
- ◆ applied graphics
- ◆ illustration
- ◆ typography
- ◆ graphic design
- ◆ public art

### *Opportunities for developing 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/s.

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

### **Open learning**

This Unit is not suitable for open learning purposes due to the specialist resource(s) required. The preferred learning environment for this unit would be studio/workshop based. The unit could also be taught in a professional print studio or workshop location. For further information and advice please refer to the SQA document *Assessment and Quality Assurance for Open and Distance Learning* which is available on SQA's website: [www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk).

## **Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)**

**Unit title:** Printmaking: Advanced

### **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](http://www.sqa.org.uk)**.

## General information for candidates

### Unit title: Printmaking: Advanced

This Unit will enable you to produce two print editions of a professional quality. In order to achieve the Unit you must have satisfactorily completed each stage of the process:

- ◆ Select themes and visual reference materials which are capable of being developed into prints.
- ◆ Develop a programme of research and self-directed work that gives expression to personal ideas and concerns. This could be previously produced work, such as drawing, illustration, text, graphic imagery, photography etc.
- ◆ Develop initial design ideas into a format suitable for printmaking.
- ◆ Develop work that demonstrates a line of enquiry and experimentation in a logical manner.
- ◆ Present a selection of potential designs as a minimum of four A3 worksheets, or the equivalent in an annotated sketchbook format, or as source books or portfolio.
- ◆ Justify your ideas and suggest possible stages of progression
- ◆ Access relief presses, rotary presses, silkscreen table as appropriate.
- ◆ Make ready colour separations if appropriate
- ◆ Prepare plates, stone, stencils or screens for the processes chosen.
- ◆ Apply methods and techniques in a manner that is appropriate to materials, media, process and subject matter
- ◆ Prepare and organise the work area
- ◆ Cut papers, stencils, fabric etc and make ready your print surface
- ◆ Prepare rollers, squeegees etc
- ◆ Prepare inks for process chosen.
- ◆ Set up the registration system as appropriate to your chosen process
- ◆ Develop a self-critical approach to creative working.
- ◆ Reflect upon the effectiveness of your setting-up and making-ready inks, papers, screens and plates for printing
- ◆ Wear protective clothing in the print area
- ◆ Print accurately, keeping the non-printing areas of the work clean
- ◆ Handle your prints correctly and let dry thoroughly in rack
- ◆ Reflect on effectiveness of the process and modify accordingly if necessary
- ◆ Clean and restore properly all equipment, materials and surfaces
- ◆ Develop good working practice and awareness of health and safety issues
- ◆ Justify and evaluate actions and decisions
- ◆ Express opinion and criticism of your own work
- ◆ Collate, title, sign and number prints as appropriate
- ◆ Present and display 4 prints for each themed edition in the appropriate manner for the process used.
- ◆ One selected print from each print edition should be mounted professionally.