

Higher National Unit Specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Furniture: Industry Study

Unit code: F0Y0 34

Unit purpose: This Unit is designed to introduce candidates to industrial practice as a context for design development. This Unit could be studied by those who wish to specialise in furniture design or furniture craftsmanship studies.

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

- 1 Research design practice within the furniture industry.
- 2 Evaluate design practice within the furniture industry.
- 3 Develop a design brief from source material.

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. No prior knowledge and skills are required.

Core Skills: There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Communication, Working with Others, Problem Solving, and Information Technology at SCQF level 5 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 will be assessed by candidates carrying out research of design practice within the furniture industry. The research findings will be analysed and these should form the basis of a design brief which will be developed in Outcome 3.

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

Research design practice within the furniture industry

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Historical design practice
- ◆ Contemporary design practice
- ◆ Design ideology
- ◆ Design issues

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆  Identify key factors which influence current and past design practice
- ◆ include visuals
- ◆ show organised research information
- ◆ include reference to source material

Assessment guidelines

There is an opportunity for this Outcome to be assessed with Outcome 2 as an integrated learning activity. Candidates could research case studies within a specific sector of the furniture industry — this may be carried out independently or in small groups (at the discretion of the centre). If a group approach is used care should be taken to ensure that each candidate individually meets the Evidence Requirements.

The evidence researched could include evidence of an individual case study of design practice and would show historical and contemporary design practices. The evidence gathered should include visuals and could be gathered into a research file.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Furniture: Industry Study

Outcome 2

Evaluate design practice within the furniture industry

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ General design principles
- ◆ Specific design principles
- ◆ Design process
- ◆ Awareness of the end user
- ◆ Design influence on end product

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by showing that they can evaluate and summarise, in detail, design practice in the furniture industry.

The candidate should produce material including visuals to substantiate their analysis. This evidence should include:

- ◆ key factors which influence the chosen area of study
- ◆ design principles adopted
- ◆ awareness of the end user
- ◆ design influence on end product

Assessment guidelines

There is an opportunity for this Outcome to be assessed with Outcome 1 as an integrated learning activity. The candidates will produce a summary of their chosen case study in the form of a graphic presentation. Candidates could give an oral presentation to the class group, supported by presentation boards using annotated images, drawings and photographs and supported by written evidence.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Furniture: Industry Study

Outcome 3

Develop a design brief from source material

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Design brief
- ◆ Design specification
- ◆ Design context

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and skills by showing that they can develop a design brief and design specification.

Through the refinement of research, candidates will demonstrate knowledge of their chosen subject through the development, and presentation of a design brief, and design specification which should include:

- ◆ influence of design precedence
- ◆ design process
- ◆ approach to functionality
- ◆ approach to materials
- ◆ approach to aesthetics

Assessment guidelines

Material for this Outcome could be linked to evidence collected for Outcomes 1 and 2.

Candidates could develop a design brief — this document should form a Design Specification detailing all of the above in defining design practice within the industry and should demonstrate relevant links to their individual case study.

In order to achieve this Outcome, candidates could present sufficient evidence in the form of a written/oral assignment. If an oral presentation is chosen, then a minimum of 10-15 minutes should be appropriate.

Administrative Information

Unit code: F0Y0 34
Unit title: Furniture: Industry Study
Superclass category: JP
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Version	Description of change	Date

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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Furniture: Industry Study

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 forms part of the HNC/D Furniture Group Award. This is an Optional Unit in the framework.

This Unit is intended to develop the candidate's knowledge of design practice, within their chosen area of study, within the furniture industry. This Unit could be delivered alongside a design project, adopting the resulting brief from Outcome 3, as their approach to design development.

Outcome 1

Research of design practice should be based on design precedence, both historical and contemporary. A broad definition of design practice should be covered to allow the candidate to select an area of personal interest within the industry.

Outcome 2

Candidates should be encouraged, through discussion, to evaluate and define various models of design practice to develop their understanding of design issues and their context.

Outcome 3

Through the refinement of research, the candidates will demonstrate knowledge of their chosen subject through the development of a design brief.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

Centres are encouraged, when appropriate, to integrate delivery/assessment of this Unit with other Units in the Group Award to which it contributes. The effectiveness of the delivery and assessment of this Unit could be enhanced through a series of lectures, which encompass various design movements. The learning activities could, for example, consist of a combination of lectures and candidate discussions.

Outcome 1

This Outcome could be assessed with Outcome 2. A series of lectures covering various historical/contemporary design ideology/practice should be delivered to direct candidates in the selection of an area for further research. Through presentation and discussion of various models of design practice, candidates should be encouraged to explore an individual case study of design practice and to generate a detailed research file.

Outcome 2

This Outcome could be assessed with Outcome 1. Through presentation and discussion of various models of design practice, candidates should go on to evaluate and present a summary of their individual case study. Assessment of this Outcome could be on the presentation of this information and should be aided with generated research material.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Furniture: Industry Study

Outcome 3

Candidates will develop a design brief which should demonstrate relevant links to their individual case study and defined design approach.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

Communication skills could be developed as part of the candidates research in Outcomes 1 and 2.

Candidates would be encouraged to produce visuals using appropriate software such as Photoshop and would be expected to word process all information to be presented in their research file. The availability of suitable software packages to support accuracy and professional presentation of Outcome 3, could also assist the development of skills in the use of IT.

All elements of the Core Skill of Problem Solving, namely Planning and Organising, Critical Thinking, and Reviewing and Evaluating could be developed and enhanced as candidates undertake the Unit. Candidates need to identify and consider all available resources in the analysis of influential factors and their significance, in developing an understanding of the context of manufacture; this activity presents an opportunity to introduce group work towards all elements of the Core Skill of Working with Others. Candidates would be encouraged to work in groups for some aspects of their research. However the writing up of their findings should be done independently and the items researched as part of a team should be able to be allocated to individuals.

Open learning

This Unit could be delivered through distance learning, particularly through the use of a Virtual Learning Environment. However, it would require planning by the centre to ensure the sufficiency and authenticity of candidate evidence.

For further information and advice, please refer to the SQA guide *Assessment and Quality Assurance for Open and Distance Learning* www.sqa.org.uk.

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: Furniture: Industry Study

In this Unit you will investigate current design practice within the furniture industry. This will allow you to develop a personal interest in a specific area within the industry.

You will research and investigate a design practice in the industry and develop a research file. Through discussion you will evaluate and define various approaches to design and develop an understanding of design issues.

Outcomes 1 and 2 may be assessed as an integrated learning activity. This would require you to produce a summary of your chosen design practice.

In Outcome 3, you will be required to develop a design brief which may be linked to the research carried out in Outcomes 1 and 2.

This Unit may be delivered alongside a design Unit within the HNC/D Furniture and provide a design approach to a design project.