

Higher National Unit Specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Fabric Construction: An Introduction

Unit code: F187 34

Unit purpose: The Unit is designed to give candidates the opportunity to experiment with fabric construction techniques and to produce samples as well as to develop skills in building a portfolio of samples which can be used in conjunction with other Units.

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

- 1 Demonstrate fabric construction techniques.
- 2 Produce samples to interpret the theme of a brief.
- 3 Present a portfolio of experimental samples.

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 experience of the design process at SCQF level 6 with evidence of certification such as Art and Design at Higher level or an equivalent suitable non certificated portfolio. Entry is at the discretion of the centre.

Core Skills: There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Communication and Critical Thinking 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: The candidates will produce design evidence from relevant source materials, which will take the form of a collection of fabric construction samples.

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 fabric construction techniques

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Fabric construction techniques
- ◆ Conventional and unconventional materials
- ◆ Conventional and unconventional media
- ◆ Design brief

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and skills by showing that they can use a at least 6 different fabric construction techniques to produce a minimum of 6 samples which meet the needs of a design brief in terms of suitability. Each sample should use a different material or media.

The 6 different fabric constructions should:

- ◆ relate to the brief in terms of colours and materials selected
- ◆ be A5 size
- ◆ use different materials and media for each sample
- ◆ demonstrate consistent quality of construction throughout the sample
- ◆ demonstrate the use of conventional and unconventional materials and media
- ◆ be of scale to meet the requirements of the brief
- ◆ be trimmed, finished and pressed to produce a consistent standard

Assessment guidelines

See Assessment Guidelines after Outcome 3

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Fabric Construction: An Introduction

Outcome 2

Produce samples to interpret the theme of a brief

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Design sources
- ◆ Experimental fabric construction techniques
- ◆ Materials — traditional and innovative
- ◆ Interpretation of brief

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need evidence to demonstrate their skills and knowledge by showing that they can select, develop and evaluate fabric constructions to interpret the given theme of a brief. The candidates should produce a minimum of 4 samples. Each sample should be at least A5 size. For each sample different source elements, techniques and materials should be used. The techniques could be the same or different techniques to those demonstrated in Outcome 1.

The samples should show:

- ◆ development from the design source showing personal sources which relate to the theme of the brief
- ◆ co-ordination as a collection relating to the theme of the brief
- ◆ relevance in terms of creating solutions from the design source
- ◆ suitability in terms of materials used
- ◆ consistency in quality of construction
- ◆ evidence of experiment in choice of scale
- ◆ that loose ends have been trimmed and finished in a way which enhances each sample

Assessment guidelines

See Assessment Guidelines after Outcome 3

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Fabric Construction: An Introduction

Outcome 3

Present a portfolio of experimental samples

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Technical information
- ◆ Methods of evaluating
- ◆ Methods of collation
- ◆ Methods of presentation

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and skills by showing that they can: Present a portfolio of fabric construction samples and related design sources (visual references related to the theme of the brief) to show the development of these fabric constructions from initial experiments to selecting appropriate solutions to the brief. The portfolio should be presented in a logical order and demonstrate a professional standard throughout. This portfolio must contain a minimum of 10 samples and a brief technical note which evaluates the properties and suitability of the techniques used in each sample.

Assessment guidelines

All 3 Outcomes could be assessed holistically. The fabric constructions which have been developed should meet the requirements of a design brief, and demonstrate the candidate's competence at fabric construction techniques. Each fabric construction sample will be accompanied by technical information which evaluates the properties and suitability of the technique.

It is envisaged that the samples of fabric constructions would be gathered into a portfolio which could take the form of a folder or a series of presentation boards. The portfolio could be used by the candidate as the basis for future work and could be maintained and added to throughout the candidate's studies.

The brief would detail the requirements in relation to a theme from which the candidate would gather visual information to inspire the fabric constructions. In Outcome 1 the candidate could experiment with 6 techniques which have been demonstrated by their lecturer and in Outcome 2 they could make 4 selections of techniques, materials and media to create solutions which best meet their interpretation of the brief. In Outcome 3 they would present their experiments and solutions for assessment of the properties and suitability of the techniques used to meet the brief.

Checklists could be used to record the candidate's ability and standards for each Outcome in terms of properties and suitability of fabric constructions and to ensure parity of standards and levels throughout the class group. The candidate could use the samples produced in Outcomes 1 and 2 as the basis of their portfolio or the samples could be from another source.

Administrative Information

Unit code: F187 34

Unit title: Fabric Construction: An Introduction

Superclass category: JL

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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: Fabric Construction: An Introduction

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 give candidates an introduction to fabric construction techniques and the skills to use these techniques to create solutions to a design brief which will have a theme which the candidate will find their own visual references. Candidates will present their experiments and solutions for assessment.

This Unit forms part of the Award HNC/D Textiles.

Outcome 1

Fabric construction techniques will be demonstrated and candidates will be given the opportunity to use and explore the techniques to create samples which relate to their own visual references which have been sourced from the theme of the given brief.

Fabric Construction techniques likely to be covered in this Unit would include Machine and hand knitting, machine and hand weaving, fleecing, macramé.

Types of materials/media — the use of fabric, fibres, plastic, paper, metal and other natural materials such as wood, slate, stone could be demonstrated and used in this Unit.

Outcome 2

Having experimented with fabric constructions techniques, candidates will evaluate these to make judgements and selections of the best techniques, materials and media to develop design solutions in relation to their visual references and produce a co-ordinating collection of samples.

Outcome 3

The samples created in Outcomes 1 and 2 should be selected and gathered together and presented in a logical manner for this Outcome along with their visual references in relation to the theme of the brief. In this Outcome the candidate is developing the skill of gathering samples in a logical way and displaying them with a technical note which evaluates the properties and suitability of the techniques used.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

When creating samples candidates could maintain working notes of the samples created. These could be incorporated in their portfolio at a later stage.

Candidates will be working to a given a design brief for compilation of their portfolios which they should interpret as required, but showing their own ideas and visual references. There may be relationship between this Unit and the Observational Drawing Unit.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (notes)

Unit title: Fabric Construction: An Introduction

A suggested checklist is shown below which could be used for each sample which in Outcome 1 and 2 and for presentation purposes in Outcome 3.

Process used	Candidate comment	Assessor comment
Suitability of material — appropriate to the task		
Types of materials used		
Quality of construction — did it meet intentions		
Choice of scale		
Relevance to source		
Innovation		
Trimmed		
Pressed		
Finished		
Co-ordination to other samples in collection		
Quality and suitability of presentation.		
Judgement of Assessor		

The final work could be presented in the form of a sketchbook, stitched booklet, individual sheets, board or digitally recorded or a combination of these methods. The candidate should select a method which is most suitable to their own work for the purposes of presenting the samples and visual references for assessment.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

Communication could be developed by question and answer sessions in groups and in one to one coaching session to observe the candidate in discussion with their peers and lecturer. In addition candidates will have to prepare technical notes to accompany the samples produced.

Critical Thinking could be developed by encouraging the candidate to reflect and evaluate their process of sourcing, development and selection throughout the project to address their strengths and limitations against the requirements of their given brief. Candidates will have to show evidence of planning, developing and evaluating their ideas. The evaluation may result in alterations being made to the original fabric construction intended and this is likely to be documented on the accompanying technical notes.

Open learning

This Unit is suitable for open learning but where this mode of delivery is used the centre will have to devise appropriate ways of ensuring authenticity of candidate work.

This might be done by use of questionnaire on fabric construction techniques and photographic/CD/DVD images of work in progress. This could be requested at various intervals at the centres discretion.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (notes)

Unit title: Fabric Construction: An Introduction

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. Further advice can be found in the SQA document *Guidance on Assessment Arrangements for Candidates with Disabilities and/or Additional Support Needs* (www.sqa.org.uk).

General information for candidates

Unit title: Fabric Construction: An Introduction

In this Unit you will learn how to produce samples of fabric constructions which will show experimental and traditional techniques which will be demonstrated at the outset of the Unit. You will be given a brief which has a theme for you to interpret and source your own visual references in the form of drawing, photography and found images. This will give you the inspiration for the creation of your samples.

When you have experimented with the demonstrated fabric construction techniques you will make your own evaluations and selections to develop co-ordinating design solutions which best meet the theme of the brief.

You will work with fabrics and other materials in this Unit. Examples of the kind of materials you will work with are paper, plastics, raffia, wood, metal, found objects.

Examples of the kind of fabrics you will work with are naturals and synthetics, wools, threads, fibres.

Your samples will be developed from your own design sources and you will select and present some of these samples for your final assessment.

You will be assessed on the standard of the properties and suitability of your initial experiments and design solutions the presentation of your samples and visual references. You and your tutor will probably use a checklist like the one shown below, to evaluate your selection and presentation:

Process used	Candidate comment	Assessor comment
Suitability of material — appropriate to the task		
Types of materials used		
Quality of construction — did it meet intentions		
Choice of scale		
Relevance to source		
Innovation		
Trimmed		
Pressed		
Finished		
Co-ordination to other samples in collection		
Quality and Suitability of presentation.		
Judgement of Assessor		

You will develop Communication skills by question and answer sessions in groups and in one to one coaching sessions where you will be encouraged to discuss your progress and present your ideas to your lecturer and peers. You will develop Critical Thinking by being encouraged to reflect and evaluate your process of sourcing, development and selection throughout the project to address your strengths and limitations against the requirements of the given brief. You will have to show evidence of planning, developing and evaluating your ideas. The evaluation may result in alterations being made to the original fabric construction intended and this is likely to be documented on the accompanying technical notes.