

Higher National Unit Specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Fashion: Textile Technology

Unit code: F18A 34

Unit purpose: This Unit is designed to enable candidates to recognise, investigate and evaluate the suitability of textile fabrics for fashion items. It is primarily intended as a general grounding Unit for candidates who take up employment in the design, production and retail industries and to those preparing for work within the clothing design or production field.

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

- 1 Investigate and describe the properties of textile fibres, yarns and threads.
- 2 Identify and describe fabric structures and finishes used in textile manufacture.
- 3 Evaluate and justify fabric and thread selection for fashion garments.

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: No prior knowledge of Textiles is required

Core Skills: There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Problem Solving, Working with Others, IT and Communications 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 should be assessed holistically. Candidates will produce a portfolio which will include evidence which describes and investigates the production, structure and composition of fibres, yarns and fabrics and evaluates the selection of fabrics and threads for the production of fashion items.

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

Investigate and describe the properties of textile fibres, yarns and threads

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Structure of fibres, yarns and threads
- ◆ Composition of fibres, yarns and threads
- ◆ Physical properties of fibres, yarns and threads
- ◆ Aesthetic properties of fibres, yarns and threads
- ◆ Research skills

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and skills by showing that they can research and investigate of a range of fibres, yarns and threads. The portfolio of evidence produced should include an evaluation of visual evidence which includes:

- ◆ a description of four natural fibres: two animal fibres and two vegetable fibres
- ◆ a description of four man-made fibres: two synthetic fibres and two regenerated fibres
- ◆ each description should include the origin and preparation: the structure and composition and the physical and aesthetic properties of each fibre
- ◆ both filament and staple yarns and threads
- ◆ flat and fancy yarns and thread types

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Fashion: Textile Technology

Outcome 2

Identify and describe fabric structures and finishes used in textile manufacture

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Production methods for woven, non-woven and knitted structures
- ◆ Textile finishes
- ◆ Physical properties of structures and finishes
- ◆ Aesthetic properties of structures and finishes

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and skills by showing that they can investigate fabric structures and finishes. The portfolio of evidence should show fabric samples and a description of the following:

- ◆ fabric structures including four woven, four knitted and three non woven structures
- ◆ fabric finishes including one of each from wet and dry finishing, mechanical and chemical

Each description should explain how the fabric is produced, the physical and the aesthetic properties of the structure and outline at least two uses of each fabric structure.

Outcome 3

Evaluate and justify appropriate fabric and thread selection for fashion garments

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Interpretation of a brief
- ◆ Consumer acceptance
- ◆ Fabric and thread selection
- ◆ Performance
- ◆ Aftercare
- ◆ Legislation

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and skills by showing that they can select fabrics and threads to match a given brief. This brief should include three different garment designs. The candidate evidence should be accompanied by a justification which details:

- ◆ an accurate summary which is an interpretation of customer requirements
- ◆ an explanation why fabrics and threads were chosen for manufacture
- ◆ a justification for the choice of fabrics and threads to meet the construction requirements of the garment
- ◆ an accompanying set of aftercare instructions
- ◆ a summary of the legislation which has to be considered to meet the given brief

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Fashion: Textile Technology

The response should be gathered together in a logical way which could be used to respond to the brief.

Assessment guidelines for the Unit

A holistic assessment is preferred covering all Outcomes. It is envisaged that candidates will collate their findings and present a portfolio of work covering all Outcomes.

For Outcomes 1 and 2 candidates could be given a series of visuals with accompanying pro formas which candidates could complete to detail full descriptions, production methods, structure and physical and aesthetic properties of each fibre. Alternatively this information could be given orally. Information could include comparative diagrams, fibre, yarn and fabric samples, photographs and visual evidence to support candidate findings.

This evidence could be gathered together into a Portfolio in a logical way so that it could be used as a reference source. Outcome 3 could then draw on and add to this portfolio evidence.

The brief given should cover a variety of garments for different purposes, eg lingerie, light clothing outerwear, sportswear, childrenswear etc.

For each fashion garment outlined in the brief, the candidate could produce a design board which includes samples, visuals, descriptions and technical notes. Alternatively the candidate could produce a written report on all selection criteria and justifications.

Administrative Information

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Unit title: Fashion: Textile Technology
Superclass category: WH
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Version	Description of change	Date

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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Fashion: Textile Technology

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 included as a mandatory Unit in the framework of the HNC/HND in Fashion: Design and Production with Retail. It is recommended it should be taught and assessed within the subject area of the Group Award to which it contributes. This Unit provides underpinning knowledge which could be used for the Units where fabrics, threads and yarns are used in production processes and Graded Units within the course.

The content and context should be appropriate to the personal and vocational needs of the candidate. Candidates will develop their organisational skills when undertaking this Unit. This will be evidenced by collating and presenting all information in a coherent way.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

The teacher/lecturer/tutor role will deliver the initial background to the Unit. Through the use of handouts, videos and discussion the tutor will explain the relevance of fibres, yarns, fabrics and finishes to the selection for fashion items. Candidates will be encouraged to research various elements of the background information through text books, internet research and through company visits where possible.

Demonstration of fabric production systems, finishes and fibre identification methods will be given. Fabric fibre and yarn samples will be available for reference and candidates will be encouraged to collect their own samples to develop their folder as a working reference document.

It is expected that in the delivery of this Unit the candidate will compile a portfolio of reference sources which includes information on the production, identification and properties of fibres yarns, fabrics and finishes. While this could be developed in co-operation with others in groups or teams, if this evidence is to be used for assessment purposes, lecturers would need to assure themselves that the descriptions and information in the portfolio are the candidate's own work.. The portfolio will contain evidence for all three learning Outcomes. Evidence will be drawn from collated research into the specific areas of fibres yarns fabric and finishes.

It is important to recognise that the development of portfolio evidence should be on-going and there should be periodic reviews between the tutor and the candidate to ensure continuity of evidence and the attainment of individual goals. To help the candidate manage their time, it is recommended that deadlines are given for hand-in dates and that review dates are set at regular intervals with candidates. Candidate should be able to show evidence of planning their work and activities especially where group work is involved, it is helpful to use questioning or supervised write-ups of investigation to ensure authenticity of candidate work.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

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Opportunities for developing Core Skills

The Core Skills of Communication and IT are developed throughout this Unit. Candidates will be expected to research and annotate information and use the result of this research to describe properties, finishes structures, production and composition of textile yarns, threads and fabrics. The integration of all 3 Outcomes should encourage candidates to present their work in a logical and organised way and the use of IT should be encouraged.

Candidates could research aspects of this Unit on the internet in particular legislation affecting the use of fabrics for particular end uses. Candidates could use word processing skills and digital images to enhance their portfolio. As this portfolio is to be the basis of a personal reference file throughout their course, a systematic approach to filing and retrieving files should be encouraged.

Outcome 3 will enable the candidate to develop Problem Solving skills and will demonstrate planning developing and evaluating the use of fabric for production of specific garments.

Candidates will have to Work with Others to negotiate the use limited resources. They will also have to meet with their tutors on a regular basis to monitor their progress in compiling their portfolios.

Open learning

This Unit could be delivered by open or distance learning. It is important that the candidate is supported in the gathering of evidence for the portfolio. Advances in ICT such as video-conferencing and webcams should allow a system of monitoring to take place and sustained contact with the tutor in terms of supervision.

It is important that the candidate has access to the teacher/lecturer/tutor on a regular basis for the development of the portfolio of evidence and that the assessor is confident that candidate work can be authenticated. This can be done through in-depth questioning and supervised write-ups of information researched.

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: Fashion: Textile Technology

In this Unit you will learn:

- ◆ Where fibres come from and what characteristics they have.
- ◆ How fibres are turned into yarns and threads and how this affects their use.
- ◆ How yarns are used to create fabrics and what those fabrics are used for and why.
- ◆ How finishes applied to the fabrics alter their characteristics and therefore what they are used for.
- ◆ To select appropriate fabrics for fashion items.

In collecting all this information you will produce a folder of work which clearly shows the research you have done and your findings, into the production of fibres, yarns and fabrics. This will form a valuable reference for selecting appropriate fabrics for fashion items.

The three Outcomes are designed for you to develop a clear understanding of the production of fabrics and the characteristics they have which make them suitable for use in fashion items.

Your teacher/lecturer/tutor will deliver information on these topics in a variety of ways but you should expect to take a high degree of responsibility for the production of your folder of work. Guidance will be given on how to structure your folder of evidence and your evaluation of fabric selections.

Your folder will be used for assessment purposes.

In working towards assessment you will also develop your skills in IT, Communication, Problem Solving and Working with Others. You will also learn how to manage your time.