

Higher National Unit Specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Contemporary Art: Two Dimensional Practice

Unit code: F1CH 34

Unit purpose: This Unit is designed to enable candidates to develop knowledge and skills in a chosen area or areas of contemporary two dimensional art practices. It will offer candidates the opportunity to investigate a range of two dimensional contemporary art practices and to produce a two dimensional solution to a creative brief which will complement their course of study.

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

- 1 Investigate two dimensional practice within contemporary art.
- 2 Develop two dimensional techniques in contemporary art practice.
- 3 Produce and develop concepts.
- 4 Produce two dimensional artwork/s from a developed concept.

Credit points and level: 2 HN Credits at SCQF level 7: (16 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. It may be beneficial if candidates had some prior knowledge of basic sculpture techniques or two dimensional arts practice. This may be demonstrated by the achievement of Intermediate 2 or Higher level Art and Design or by a practical portfolio of art and design work.

Core Skills: There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Information Technology, Problem Solving, Communication and Numeracy 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: Outcome 1 is assessed by an investigation.
Outcome 2 is assessed by the production of a folio of two dimensional experiments.
Outcome 3 is assessed by product evidence of development work.
Outcome 4 is assessed by a practical activity involving the production of two dimensional artwork.

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 two dimensional practice within contemporary art

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Research methods
- ◆ Analysis
- ◆ Comparison
- ◆ Evaluation

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by investigating an area of two dimensional practice within contemporary art through research, analysis, evaluation and comparison of the work of a minimum of **three** contemporary art practitioners who use two dimensional processes.

Evidence should be presented in any suitable format — written, oral or digital, and accompanied by visuals.

Assessment guidelines

Group discussion as well as personal investigation could be used to analyse the work of contemporary art practitioners who use two dimensional processes and production.

Outcome 2

Develop two dimensional techniques in contemporary art practice

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Process and technique
- ◆ Preparation and use of tools, equipment and materials
- ◆ Sequence of working
- ◆ Safe working practices
- ◆ Application of materials/media

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Contemporary Art: Two Dimensional Practice

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by showing that they can, through the development of two dimensional techniques:

- ◆ Prepare and use tools, equipment and materials
- ◆ Use safe working practices
- ◆ Produce two dimensional experiments, exploring application techniques and application of materials/media
- ◆ Analyse and record results

Evidence should be presented as a folio of two dimensional experiments accompanied by comments in oral or written format.

Assessment guidelines

The assessment of this Outcome may be combined with Outcomes in other skills-based two dimensional art Units.

Exercises should be tutor led and include practical handling and/or manipulation of a range of equipment, materials and techniques.

Outcome 3

Produce and develop concepts

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Working to a brief
- ◆ Planning
- ◆ Development of creative concepts
- ◆ Experimental solutions
- ◆ Reflective practice

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by showing that they can, in response to a brief:

- ◆ Develop concepts for two dimensional artwork/s
- ◆ Explore a range of creative concepts that could be successfully developed into the production of two dimensional artwork
- ◆ Reflect on concepts produced and select a concept for development

Evidence should be presented in the form of a sketchbook or folio of creative developmental work.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Contemporary Art: Two Dimensional Practice

Assessment guidelines

The assessment of this Outcome may be integrated with Outcomes in other Units.

There is scope in this Outcome to build on development work from both two dimensional and three dimensional Units which may lead to an integrated approach to thematic development.

Outcome 4

Produce two dimensional artwork/s from a developed concept.

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Application of techniques
- ◆ Application of processes
- ◆ Safe working practices
- ◆ Production

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by producing two dimensional artwork, showing that they can:

- ◆ Apply their knowledge of techniques and processes to the production of two dimensional artwork
- ◆ Work through processes in a planned sequence
- ◆ Use safe working practices at all times
- ◆ Successfully develop creative concepts into the production of two dimensional artwork

Evidence should be presented in the form of one or more pieces of two dimensional artwork.

Assessment guidelines

The degree of finish of work for presentation should be clearly specified by the tutor.

The number of pieces of artwork presented for assessment will be at the discretion of the tutor, but allowances must be made for the scale and complexity of the candidate's work. The Evidence Requirements are for one or more pieces, however, the tutor could encourage the candidates to produce a higher number of examples for assessment if the work is minimal in content.

The tutor should ensure that the body of work generated by the candidates equates to the hours of study allowed for this Outcome.

It is strongly recommended that candidates should be given the opportunity to justify and evaluate their work by making a presentation to their class tutor and/or peer group. An observation checklist should be used to ensure all aspects contained within the knowledge and/or skills section have been addressed.

Administrative Information

Unit code: F1CH 34

Unit title: Contemporary Art: Two Dimensional Practice

Superclass category: JB

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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Contemporary Art: Two Dimensional Practice

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 intended to allow candidates to develop knowledge and skills in a chosen area or areas of Contemporary Art Two Dimensional Practice.

Candidates could be offered the opportunity to choose from a range of two dimensional contemporary art practices which will complement their course of study. They will be required to investigate contemporary art practice/s relating to the production of two dimensional pieces that may be in any medium or combination of media. Candidates will develop techniques in a chosen two dimensional art practice, research and generate creative concepts and produce two dimensional artwork.

Examples of two dimensional practices within contemporary art that candidates may choose might include:

- ◆ Painting
- ◆ Printmaking
- ◆ Mixed Media
- ◆ Murals
- ◆ Drawing
- ◆ Digital Art
- ◆ Textiles

This list is intended for guidance and is not exhaustive.

This Unit can be taught as a stand-alone Unit. However, there is opportunity to integrate parts of the Unit with Outcomes in other two dimensional and/or three dimensional Units in the Contemporary Art Practice, core or options, (see 'Guidance on the Delivery') to widen the scope of the development process.

Although the Unit is written in generic terms the evidence should be related to a context that is relevant to the candidates.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

This Unit has been developed as part of the HNC/D Contemporary Art Practice Group Award. It is recommended that it should be taught and assessed within the subject area of the Group Award to which it contributes.

Opportunities may be taken to link or integrate with other aspects of the course and a thematic approach adopted for both delivery and assessment.

In **Outcome 1** the candidate is required to investigate an area or areas of Contemporary Art Two Dimensional Practice by studying the work of contemporary art two dimensional practitioners.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Contemporary Art: Two Dimensional Practice

Sources and examples can be supplied by the tutor, or candidates can be asked to choose their own subjects for research. The tutor should state clearly the number of contemporary art two dimensional practitioners that they would expect the candidate to investigate and to ensure that the amount of evidence generated by the candidate equates to the hours of study allowed for this Outcome.

Candidates can be supported by lectures and visual examples given by the tutor. Group discussions, gallery visits, lectures and demonstrations by contemporary art practitioners are to be encouraged.

Candidates can produce evidence of their research and analysis by either an illustrated written response, or an annotated source/workbook, or an illustrated oral response.

Research should clearly show investigation of the artists' work through illustrated examples, analysis of work practice, processes and materials used, development of concepts, target audience and evaluation of style, context, personal response to the chosen medium or media, and presentation.

In **Outcome 2** the candidate is required to demonstrate knowledge of the main processes involved in creating artwork in their chosen area/s of practice by researching the main processes and procedures. This must be demonstrated by evidence that is appropriate for the chosen discipline. Candidates can be supported by lectures and demonstrations given by the tutor and/or contemporary art practitioners.

Candidates must also be aware of safe working practices. Lectures and notes demonstrating safe practices and listing regulations (if appropriate) should be provided by the tutor.

Candidates will carry out a series of short practical exercises where they will explore, and be encouraged to experiment with, materials/media, and application techniques. These exercises should be tutor led and appropriate for the chosen discipline.

It is envisaged that candidates will present two kinds of evidence for this Outcome.

- ◆ Annotated, collated research.
- ◆ Examples of practical work in a folio or sketchbook, file or comparable format.

In **Outcome 3** the candidate will begin to prepare for the production of a minimum of one piece of two dimensional artwork. Either the tutor or the candidate can generate the creative brief for this work. Using a variety of resources the candidate will research relevant visual material which will help them develop the concept for the two dimensional art project.

Using this material as reference they will then explore a range of creative concepts, which could be successfully developed, into the production of two dimensional artwork. This development work can be presented in a sketchbook, folio or equivalent. It is expected that when a candidate is exploring the production of digital artwork there should still be a considerable body of conventional 'sketchbook' work at this stage.

Since conceptual development is considered to be the creative part of any art process, the importance of this Outcome cannot be overstressed. Sufficient research and conceptual development work should be created to allow for a variety of potential solutions to the two dimensional creative brief. It is envisaged that at least one quarter of the time allowed for this Unit is devoted to this Outcome and this should be reflected in the quality and quantity of the candidate's work.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Contemporary Art: Two Dimensional Practice

There is scope to develop two dimensional artwork from a further development of creative concepts produced in other two dimensional and three dimensional Units. Holistic integration is to be encouraged as long as all the Evidence Requirements have been met.

Conceptual development work should demonstrate an in-depth exploration of the potential of the brief and show a range of possible successful solutions to a two dimensional brief and/or a thematic sequence of artwork.

In **Outcome 4** the candidate is required to produce at least one piece of two dimensional artwork as a solution to their 'creative brief'.

As this Unit allows for exploration of several different two dimensional contemporary art practices and many types of media and styles may be used, it is impossible to state a specific and comparative number of pieces which may be realistically expected from candidates. The number of pieces presented for assessment will be at the discretion of the tutor but allowances must be made for the scale and complexity of the candidate's work.

Tutors should ensure that candidates produce a body of work which is appropriate to the amount of study time given. The evidence requires one or more 'finished' pieces of two dimensional artwork, however the tutor should encourage the candidate to produce a higher number of pieces if the work is on a very small scale or minimal in content.

It is envisaged that in some two dimensional disciplines each candidate will produce more than the minimum amount of pieces required and that the most successful and/or appropriate pieces will be selected for assessment. Artwork can be presented in any format specified by the tutor. It may be mounted if required/appropriate but this is not specified by the Unit.

An oral presentation of the artwork should be delivered by the candidate to tutor or class group allowing for evaluation of the project through discussion and analysis of approach, methods and techniques used. Alternatively a short written presentation, supported by visual material could be used.

Assessment may be linked with another Unit if it is incorporated as part of an integrated project.

Artwork submitted for assessment should have been created in the studio or produced elsewhere throughout the delivery of the Unit. Assessors can ensure the reliability and authenticity of candidate evidence by assessing evidence produced under controlled conditions.

Artwork should be assessed holistically, ensuring that the candidate has demonstrated creativity and has applied knowledge of the required skills to the work presented.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

Candidates will work in a context which requires the investigation and production of two dimensional art work. Discussions with the class group and/or the assessor focussing on examples of 2D practice in contemporary art would reinforce analytical evaluation of approaches taken to the design process. Accuracy in the interpretation and communication of graphic information underpins competencies as concepts are produced and developed, and some candidates may benefit from formative opportunities to further develop the effectiveness of their application of graphic data. Research undertaken should

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

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lead to a consideration of all factors impacting on the initial concepts in the planning stage. Candidates should be able to work unaided in the selection of appropriate software and techniques involving modification or customising of applications to meet identified needs of purpose and context, but peer review will enhance problem solving skills. Consideration for other users and an adherence to practices and procedures impacting on security and safety would be a routine aspect of good practice.

Although skills in communication are not formally assessed, candidates could be provided with checklists detailing criteria for evaluation of information accessed, which could include checks on currency, authority and accuracy. Written work produced should express essential ideas and information accurately and coherently, use industry terminology and check spelling for accuracy. Using up to date software packages for word processing and editing where practical will support the development of writing skills to a professional standard. If evidence is presented orally, candidates could be provided with checklists to remind them of the need to:

- ◆ adapt language and style to the needs of their audience
- ◆ use appropriate pace and tone
- ◆ use effective non-verbal communication
- ◆ use audio visual support confidently
- ◆ respond to in depth questioning confidently and accurately

Open learning

Due to the practical nature of parts of this Unit, delivery by distance learning is not recommended. Although some parts of the Unit could be delivered in this way, it would require a considerable degree of planning by the centre to ensure the sufficiency and authenticity of candidate evidence.

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.

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: Contemporary Art: Two Dimensional Practice

This Unit will enable you to develop knowledge and skills in a chosen area, or areas, of contemporary art two dimensional practice, explore some of the media and techniques related to this area and produce two dimensional artwork/s.

In **Outcome 1** you will investigate two dimensional contemporary art practices by studying the work of contemporary two dimensional art practitioners.

In **Outcome 2** you will explore and develop methods and techniques for the production of two dimensional contemporary artworks. You will also carry out a series of short practical exercises where you will explore and experiment with materials/media, and application techniques.

In **Outcome 3** you are required to produce and develop concepts for two dimensional artwork in response to a given brief.

In **Outcome 4** you will produce two dimensional artwork/s from developed concepts, using safe studio working practices.