

## Higher National Unit specification

### General information for centres

**Unit title:** Contemporary Art Practice: Lens-Based Media Production

**Unit code:** F1D3 35

**Unit purpose:** This Unit is designed to enable candidates to develop knowledge and skills in using lens-based media. Candidates will develop concepts using still and/or moving images. A selected concept will be further developed to presentation standard with candidates presenting and evaluating their work.

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

- 1 Develop selected concepts for a lens-based media project.
- 2 Produce a lens-based media artwork/project.
- 3 Present and evaluate a completed lens-based media project.

**Credit points and level:** 2 HN credits at SCQF level 8: (16 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 8\*)

*\*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. Candidates should have an understanding of the design process having completed HN Units in Contemporary Art Practice. It would be beneficial if candidates had some prior knowledge of lens-based media skills within a creative context. This may be evidenced by possession of HN Unit I Contemporary Art Practice: Lens-Based Media Development or prior vocational experience.

**Core Skills:** There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Problem Solving and Communication 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 the development of a range of concepts for a lens-based media project.

Outcome 2 is assessed by the submission of a lens-based media artwork.

Outcome 3 is assessed by a presentation and evaluation of the completed artwork/project.

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

**Unit title:** Contemporary Art Practice: Lens-Based Media Production

**Unit code:** F1D3 35

The sections of the Unit stating the Outcomes, Knowledge and/or Skills, and Evidence Requirements are mandatory.

### **Outcome 1**

Develop selected concepts for a lens-based media project

#### **Knowledge and/or Skills**

- ◆ Responding to a brief
- ◆ Selecting concepts
- ◆ Selecting and using lens-based media
- ◆ Concept development
- ◆ Lens-based techniques
- ◆ Critical reflection
- ◆ Time management

#### **Evidence Requirements**

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

- ◆ respond to the requirements of the brief
- ◆ use selected lens-based media and techniques to develop a range of concepts
- ◆ select appropriate concepts for further development
- ◆ critically reflect on concepts and select one suitable for further development
- ◆ establish defined deadlines

Evidence should be presented as folio of material that reflects the conceptual and developmental nature of this Outcome and demonstrates the use of critical reflection. A time plan should also be produced.

#### **Assessment Guidelines**

Still and/or moving lens-based methods may be used.

Candidates could use experimental responses created in another lens-based Unit as a basis for further concept development for this project brief.

It is recommended that all Outcomes be holistically assessed, although each Outcome in this Unit could also be assessed individually.

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

**Unit title:** Contemporary Art Practice: Lens-Based Media Production

### **Outcome 2**

Produce a lens-based media artwork/project

#### **Knowledge and/or Skills**

- ◆ Lens-based media
- ◆ Application of lens-based media techniques
- ◆ Time management
- ◆ Studio work practice

#### **Evidence Requirements**

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by producing a lens-based media artwork/project, showing that they can:

- ◆ use appropriate lens-based media
- ◆ apply experimental techniques
- ◆ meet defined deadlines
- ◆ use safe and considerate studio work practices

Evidence should be presented as a completed lens-based artwork. Compliance with studio work practice should be recorded on an observational checklist.

#### **Assessment Guidelines**

Still and/or moving lens-based methods may be used.

It is recommended that the equivalent of 70% of the notional time allocated to this Unit should be allowed for this Outcome.

It is recommended that all Outcomes be holistically assessed, although each Outcome in this Unit could be assessed individually.

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

**Unit title:** Contemporary Art Practice: Lens-Based Media Production

### **Outcome 3**

Present and evaluate a completed lens-based media project

#### **Knowledge and/or Skills**

- ◆ Critical analysis
- ◆ Presentation techniques
- ◆ Evaluation methods
- ◆ The context of lens-based media in contemporary art practice

#### **Evidence Requirements**

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

- ◆ explain the inspiration and context for their project
- ◆ identify the techniques and methods used in their work
- ◆ evaluate the positive and negative features of their completed work
- ◆ relate their completed project to the context of contemporary art practice

Evidence should be in the form of a presentation of visual material with written/oral commentary.

#### **Assessment Guidelines**

It is recommended that a group critique be used to provide evidence of each candidate's evaluation. Candidates could present their artwork to their tutor, peer group or other audience.

Evidence of analysis and critical evaluation could also be presented as a short written critique.

The assessment of this Outcome can be combined with Outcomes 1 and 2 as part of a single summative portfolio assessment for this Unit.

## Administrative Information

<b>Unit code:</b>	F1D3 35
<b>Unit title:</b>	Contemporary Art Practice: Lens-Based Media Production
<b>Superclass category:</b>	JB
<b>Original date of publication:</b>	August 2007
<b>Version:</b>	01

### History of changes:

Version	Description of change	Date

**Source:** SQA

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## **Higher National Unit specification: support notes**

### **Unit title:** Contemporary Art Practice: Lens-Based Media Production

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**

Content should be delivered through candidate centred practical activity within a planned format. Tutors should support individual learning activity. Lectures, visits to galleries and talks from practising artists could be used to expand and develop candidates' knowledge of lens-based media within the context of contemporary art practice. Tutors should encourage candidates to use lens-based media in a conceptual way.

The project brief should give scope for the development of strong creative responses that make use of still and/or moving images.

For **Outcome 1** candidates should produce a range of concepts in response to a brief using selected lens-based media and applying exploratory and experimental techniques. Candidates should reflect on the results of their exploratory work before choosing a concept for development into a completed lens-based artwork.

For **Outcome 2** candidates should select and use appropriate lens-based media, applying experimental techniques to produce an artwork/project to presentation standard, which makes a creative response to the brief.

For **Outcome 3** candidates should make a visual and oral/written presentation, which explains the inspiration and context for their project. They should identify the techniques and methods that they used, reflect upon the positive and negative features of the completed work and place their completed project within the context of contemporary art practice.

The final presentation of the product of this Unit could be made at/or through public exhibition, for example, college end-of-year show, in keeping with the practice of contemporary art.

As both this developmental process and the gathering of initial research may in part occur outwith controlled conditions, the tutor should be satisfied that all assessment evidence has been produced by the candidate. This could be ensured through consistency of style and approach in the development of creative material.

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

This Unit has been developed as part of the HND 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.

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

### Unit title: Contemporary Art Practice: Lens-Based Media Production

Candidates will be expected to present appropriate evidence, usually in more than one format, to show that they have developed a range of concepts in response to a brief using selected lens-based media and application of experimental techniques. After critical reflection, candidates will select appropriate concepts for further development then use appropriate lens-based media to produce an artwork/project to presentation standard commensurate with practice in contemporary art.

The final work presented should demonstrate a clear understanding of the use of lens-based media in a contemporary art context, and be a creative response that explores the potential of the media.

Evidence of analysis and critical evaluation could be presented orally, as a short written critique. Candidates should be able to make use of appropriate terminology and to use vocabulary that clearly defines their ideas and concepts.

As this Unit focuses upon production to a presentation standard, emphasis should be placed on meeting appropriate levels of 'finish' and presentation, without losing creative and conceptual content. Tutors should encourage candidates to consider publication and dissemination mechanisms from the earliest stages. Candidates may use current technologies to 'publish' their findings and record their learning path. This could be useful to inform the evaluative requirements of this Unit. Additionally this may form a practical mechanism for the 'presentation' of the product for the Unit.

The submission of the candidate's assessment material could be made through the presentation of completed work. It is suggested that the candidate presents the results of their investigation, experiments and evaluation to their tutor and peers. Emphasis should be placed upon the candidates undertaking a thorough evaluation of lens-based media as a creative medium and of the strengths and weaknesses of the candidates' individual final responses. Evaluation should form part of the final presentation and be in oral, written or recorded form.

The completed works should be compiled and archived to allow the candidate to:

- ◆ provide a copy to the tutor/centre for record purposes
- ◆ include the work in their personal portfolio of work

#### *Opportunities for developing Core Skills*

All elements of the Core Skill of Problem Solving should be naturally developed and enhanced as candidates undertake the practical work in a creative process from its inception through production to presentation. They will analyse, select and justify suitable resources, methods and approaches. Researching and assessing the importance of all factors in the planning stage will include sourcing of materials, accessing essential equipment and selecting creative techniques. Applying skills to produce an effective product, working within constraints of time and budget and observing health and safety factors will develop skills in critical and creative thinking. Review, reflection and evaluation of achievement will be an aspect of the presentation of work and will reinforce analytical approaches to working practice.

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

### **Unit title:** Contemporary Art Practice: Lens-Based Media Production

Although oral and writing skills are not formally assessed candidates would be expected to express themselves effectively, using appropriate media and accurate terminology. Centre designed checklists for self assessment may be helpful to enhance communication skills development. Oral work should demonstrate the use of effective verbal and non-verbal techniques, including the ability to present materials professionally and provide confident, in depth responses to detailed questions from others.

### **Open learning**

The practical nature of parts of this Unit would make it difficult to deliver via open learning. Although parts of this Unit could be delivered by distance learning, 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](http://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](http://www.sqa.org.uk)).



## General information for candidates

### Unit title: Contemporary Art Practice: Lens-Based Media Production

This Unit will allow you to develop your knowledge and skills in the use of lens-based media and in the production of a lens-based artwork. You will develop concepts using still or moving images in response to a project brief. One selected concept will be further developed to presentation/finished standard. Upon completion of your project you will be asked to present and evaluate your work.

In **Outcome 1** you will:

- ◆ Develop selected concepts for a lens-based media project
- ◆ Reflect on and refine concepts

In **Outcome 2** you will:

- ◆ Produce a lens-based media artwork/project

In **Outcome 3** you will:

- ◆ Present and evaluate your completed lens-based media project

You will use safe and considerate studio work practices at all times.