

Higher National Unit specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Painting Project

Unit code: F1TN 35

Unit purpose: This Unit is designed to extend candidates' skills and knowledge of painting and develop their painting techniques, use of media and critical evaluation of their own work.

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

- 1 Produce a brief for the execution of paintings
- 2 Research a painting brief
- 3 Produce paintings in response to the brief
- 4 Critically evaluate paintings

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.

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: Candidates will be assessed on the production of a written brief, carrying out of research and the development and evaluation of a final series of paintings. Outcome 1 should be individually assessed. It is recommended Outcomes 2 and 3 are assessed together, although it would also be possible to assess each Outcome separately. A final summative assessment should be used for all Outcomes.

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

Produce a brief for the execution of paintings

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Areas of research and investigation
- ◆ Selection of content, media, format
- ◆ Recording information
- ◆ Time management
- ◆ Planning

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ Produce a clear and logical brief
- ◆ Consider all aspects of research
- ◆ Identify a suitable area for investigation
- ◆ Outline their intentions with regard to the production of a minimum of two paintings
- ◆ Show an awareness of time constraints and ability to forward plan

Evidence should be presented as a brief and timeplan for the production of paintings in any suitable format.

Assessment guidelines

Candidates would usually be expected to produce a written brief and timeplan although a brief may also be recorded orally. The tutor should provide an outline format for the brief.

This Outcome should be assessed separately, before candidates progress to develop work for further Outcomes.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Painting Project

Outcome 2

Research a painting brief

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Sources
- ◆ Styles, media and content
- ◆ Supports/substrates
- ◆ Development of concepts
- ◆ Analysis of subject
- ◆ Evaluation

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ Explore sources and concepts in relation to the brief
- ◆ Demonstrate the development of ideas and concepts
- ◆ Research and experiment with styles, media and content
- ◆ Clearly show where the development has led in terms of planning paintings
- ◆ Analyse subject matter and critically evaluate ideas in terms of their suitability for development into finished paintings

Evidence should be presented as a sketchbook/folio/folder that contains all source material and developmental work, supported by commentary, either as annotations or presented orally.

Assessment guidelines

Sketchbooks could include drawings, sketches, experimental studies, photographs and related source material.

Analysis and critical evaluation could be in the form of written annotations or of an oral presentation or group discussion. Oral assessment should be recorded. A checklist could be used to record candidates' responses, or evidence could be digitally recorded.

It is recommended that this Outcome be assessed with Outcome 3.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Painting Project

Outcome 3

Produce paintings in response to the brief

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Preparation
- ◆ Control of media
- ◆ Use of colour
- ◆ Elements of composition
- ◆ Development of ideas
- ◆ Personal interpretation
- ◆ Safe working practices

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ Use selected and prepared grounds and appropriate media
- ◆ Display the controlled use of media to produce desired effects
- ◆ Use colour and elements of composition to produce coherent final paintings
- ◆ Show personal interpretation of the brief in the development of ideas
- ◆ Demonstrate the use of safe and considerate work practices at all times

Evidence should be presented as a minimum of two paintings of between A1 and A2 in size, or the equivalent in smaller pieces.

Assessment guidelines

It is recommended that the two paintings are A2 or larger in size. Candidates would normally be expected to produce three or more paintings if they were smaller than A2.

Consideration should be given to the scale and complexity of final work. If, for example, the work is simplistic in technique, candidates could be asked to produce alternative finished concepts or a greater number of exploratory pieces.

A checklist could be used to record the candidates' adherence to safe working practices.

It is recommended that this Outcome be assessed with Outcome 2.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Painting Project

Outcome 4

Critically evaluate paintings

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Consideration of brief
- ◆ Terminology
- ◆ Reflective practice
- ◆ Objectivity
- ◆ Evaluation

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ Articulate their ideas and thought processes in relation to their work
- ◆ Determine how closely finished paintings meet the requirements of the initial brief
- ◆ Critically reflect on their management of time and the work that they have produced
- ◆ Give clear reasons for the choice of format, size, media, techniques and subject matter
- ◆ Use appropriate language/terminology
- ◆ Objectively comment on their own work

Assessment should be by means of an oral or written presentation.

Assessment Guidelines

Oral presentation could be to fellow candidates as well as the tutor. A checklist could be used to ensure that all Evidence Requirements are met.

Administrative Information

Unit code: F1TN 35
Unit title: Painting Project
Superclass category: JB
Original date of publication: August 2007
Version: 01

History of changes:

Version	Description of change	Date

Source: SQA

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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Painting Project

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 designed to allow the candidate to explore a chosen theme or concept for a painting, which they select and develop for themselves. This should build on previous experience in handling media and techniques and allow for greater self-exploration and development. The candidate is responsible for writing his/her own brief, this being the catalyst for the work produced. Candidates will also reflect on the relative success of their final paintings.

Outcome 1

The candidates should work from guidelines that can help them to structure and write their own brief. Candidates should be encouraged to work on a theme or subject of personal interest that will allow for an in-depth enquiry into the subject. In the brief candidates should identify the topic, consider all aspects of research, and give themselves a realistic time scale. All research should be collated and used in the sketchbook.

Outcome 2

Working with the material collated in the sketchbook candidates should explore a range of ideas and concepts. This should include ideas using drawings, sketches, photographs, and studies etc, which help to explore the theme. As the candidates work independently on their project they should be regularly supported by their tutors and introduced to group presentations when appropriate. Evaluation of the work should take place throughout the process thus allowing candidates to make an informed selection as to the chosen media and final composition.

Outcome 3

Candidates should work on their final painting using selected grounds and appropriate media. Tutorial support should be available during the production of the work. Candidates should be guided to produce paintings that reflect around 50% of the time allocated to this Unit. Candidates should work safely and with consideration for others at all times.

Outcome 4

Candidates must show that they can think critically about the own work, specifically about the painting that has been produced for Outcome 3. Group discussion should be encouraged at this stage so that candidates gain experience of articulating and if necessary justifying their creative decisions. Critical evaluation could also be in the form of a short written or oral report or as responses to questioning. Emphasis should be upon the candidate's ability to reflect objectively upon his or her own work.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

This Unit has been developed as part of the HND Art and Design Group Award. This Unit should be presented to the candidate as a project, which is self-initiated and holistic in nature. The time allocated should be divided up to encourage an in-depth investigation of a topic that is appropriate to study at this level.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Painting Project

When assessing this Unit it would be expected that the work should reflect a mature approach and indicate a rigorous investigation of the conceptual thought process. The final painting/s should be presented as a finished piece and evaluation could take place as part of a presentation to the tutor, peer group or other audience. Alternatively, a written evaluation could be produced. A checklist would ensure that, whatever method of assessment is used for Outcome 4, knowledge and skills are covered. An assessment checklist should be used for all Outcomes.

Candidates should produce a series of works equivalent to approximately 50% of the time allocated to this Unit and this should be monitored closely if candidates have selected to work in a medium or on a scale that appears achievable in a short space of time. If a simplistic technique is selected, candidates could be asked to produce alternative finished concepts or a greater number of exploratory pieces.

However, candidates may have focused their hours of study on intense research, development and refinement of ideas for a piece. If this was the case, it would be expected that candidates would have a very substantial body of evidence for Outcomes 1 and 2. In such circumstances, evidence of a high level of conceptual/contextual thinking could be accepted as sufficient achievement, if supported by simple well-resolved final solutions.

Commentary produced for Outcome 4 should clearly define the scale and range of research and exploration, as well as show insight into the processes and methods used for the completion of final paintings. Methods of presentation selected should reflect both the development needs and the capabilities of candidates. It may be appropriate to offer candidates alternative methods of assessment, bearing in mind that content, rather than delivery is what is to be assessed.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

All elements of the Core Skill of Problem Solving should be naturally developed and enhanced as candidates undertake the research needed to develop and produce paintings reflecting a personal response to a brief. Initially a brief that will allow exploration of a theme or idea is selected and there is extensive analysis and evaluation of complex source materials to underpin the selection of concepts for development. Investigating relevant factors prior to producing paintings will include sourcing materials and experimenting with various creative media and methods. Applying skills within constraints of time and budget and observing health and safety factors will be essential to production. Review, reflection and evaluation of achievement should be on going to reinforce analytical approaches to working practice in preparation for the critical evaluation in Outcome 4.

There are opportunities to develop oral and written communication skills to reflect working practice in the presentation of research and the final evaluation. Technical descriptions of brief and process should be presented clearly and coherently, and spelling, punctuation and professional terminology should follow accepted conventions. Candidates could practise oral skills, discussing ideas and explaining their methods to others. If the critical evaluation is presented orally, candidates should use effective verbal and non-verbal techniques and should be able to respond confidently to comments and questions from others.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes

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Open learning

The practical nature of parts of this Unit would make it difficult to deliver via open learning. Although the planning and evaluative stages 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: Painting Project

In this Unit you will develop your painting skills and knowledge through investigation and research into a subject of personal interest. You will explore ideas and use materials in a way that is meaningful and personal to you. Initially you will develop your own brief and plan your work. This will be the starting point for the paintings that you produce.

This Unit is divided into four Outcomes.

For **Outcome 1** you will produce a brief that will allow you to explore a theme or idea as a personal enquiry. You will work out a plan for the processes involved in producing the final paintings in response to your brief.

For **Outcome 2** you will carry out research, find sources and develop your ideas using a range of methods such as drawing, photography, experimentation with media, colour studies, compositional ideas. You will then reflect on your developments and select concepts to take forward into final paintings.

For **Outcome 3**, having selected your final compositional ideas you will develop and produce paintings that show a personal response to a line of enquiry that has been developed from your brief.

For **Outcome 4**, having produced paintings, you will critically evaluate your work, reflecting upon the methods that you have used to achieve your final creative solution and the effectiveness of your final piece.