Higher National Unit specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Experimental Glass: Design and Production

Unit code: F1W7 34

Unit purpose: This Unit is designed to enable the candidate to produce a finished piece of glass, which clearly shows investigation of glass design, experimentation and development and the production of a final piece.

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

1 Research and investigate glass design.
2 Develop design ideas for glass.
3 Produce a finished piece of glass.

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: Access to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre. Candidates should have an understanding of the design process and have had experience of developing a portfolio of art and design work. It would be helpful if candidates had some prior knowledge of glass design and design processes or a similar range of experiences.

Core Skills: There are opportunities to develop the Core Skill of Problem Solving 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: Outcomes 1, 2 and 3 could be assessed holistically at the end of the Unit. This would require candidates to produce a working sketchbook of research, evidence of experimentation of different glass techniques, development and the production of a finished piece of glass.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards

Unit title: Experimental Glass: Design and Production

Unit code: F1W7 34

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

Research and investigate glass design.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- Research skills
- Glass designs and styles
- Tools
- Materials
- Experimentation techniques
- Problem solving
- Analysis, evaluation and reflective practice
- Health and Safety

Evidence Requirements

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

- produce research material and related sample pieces that demonstrate experimentation with techniques and materials
- produce a record of techniques and processes
- use tools and techniques safely and observing safe working practices throughout

Evidence should be presented in the form of research evidence and experimental samples.

Assessment Guidelines

Tutors may wish to provide guidance for candidates on suitable topics on research and investigation. This could include historical and/or contemporary techniques and could take the form of a tutor led brief.

Evidence of analysis, evaluation and reflective practices may be demonstrated using any suitable format. A tutor devised checklist should be used to record the observed use of safe working practices in the studio.

The experimental pieces produced should be used to influence the development of the candidate's own glass designs.

The assessment of this Outcome can be combined with Outcome 2 and 3 as part of a holistic assessment for the Unit.

Outcome 2

Develop design ideas for glass

Knowledge and/or Skills

- Design process
- Materials and techniques
- Problem solving
- Reflective practices
- Illustration and rendering

Evidence Requirements

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

- develop illustrated design ideas that show the use of suitable materials and techniques
- produce folio/sketchbook demonstrating technical and construction problems before selecting designs for production
- select suitable designs for development into a final piece

Evidence should be presented as a folio/sketchbook of development ideas that show clear progression from the initial experimental samples to the final design.

Assessment Guidelines

The assessment of this Outcome can be combined with Outcomes 1 and 3 as part of a holistic assessment for the Unit, details of which are given under Outcome 3 below.

Outcome 3

Produce a finished piece of glass

Knowledge and/or Skills

- Materials and techniques
- Production methods
- Problem solving
- Media, tools and equipment
- Safe and considerate working practices

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Experimental Glass: Design and Production

Evidence Requirements

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

- produce a finished piece of glass
- describe the way in which the piece was made
- use materials, techniques and equipment safely

Evidence should be presented as a finished piece of glass that has been developed from designs produced in Outcome 2 with accompanying description of the production processes.

Assessment Guidelines

It is recommended that this Outcome be assessed with Outcomes 1 and 2 at the end of the Unit.

If using kiln firing techniques, a logbook could be used to record evidence of the processes and procedures. Techniques and processes could also be described orally or as sketchbook annotations.

Administrative Information

Unit code: F1W7 34

Unit title: Experimental Glass: Design and Production

Superclass category: JR

Original date of publication: August 2007

Version: 01

History of changes:

Version	Description of change	Date

Source: SQA

SQA acknowledges the valuable contribution that Scotland's colleges have made to the development of Higher National qualifications.

Additional copies of this Unit specification can be purchased from the Scottish Qualifications Authority. Please contact the Customer Contact Centre for further details, telephone 0845 279 1000.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Experimental Glass: Design and 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 40 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

This Unit is designed to enable candidates to produce a body of work that will demonstrate their ability to research and investigate various glass designs, their production methods and materials using them to influence the production of experimental samples. It will enable candidates to produce finished pieces of glass, which clearly show the investigation, development, and final design of the finished piece. Candidates will investigate various styles of glass and explore a wide range of materials and techniques, producing finished pieces of glass. Suggested techniques may include fusing, slumping, casting, painting, engraving and sandblasting.

Outcome 1

Candidates should be presented with a project outline or brief that allows personal creative interpretation. Candidates should be encouraged to investigate glass styles from a wide source of references. This will allow candidates the greatest flexibility when developing their own ideas. Experimental samples should then be produced to help candidates to develop their own ideas. Candidates could keep a logbook noting how the samples were produced and when a kiln has been used they should keep a log of the kiln firing programmes used for each technique.

Outcome 2

The development of the candidates' chosen designs should clearly indicate the original source and show a clear progression to the final designs. All of this work could be submitted in a sketchbook format. The final designs should be illustrated in a way that clearly represents the finished piece.

Emphasis should be placed on the creative process and the individual's interpretation of their ideas. Final ideas should be analysed and explored fully. Candidates should be encouraged to reflect on the work in progress and make judgements regarding possible solutions and approaches. Selection of designs for final production may be made in conjunction with the tutor.

Outcome 3
The finished piece of glass should be produced to a high standard using appropriate production methods and materials. The candidates should keep a record of how the final piece was produced. Candidates' chosen designs could also be presented as illustrations that give a clear indication of the scale of the pieces and materials and techniques to be used. The illustrations of the pieces could be included in a sketchbook or as separate mounted pieces of work.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

This Unit has been developed as part of the HNC/HND Art and Design 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: Experimental Glass: Design and Production

As an introduction to the Unit, the tutor may wish to provide examples of different styles and types of glass and to demonstrate a range of techniques. Having carried out initial investigations, candidates should then go on to make experimental samples. These experimental samples should be used to influence the development of the finished piece. Candidates should have access to a wide variety of tools and materials with which to experiment but also be encouraged to source their own materials.

Safe and considerate working practices and studio management should be emphasised at all times, particularly when sharing facilities and equipment.

When selecting designs for development, candidates should consider the practicalities of producing their chosen design(s). Development of ideas, which show a clear progression from the initial experimental samples to the final design(s), could be presented in a sketchbook format. Throughout the Unit candidates should be encouraged to critically reflect on their work and to discuss with the tutor considerations that influence their creative choices.

The selection of the final design should show consideration of the materials and techniques to be used in the production of the finished piece and of the complexity of the processes involved. When applicable, candidates should inform the tutor of the preferred kiln programme to be used.

All finished pieces of glass should be produced to a high standard and use appropriate production techniques and materials. Candidates should show a clear understanding of the qualities of chosen materials and use these appropriately within all finished pieces.

It is recommended that all Outcomes be assessed holistically at the end of the Unit.

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. They have to conduct personal research into a range of aspects of historical and contemporary glass design before developing illustrations of design ideas showing the use of suitable materials and techniques. As part of planning production of their own work they formally put together a folio/sketchbook demonstrating possible technical and construction problems. Details on sourcing of materials, accessing essential equipment and selecting creative techniques and any modifications adopted could be recorded in work logs. Applying skills to produce an effective product, working within constraints of time and budget and observing health and safety factors will further develop skills in critical and creative thinking. Reflective practices will be demonstrated in the review, reflection and evaluation of techniques and processes used and will be an aspect of the presentation of work. This will be used to reinforce analytical approaches to working practice. Formative discussions with tutors and/or the class group may enhance evaluation skills and the ability to present materials to a professional standard using in depth personal, analytical approaches to work.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Experimental Glass: Design and Production

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 the 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: Experimental Glass: Design and Production

This Unit will allow you to research and investigate styles of glass and explore techniques and materials for making glass pieces, before designing and making a finished piece of glass.

During this Unit you will:

1 Research, investigate and analyse various styles and designs of glass Produce a series of experimental samples that show the use of a range of materials, tools and techniques.
2 Develop design ideas for the production of a final piece of glass.
3 Produce a finished piece of glass to a high standard, using appropriate production techniques and materials.

At all times you will use safe and considerate working practices.

The Unit will also provide you with opportunities to develop a number of Core Skills, including Problem Solving (Planning and Organising, Critical Thinking, Evaluation), oral/written Communication, and IT skills.