



Higher National Graded Unit specification

General information for centres

This Graded Unit has been validated as part of the HND Fashion: Design and Production with Retail. Centres are required to develop the assessment instrument in accordance with this validated specification. Centres wishing to use another type of Graded Unit or assessment instrument are required to submit proposals, detailing the justification for change, to SQA for validation.

Graded Unit title: Fashion: Design and Production with Retail:
Graded Unit 2

Graded Unit code: F2EK 35

Type of Graded Unit: Project

Assessment Instrument: Practical Assignment

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 National 1 to Doctorates.*

Purpose: This Graded Unit is designed to provide evidence that the candidate has achieved the following principal aims of the HND Fashion: Design and Production with Retail:

- ◆ to develop the skills to design and develop garments to a commercial standard
- ◆ to equip candidates with a range of skills and competencies which will enable them to embark on a career in the fashion design, production or fashion retail industries
- ◆ to develop study and research skills appropriate to SCQF level 8
- ◆ to develop transferable skills including Core Skills to the levels demanded by employers and for progression to Higher Education and Degree courses
- ◆ to prepare candidates in specialist skills for progression to further studies in the area of Fashion and related areas
- ◆ to enhance business skills and competencies appropriate to the fashion industry
- ◆ to enhance communication skills in a fashion industry related setting
- ◆ to carry out complex project work involving research, analysis, planning and budgeting

Recommended prior knowledge and skills: It is recommended that the candidate should have completed or be in the process of completing the following Units relating to the above specific aims prior to undertaking this Graded Unit:

F18A 34 *Fashion: Textile Technology*
F188 34 *Garment Pattern Construction: Blocks Manipulation and Production*
F18W 34 *Fashion: Commercial Design*
FH2R 34 *Fashion Merchandising*

General information for centres (cont)

F18D 34	<i>Clothing: Production, Trimming and Finishing Techniques</i>
F1P8 35	<i>Complex Pattern Development and Customisation</i>
F1F4 35	<i>Designing and Producing Fashion Garments: Advanced</i>
F2EJ 34	<i>Fashion: Design and Production with Retail: Graded Unit 1</i>

The candidate should also be familiar with Units in their chosen area of specialism — production, design or retail.

Core Skills: The achievement of this Unit gives automatic certification of the following: Problem solving at SCQF level 6. There are also further opportunities to develop the Core Skills of IT, Communication, Working with Others and Numeracy at SCQF level 6 in this Unit.

Assessment: This Graded Unit will be assessed by the use of a Practical Assignment. The ‘fleshed-out’ Practical Assignment should provide candidates with the opportunity to produce evidence that demonstrates they have met the aims of the Graded Unit that it covers.

Administrative Information

Graded Unit code: F2EK 35

Graded Unit title: Fashion: Design and Production with Retail:
Graded Unit 2

Original date of publication: March 2008

Version: 05 (August 2018)

History of changes:

Version	Description of change	Date
02	Correction to Unit title and code number — from ‘F1F5 34 Designing and Producing a Fashion Garment: An Introduction’ to F1F4 35 Designing and Producing Fashion Garments: Advanced’	22/06/09
03	Mark percentages of 30/50/20 added to evidence requirements.	02/11/11
04	Lapsed Unit code removed, replacement code added.	14/06/12
05	Update of Conditions of Assessment	07/08/18

Source: SQA

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

FURTHER INFORMATION: Call SQA’s Customer Contact Centre on 0345 279 1000.

Higher National Graded Unit specification: instructions for designing the assessment task and assessing candidates

Conditions of assessment

The candidate should be given a date for completion of the practical assignment. However, the instructions for the assessment task should be distributed to allow the candidate sufficient time to assimilate the details and carry out the assessment task. During the time between the distribution of the assessment task instructions and the completion date, assessors may answer questions, provide clarification, offer guidance and reasonable assistance.

Reasonable assistance is the term used by SQA to describe the difference between providing candidates with some direction to generate the required evidence for assessment and providing too much support, which would compromise the integrity of the assessment. Reasonable assistance is part of all learning and teaching processes. In relation to the assessment of Higher National Project-based Graded Units, assessors may provide advice, clarification, and guidance during the time between the distribution of the project instructions and the completion date, ie at each stage of the project.

Remediation allows an assessor to clarify candidate responses, either by requiring a written amendment or by oral questioning, where there is a minor shortfall or omission in evidence requirements. In either case, such instances must be formally noted by the assessor, either in writing or recording, and be made available to the internal and external verifier. In relation to Higher National Project-based Graded Units, candidates must be given the opportunity for remediation at each stage of the project.

The evidence for a Higher National Project-based Graded Unit is generated over time and involves three distinct stages, each of which has to be achieved before the next is undertaken. This means that any re-assessment of stages must be undertaken before proceeding to the next stage. The overall grade is derived from the total number of marks across *all* sections, and should reflect the ability of the candidate to work autonomously and the amount of support required. In relation to Higher National Project-based Graded Units, candidates who have failed any stage of the project and have been unable to provide the necessary evidence through remediation must be given the opportunity for re-assessment of that stage.

Any candidate who has failed their graded unit or wishes to upgrade their award must be given a re-assessment opportunity, or in exceptional circumstances, two re-assessment opportunities. In the case of project-based graded units, this must be done using a substantially different project.

The final grading given must reflect the quality of the candidate's evidence at the time of the completion of the graded unit. Candidates must be awarded the highest grade achieved — whether through first submission or through any re-assessment, remediation, and/or reasonable assistance provided.

At this level, candidates should work independently. It is up to centres to take reasonable steps to ensure that projects submitted are the work of the submitting candidate. For example, centres may wish to informally question candidates at various stages on their knowledge and understanding of the project on which they have embarked.

A mentoring system should be set up at the start of the project to ensure that candidates meet regularly with their assessor and to ensure submissions are kept on track.

The conditions for all stages of this assessment should be open-book.

Higher National Graded Unit specification: instructions for designing the assessment task and assessing candidates (cont)

Instructions for designing the assessment task

The assessment task is a project. The project undertaken by the candidate must be a complex task which involves:

- ◆ variables which are complex or unfamiliar
- ◆ relationships which need to be clarified
- ◆ a context which may be familiar or unfamiliar to the candidate

The assessment task must require the candidate to:

- ◆ analyse the task and decide on a course of action for undertaking the project
- ◆ plan and organise work and carry it through to completion
- ◆ reflect on what has been done and draw conclusions for the future
- ◆ produce evidence of meeting the aims which this Graded Unit has been designed to cover

The project must involve a practical assignment culminating in a finished product, and candidates must demonstrate the application of the skills and knowledge that fall within the specialist programme delivered by the centre, under the Award of HND Fashion: Design and Production with Retail. This assessment instrument is not concerned exclusively with practical activity; candidates are provided with a brief that allows them to prepare, plan, demonstrate practical skills and evaluate the outcome.

The candidate will be asked to:

- ◆ research and plan the production or promotion of part of a co-ordinated fashion collection
- ◆ research, design and develop part of a co-ordinated fashion clothing range
- ◆ evaluate the planning and development process and resulting item or promotional materials

The brief will present a design opportunity within the context of a high street, middle market fashion retailer, to extend their range of products through one of the following: age range, seasons, themes or sizes.

The practical assignment and the way it is planned should reflect opportunities for candidates to conduct individual research and development within a brief that reflects the diversity and range of the centre. It should allow a degree of choice in the way projects are taken forward so that it may reflect candidates' interests and personal strengths. The project should also fit the centres' available resources. A mentoring system to monitor progress, as described in the conditions of assessment above, would help candidates to develop the brief, and ensure appropriate preparation for the task is carried out.

In the production of the products, a set of generic criteria which must be met is set out below in the Evidence Requirements. However, the specific requirements of the item(s) to be produced should be defined by the centre in the assessment exemplar, and this should reflect any specialism being undertaken by the candidate.

Guidance on grading candidates

Candidates who meet the minimum Evidence Requirements will have their achievement graded as C — competent, or A — highly competent or B somewhere between A and C. The grade related criteria to be used to judge candidate performance for this Graded Unit is specified in the following table.

Higher National Graded Unit specification: instructions for designing the assessment task and assessing candidates (cont)

Grade A	Grade C
<p>Is a seamless, coherent piece of work which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ has sufficient evidence for each of the three essential phases of the project — planning, developing and evaluating — and is produced to a high standard and is quite clearly inter- related ◆ demonstrates an accurate and detailed interpretation of the project brief, identifying the factors involved and researching these factors in a logical and structured way, assessing their significance and fully references all research undertaken ◆ is highly focused and relevant to the tasks associated with the project brief ◆ develops and maintains a detailed plan to ensure that best use is made of time, resources and equipment ◆ displays a high level of competence in the execution of practical task, using all resources including time to best advantage and using resources which are well suited to the task ◆ effectively consolidates and integrates required knowledge, and skills ◆ demonstrates effective research, planning, and sequencing of activities throughout the project ◆ demonstrates innovative and imaginative design solutions to match the brief ◆ demonstrates the activity in a comprehensive evaluation of the activity which includes: ◆ review of the plan, any modifications and notes of the improvements these modifications made ◆ good use of evidence generated throughout the activity to link into overall evaluation, ◆ justification of why particular courses of action were chosen ◆ recommendations which link clearly to the evidence and to suggestions made for the future 	<p>Is a co-ordinated piece of work which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ has sufficient evidence of the three essential phases of the project — planning, developing and evaluating — and is produced to an adequate standard ◆ demonstrates an acceptable interpretation of the project brief, identifying the factors involved, researching these factors and assessing their significance ◆ is focused and relevant to the tasks associated with the project brief ◆ develops a plan to ensure that best use is made of time, resources and equipment ◆ displays an acceptable level of competence in the execution of a practical task using resources appropriate to the task and managing these resources in a competent way ◆ consolidates and integrates knowledge and skills adequately but, occasionally may lack some continuity and consistency ◆ demonstrates adequate research, planning and sequencing for most activities in the project ◆ demonstrates design solutions which match the brief ◆ demonstrates competent evaluation of the activity which includes: ◆ reviewing the plan and any modifications ◆ gathering evidence to support the evaluation ◆ drawing conclusions which are backed by evidence gathered ◆ recommendations and drawing conclusions for the future

Higher National Graded Unit specification: instructions for designing the assessment task and assessing candidates (cont)

The project will be marked out of 100. Assessors will mark each stage of the project, taking into account the criteria outlined. The marks will then be aggregated to arrive at an overall mark for the project. Assessors will then assign an overall grade to the candidate for this Graded Unit based on the following grade boundaries.

A	=	70%	—	100%
B	=	60%	—	69%
C	=	50%	—	59%

Note: the candidate must achieve all of the minimum evidence specified below for each stage of the project in order to achieve the Graded Unit.

Evidence Requirements

The project consists of three stages: Planning, Developing; and Evaluating. The following table specifies the minimum evidence required to pass each stage.

Note: The candidate must achieve **all of the minimum evidence** specified below for each stage of the project in order to pass the Graded Unit.

Project stage	Minimum Evidence Requirements
Stage 1 — Planning	<p><i>The planning stage is worth 30% of the marks.</i></p> <p>The planning stage for the practical assignment should contain evidence of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">♦ an analysis of the brief♦ the research plan, which is relevant to the brief and scenario given and includes information on season, organisation, market, price, products and fabric♦ a schedule of work and plan for the whole project <p><i>The candidate must achieve all of the minimum evidence specified above in order to pass the Planning stage.</i></p>

Higher National Graded Unit specification: instructions for designing the assessment task and assessing candidates (cont)

Graded Unit title: Fashion: Design and Production with Retail: Graded Unit 2

Project stage	Minimum Evidence Requirements
Stage 2 — Developing	<p><i>The development section is worth 50% of the marks.</i></p> <p>The development stage of the practical assignment should contain evidence which demonstrates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ the candidate's ability to develop 3 designs which incorporate the results of the research undertaken ◆ appropriate use of materials and resources ◆ that the output developed in the project meets the required quality, which should be of a commercially aware standard ◆ safe working practice <p>A record of the process underpinning the activity should be contained in a logbook, which should consist of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ design drawings ◆ rationale for the selection of one design which clearly describes the analysis and evaluation process and outlines why other possibilities were rejected ◆ styling details, including fabric, trims, fastenings, colour combinations ◆ costing information ◆ candidate logbook ◆ mentoring feedback <p>and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ a production plan and a cutting plan <p>or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ promotional material and a marketing proposal <p><i>The candidate must achieve all of the minimum evidence specified above in order to pass the Developing stage.</i></p>

Higher National Graded Unit specification: instructions for designing the assessment task and assessing candidates (cont)

Graded Unit title: Fashion: Design and Production with Retail: Graded Unit 2

Stage 3 — Evaluating	<p><i>The evaluation is worth 20% of the marks. The candidate must achieve all of the minimum evidence specified below in order to pass the Evaluating stage.</i></p> <p>The Evaluation report which should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ a brief outline of the assignment◆ a review and update of the plan in light of experience◆ any knowledge and skills which have been gained and/or developed◆ an assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of the output of the Practical Assignment◆ an understanding as to what extent the assignment met the original brief◆ any recommendations for the future <p>A presentation utilising the plan, the product and the logbook should be given by the candidate for approximately 10 minutes, highlighting how problems were solved and how the plan had to be amended. This should include an evaluation of the overall outcome.</p> <p><i>The candidate must achieve all of the minimum evidence specified above in order to pass the Evaluating stage.</i></p>
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Support notes

It is envisaged that this Graded Unit would be started approximately half way through candidates' studies with an increasing amount of time being spent towards the end of the Group Award. It should not be seen as a repeat of previous Unit assessments. It is not intended that any new knowledge or skills are taught during delivery of the Graded Unit; instead the lecturer's time will be spent discussing individual candidate work.

Time management is an important aspect of planning, developing and evaluating a practical activity and in order to help manage time effectively, lecturers should consider setting up individual progress reviews with candidates at the start of the Unit delivery time. Lecturers may consider developing a centre pro forma to record these discussions. Such discussions or mentoring activities are an essential part of the Graded Unit and should help ensure that candidates keep to timelines and should be included in their portfolios. The grade finally achieved depends on the work submitted. It is therefore very important that the level of assistance should be fully discussed at Course Team level and any assistance given should be to clarify what candidates are required to do and should be logged in candidates' mentoring records.

While it is not essential that all delivery takes place in a workshop, lab or classroom, lecturers should try to ensure a flexible approach towards ensuring facilities are available to candidates when they require them, particularly in workshops. The identification of when workshop facilities are required could form part of candidates' planning activities. Access to computers will be required for accessing the internet for research activities, word processing, working with visuals and for presentations. Planning this access should also be part of candidates' overall plan.

Higher National Graded Unit specification: instructions for designing the assessment task and assessing candidates (cont)

Candidates should produce a minimum of three designs, one of which should be developed into a final design proposal. The development of one of these designs, for those undertaking an HND award with the accent on design and production, is likely to include a completed sample garment or sample component parts of garments eg pocket details, garment front, details of fastenings which illustrate style features. Where candidates specialise in retailing, they might prefer to present design details using photographs and visuals. Candidates will require to produce a production and cutting plan, or promotional material and a marketing plan, in addition to design development, design selection and costing information.

The Core Skill of Problem Solving at SCQF level 6 is developed in this Unit and clearly seen in the planning, development and evaluation process. Additionally, the Core Skills of IT, Communication, Numeracy and Working with Others at SCQF level 6 are signposted. It is anticipated that candidates will research information on the internet as part of their practical assignment. This is likely to require them to extract and interpret information from various fashion sites, and to research the costs involved in the production process. As with all workshop activities, candidates will require to work in a co-operative way with others so that best use is made of limited workshop machinery and space. This will require negotiation with others and pre-planning of activities, as well as ensuring that activities do not jeopardise the health and safety of others.

Candidates will have to interpret and extract the information they require and use this research information to determine what materials are best suited to meet the project brief. They will be required to present a summary of their information, and the full development and evaluation process, as a client presentation. This is likely to be to two lecturers and should be recorded. This is likely to be an oral presentation and, whilst they could use presentation software, they could also base their presentation on the evidence they have gathered throughout the research and development process by compiling the information into a mood board. Additionally, candidates will have records of discussions with their lecturers. Supporting evidence will be available in the form of their portfolio of design and research evidence, and notes of properties of materials. Use of visuals and appropriate software is an important aspect of this course. Candidates should be encouraged throughout to use digital images as part of their evidence.

Measuring, calculating quantities of materials and allowing for wastage and calculating costs are all part of this Unit, and candidates should be including comparisons of final figures with those in the initial plan as part of any client presentation.

Equality and inclusion

This graded unit specification has been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to learning or assessment. The individual needs of learners should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment methods or considering alternative evidence.

Further advice can be found on our website www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements.

General information for candidates

About half way through your course, you will start the Graded Unit. The purpose of this Unit is to bring together many of the different skills you have learnt throughout your course.

You will already have studied or be in the process of studying the following Units:

F18A 34	<i>Fashion: Textile Technology</i>
F188 34	<i>Garment Pattern Construction: Blocks Manipulation and Production</i>
F18W 34	<i>Fashion: Commercial Design</i>
FH2R 34	<i>Fashion Merchandising</i>
F18D 34	<i>Clothing: Production, Trimming and Finishing Techniques</i>
F1P8 35	<i>Complex Pattern Development and Customisation</i>
F1F4 35	<i>Designing and Producing Fashion Garments: Advanced</i>
F2EJ 34	<i>Fashion: Design and Production with Retail: Graded Unit 1</i>

You will be asked to apply some of the skills and knowledge you have learnt in these Units to a practical assignment. As part of this Unit you will be asked to demonstrate your practical skills but you will also have to show how you planned your assignment, how you developed your ideas and how you evaluated what you had produced.

This Graded Unit also reflects the main aims of the award. These are:

- ◆ to develop the skills to design and develop garments to a commercial standard
- ◆ to equip you with a range of skills and competencies which will enable you to embark on a career in the fashion design, production or fashion retail industries
- ◆ to develop study and research skills appropriate to SCQF level 8
- ◆ to develop transferable skills including Core Skills to the levels demanded by employers and for progression to Higher Education and Degree courses
- ◆ to prepare you in specialist skills for progression to further studies in the area of Fashion and related areas
- ◆ to enhance business skills and competencies appropriate to the fashion industry
- ◆ to enhance communication skills in a fashion industry related setting
- ◆ to carry out complex project work involving research, analysis, planning and budgeting

At the start of the Unit you will be given a design brief which you will use to plan, develop and provide a solution — just as you would for a client. You will later evaluate your product. The kind of project you will be asked to undertake will be something like suggesting additional products to add to a high street range of merchandise. The project will be out of 100 and you have to pass each part of the project to pass the Unit. The marks you get for each part will be added up and you will be given a grade for the Unit. The grade you receive is based on the following:

A	=	70%	—	100%
B	=	60%	—	69%
C	=	50%	—	59%

In undertaking this Unit you will develop your Problem Solving skills and if you pass the Unit you will also achieve the Core Skill of Problem Solving at SCQF level 6. You will also develop communication skills through discussions with your lecturer, making a client presentation and writing up your logbook. You will develop numeracy skills through costing and calculating materials and wastage. You will also develop IT skills and the ability to negotiate and work with other people, in this Unit.

General information for candidates (cont)

Throughout the Unit you will meet with your lecturer who will advise you and make sure you are on the right track to achieve the Unit within the given timescale. As part of your assessment you will present your ideas and how you developed your solution, just as you would to a client.