



Higher National Unit Specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Interpretive Principles

Unit code: F3SR 35

Unit purpose: Interpretation can be used to add value to a site, as an income generator, to present a particular viewpoint, to guide people and as a management tool. This Unit introduces candidates to the principles, provision and role of interpretation.

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

- 1 Evaluate the principles, provision and role of interpretation.

Credit points and level: 1 HN credit at SCQF level 8: (8 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: Candidates would benefit from having completed the HN Unit F3SP 34 *Interpretation: An Introduction* at SCQF level 7 or equivalent or have an understanding of the background to interpretation through their previous experience.

Core Skills: There are opportunities to develop the Core Skill of *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: The Unit may be assessed by a case study assessment.

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

Evaluate the principles, provision and role of interpretation

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Interpretive principles
- ◆ Interpreter, audience and resources needs
- ◆ Visitor motivations
- ◆ Interpretive media
- ◆ Agencies and bodies in interpretation

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ explain the principles of interpretation and the interpretive triangle
- ◆ evaluate interpretive provision in terms of interpreter, audience and resource needs
- ◆ describe the various visitor motivations for interpretation
- ◆ evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of three different interpretive media
- ◆ discuss the role of one public and one private agency or body involved in supporting interpretation

Assessment Guidelines

A single case study assessment of interpretive provision on an appropriate site or site(s) may be used so that candidates can demonstrate their ability to critically assess interpretation, explaining why the interpreter has used a particular method or medium and the role of interpretation in the site context. The site would need to be sufficiently complex to allow candidates to evaluate a wide range of interpretive media.

Administrative Information

Unit code: F3SR 35
Unit title: Interpretive Principles
Superclass category: FJ
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History of Changes:

Version	Description of change	Date

Source: SQA

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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Interpretive Principles

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

Interpretation is a key part of countryside management, and the heritage and tourism sectors. The principles of good interpretation are applicable to all contexts. Therefore the starting point for the Unit is a recap of Tilden's principles which are expanded to bring in the interpretive triangle of interpreter, audience and resource and the requirements of each of these.

Interpreter needs: equipment, power, media hardware, acoustics, audience type.

Audience needs: audience demograph, value for money, new experiences and knowledge, comfort, learning requirements (audio loop, dyslexia awareness within interpretive materials, font type and size, colourways, choice of experience, length of visit, interactivity.)

Resource needs: venue type (indoor, outdoor, seating, size, media provision), guidance and support.

Interpretive media types could be: guided provision, interactivity, multi media, experiential, information sheets, video loops, audio loops.

It should be made clear that interpretation is not unbiased, which is part of examining the role of interpretation. Interpretation can be used to add value to a site, as an income generator, to present a particular viewpoint, to guide people and as a management tool. The interpretive media considered should be as wide as possible and not restricted to panels and exhibitions. Looking at the advantages and disadvantages is important for developing an understanding why interpreters choose a particular method. All of this can be contextualised to the particular candidate group. Support for interpretation ranges from financial support to advice and also the provision of material that will help in the development of interpretation.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

The Unit requires a mixture of lectures, group work and site visits. The opportunity to examine interpretation in the field is essential for the candidates and should form the basis of the assessment of the Unit, as well as giving the context appropriate for the candidate group. Opportunity should be taken to encourage reflective group work, especially in the development of the case study report. As with the HN Unit *Interpretation: An Introduction* it should be noted that the development of critical and justified assessment of interpretation is a major part of this Unit. Due to the fact that interpretation has a subjective element it is important that candidates can explain and justify their evaluation of interpretation in terms of the interpretive triangle and the site context.

The recommendation is for one single case study assessment. If local circumstances mean that there is not a suitable site available then it may be that a combination of an in class assessment and a reduced site report could be a suitable alternative.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

There are opportunities for developing the Core Skill *Communication* at SCQF level 6 through research and reflection on interpretive provision whether this be first hand or via an actual case study

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Interpretive Principles

brief. If a formal written or oral submission is selected as the chosen evidence type, such a structured submission could also enhance the Core Skill *Communication* opportunities.

Open learning

If this Unit is delivered by open or distance learning methods, additional planning may be required to support the candidates' study, to manage and quality assurance the assessment task.

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: Interpretive Principles

On completion of the Unit you should be able to describe the principles of interpretation.

Interpretation can be used to add value to a site, as an income generator, to present a particular viewpoint, to guide people and as a management tool. The interpretive media you will consider will be as wide as possible and not restricted to panels and exhibitions.

Support for interpretation ranges from financial support to advice and also the provision of material that will help in the development of interpretation.

The Unit is delivered using a mixture of lectures, group work and site visits. The opportunity to examine interpretation in the field is essential for you and should form the basis of the assessment of the Unit. Opportunity will be taken to encourage reflective group work.

You should note that the development of critical and justified assessment of interpretation is a major part of this Unit. Due to the fact that interpretation has a subjective element it is you can explain and justify your evaluation of interpretation in terms of the interpretive triangle and the site context.

The Unit may be assessed by one case study assessment.

There are opportunities to develop the Core Skill of *Communication* at SCQF level 6 in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.