



## Higher National Unit specification

### General information for centres

**Unit title:** Jewellery: Experimental Techniques

**Unit code:** F3X6 34

**Unit purpose:** This Unit is designed to allow the candidate to research techniques and develop skills in a range of uncommon and/or lesser-used jewellery techniques.

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

- 1 Produce samples using experimental jewellery techniques.
- 2 Use an experimental technique to produce a piece of jewellery.

**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. However, it is recommended that candidates have first achieved the HN Unit *Jewellery: Manufacturing Techniques*.

**Core Skills:** There are opportunities to develop the Core Skill of *Problem Solving* and the Written Communication component 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:** Candidates will be assessed on sample pieces, which show different experimental techniques, and on a completed final piece of work. These will be supported by technical notes.

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

**Unit title:** Jewellery: Experimental Techniques

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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 samples using experimental jewellery techniques

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

- ◆ Materials
- ◆ Equipment
- ◆ Experimental Techniques
- ◆ Problems
- ◆ Safe working practices

#### **Evidence Requirements**

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

- ◆ select four experimental techniques, which could be used in jewellery manufacture.
- ◆ produce at least one sample for each of the chosen techniques, which shows the application of that technique.
- ◆ select materials and equipment for the production of each sample. These must be appropriate to the experimental technique being used.
- ◆ produce detailed technical notes for each sample produced that provide details of the techniques used, why the techniques could be considered experimental, any constructional/other operational problems encountered and how these were overcome.
- ◆ produce samples using safe working practices.

This Outcome is integrated with Outcome 2 in that one technique from this Outcome will be used to create a piece of jewellery in Outcome 2.

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

**Unit title:** Jewellery: Experimental Techniques

### **Assessment Guidelines**

Samples could be mounted on boards or in suitable boxes for presentation.

Technical notes, to support the samples, could be presented in a work/sketchbook. The work/sketchbook could be in the form of text and illustrations or alternative formats could be used such as web, video or audio.

An observation checklist could be used to assess the candidate's ability to work safely or candidates could be given a risk assessment checklist to work through.

### **Outcome 2**

Use an experimental technique to produce a piece of jewellery

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

- ◆ Design
- ◆ Tools
- ◆ Interpretation techniques
- ◆ Construction methods
- ◆ Commercial Standard

#### **Evidence Requirements**

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

- ◆ produce a design for an item of jewellery using a chosen experimental technique from the techniques identified in Outcome 1. The design and technique must be mutually compatible and capable of producing a viable item of jewellery.
- ◆ use appropriate materials, construction methods and tools to produce an item of jewellery.
- ◆ produce a finished item that meets the intention of the original design and is finished to a commercial standard.
- ◆ produce technical notes that support the process from design to the manufacture of the finished item of jewellery.
- ◆ use safe working practices.

This Outcome will be integrated with Outcome 1 in that candidates must use one of the experimental techniques identified in Outcome 1 to create piece of jewellery for this Outcome. Candidates must also use the knowledge and skills on safe working practices to work safely in this Outcome.

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

**Unit title:** Jewellery: Experimental Techniques

### **Assessment Guidelines**

Finished items could be presented in a presentational box.

Technical notes to support the finished pieces could be presented in a work/sketchbook containing technical notes. The work/sketchbook could be in the form of text and illustrations or alternative formats could be used such as web, video or audio.

An observation checklist could be used to assess the candidate's ability to work safely or candidates could be given a risk assessment checklist that they work through.

## Administrative Information

**Unit code:** F3X6 34

**Unit title:** Jewellery: Experimental Techniques

**Superclass category:** JH

**Original date of publication:** August 2008

**Version:** 01

### History of changes:

Version	Description of change	Date

**Source:** SQA

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

### **Unit title:** Jewellery: Experimental Techniques

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 explore a range of unusual jewellery techniques with a view to incorporating these techniques into a finished piece of jewellery. It will enable them to produce samples of various techniques and allows them the opportunity to explore one or several of these techniques in depth and in a manner that suits their personal interests and abilities.

Candidates will use these explorations to produce a piece of jewellery.

#### **Outcome 1**

Candidates could be presented with a project outline or brief, which allows personal creative interpretation within the framework of unusual metalworking and jewellery techniques. Samples should be produced showing the exploration of a range of techniques that could include:

- ◆ etching
- ◆ anodising
- ◆ mokume gane
- ◆ keum boo
- ◆ inlay
- ◆ patination and oxidation
- ◆ granulation
- ◆ press forming
- ◆ rolling mill texturing
- ◆ electroforming
- ◆ fusing
- ◆ pattern-welded steel
- ◆ chasing and repousse
- ◆ reticulation

This list is neither exhaustive nor prescriptive.

From the range of techniques explored, candidates should select one or more of personal interest to them and make in-depth explorations, which lead to designs incorporating these technique(s).

#### **Outcome 2**

The finished piece of jewellery should be produced to a high standard using the appropriate construction methods and materials.

In the context of this Unit, 'jewellery' may be considered to include smallworks, silverwares and objets d'art.

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

## **Unit title: Jewellery: Experimental Techniques**

All work could be submitted in a sketchbook or folio format. The development of the final design should be clearly driven by the techniques chosen by the candidate for deeper exploration.

Final ideas and techniques should be analysed and fully explored. Candidates should be encouraged to reflect on the work in progress and make judgements regarding possible solutions and approaches. Selection of designs for the final production may be made in conjunction with the tutor.

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

This Unit has been developed in conjunction with the HNC/HND Jewellery Group Award. Opportunities may be taken to link or integrate with other aspects of the course and a thematic approach adopted for both delivery and assessment.

As an introduction to the Unit, the tutor may wish to provide examples of different techniques.

Having carried out initial investigations, candidates should make experimental samples. These samples should be used to influence the development of the finished pieces. 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 or equipment.

When selecting designs for development, candidates should consider the practicalities of producing their chosen designs. Development of ideas, which shows clear progression from the initial experimental samples to the final designs, could be presented in 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 with the tutor.

The selection of the final design should show consideration of the materials and techniques to be used in the production of the finished piece.

Finished pieces of jewellery should be produced to a high standard and use appropriate construction methods and materials. Candidates should show a clear understanding of the qualities of the chosen materials and techniques and use these appropriately within their finished pieces.

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

#### ***Opportunities for developing Core Skills***

There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of *Problem Solving* and *Communication* at SCQF level 6 in this Unit.

An effective search strategy for accessing and evaluating sources of information on ideas, techniques and materials will support consideration of all factors involved in successful jewellery production at the planning stage.

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

### Unit title: Jewellery: Experimental Techniques

Candidates have to develop ideas and concepts and work out potential constructional and operational problems before selecting suitable designs for production. As a result the Core Skill of *Problem Solving* at SCQF level 6 could be developed as the candidates select suitable designs and processes. As they produce a piece of jewellery, they have to use materials, techniques and equipment safely and complete a folio or work/sketchbook of development ideas, which shows a clear progression from experimental samples to final design.

Candidates could record their work examining all stages of the proposed techniques, the final design chosen in their work/sketchbooks or technical notes by using reflective comment and tutors could reinforce this by discussions with individual candidates or by peer review. This could provide the opportunity to develop the Written Communication component of the Core Skill of *Communication* at SCQF level 6.

### 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. Candidates would also need access to specialist equipment and tools.

### 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: Jewellery: Experimental Techniques

This Unit will allow you to investigate a range of experimental and lesser-used jewellery techniques. You will produce samples of a minimum of four of these techniques.

You will make a finished piece of jewellery or small item incorporating an experimental technique.

Experimental techniques could include:

- ◆ etching
- ◆ anodising
- ◆ mokume gane
- ◆ keum boo
- ◆ inlay
- ◆ patination and oxidation
- ◆ granulation
- ◆ press forming
- ◆ rolling mill texturing
- ◆ electroforming
- ◆ fusing
- ◆ pattern-welded steel
- ◆ chasing and repousse
- ◆ reticulation

During this Unit you will:

- ◆ explore range of experimental jewellery manufacturing techniques
- ◆ produce a range of experimental samples
- ◆ develop competence in one or more of these techniques
- ◆ develop design ideas for a piece of jewellery using one or more of these techniques
- ◆ produce a finished piece of jewellery to a high standard, using construction methods appropriate to the techniques chosen

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

The Unit may also provide you with opportunities to develop Core Skills in *Problem Solving* and the Written Communication component of *Communication*, at SCQF level 6.