



Higher National Unit specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Jewellery: Using Alternative Materials

Unit code: F3XY 35

Unit purpose: This Unit will develop knowledge and skills of alternative materials used for jewellery manufacture. The Unit enables candidates to evaluate and explore a variety of techniques using these materials to produce samples and make final items of jewellery.

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

- 1 Evaluate the use of alternative materials in jewellery manufacture.
- 2 Produce samples of alternative materials for jewellery manufacture.
- 3 Produce finished jewellery items using alternative materials.

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: While access to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, candidates would benefit from having studied jewellery making at SCQF level 7. This could be evidenced by successful completion of the Units F3Y7 34 *Jewellery: Manufacturing Techniques* and F3Y3 34 *Jewellery: Design and Manufacture*.

Core Skills: There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of *Communication* at SCQF level 6 and *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 for this Unit could be assessed at the end of the Unit through the production of two finished items of jewellery using alternative materials and associated techniques identified and researched in Outcome 1 and 2. Detailed technical notes could be maintained and observation checklists to ensure safe working practices could be developed.

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 use of alternative materials in jewellery manufacture

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Techniques
- ◆ Tools and equipment
- ◆ Alternative materials
- ◆ Contexts

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can cover at least four alternative materials and for each material:

- ◆ describe the use of the alternative material in jewellery manufacture.
- ◆ explain the manufacturing techniques used when working with each material. The explanation must include the tools and equipment required when working with the alternative materials and techniques associated with that material. At least four different techniques must be covered across the four materials.
- ◆ describe the context for the development of the alternative materials and the techniques associated with those alternative materials explained in the previous Evidence Requirement.
- ◆ evaluate the suitability of the material and the techniques described in the previous Evidence Requirement for use in the manufacture of jewellery.

This Outcome is integrated with Outcome 2 in that candidates must apply techniques and materials covered in Outcome 1 to produce samples in Outcome 2.

Assessment Guidelines

Candidates could be asked to produce a work/sketchbook, which provides details of the information gathered as part of their evaluation. The work/sketchbook could be in the form of text and illustrations alternatively other formats of presenting work could be used such as web or video.

Assessment of this Outcome could be combined with Outcomes 2 and 3 as part of a single assessment brief for the Unit.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Jewellery: Using Alternative Materials

Outcome 2

Provide samples of alternative materials for jewellery manufacture

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Alternative Materials
- ◆ Techniques
- ◆ Sample Production
- ◆ 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 appropriate alternative materials and equipment for the production of at least eight samples using a minimum of four alternative material techniques, evaluated in Outcome 1. At least one sample from each technique used must be produced and the samples produced must demonstrate exploration of the alternative materials and techniques from Outcome 1.
- ◆ technical notes must support the production of samples and must include problems identified and how these problems were overcome.
- ◆ produce samples using safe working practices.

This Outcome is integrated with Outcome 1, in that candidates must apply techniques and materials covered in the previous Outcome, to produce samples.

This Outcome is integrated with Outcome 3 in that candidates must use at least one alternative material and one technique covered in Outcome 2 to produce finished jewellery items in Outcome 3.

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 candidates' safe working practices, or they could be given a risk assessment checklist to work through.

Assessment of this Outcome could be combined with Outcomes 1 and 3 as part of a single assessment brief for the Unit.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Jewellery: Using Alternative Materials

Outcome 3

Produce finished jewellery items using alternative materials

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Interpretation
- ◆ Construction methods
- ◆ Safe working practices
- ◆ Reflective practices

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ interpret a brief to produce a minimum of two finished jewellery items using at least one alternative material and using at least one technique used to produce samples in Outcome 2.
- ◆ use construction methods to produce two finished jewellery items finished to a commercial standard appropriate to the brief and with no obvious faults.
- ◆ produce technical notes that support the processes followed in the production of the two finished jewellery items. The technical notes must identify any problems arising and subsequent solutions implemented.
- ◆ reflect on practice. The reflection must identify responses to the brief, what was produced and what could have been done better.
- ◆ produce finished items of jewellery using safe working practices.

This Outcome is integrated with Outcome 2 in that candidates must produce finished jewellery items in Outcome 3 using at least one alternative material and one technique covered in Outcome 2.

Assessment Guidelines

Finished items could be submitted in presentation boxes.

Technical notes, to support the finished pieces, 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 that they work through.

Assessment of this Outcome could be combined with Outcomes 1 and 2 as part of a single assessment brief for the Unit.

Administrative Information

Unit code: F3XY 35

Unit title: Jewellery: Using Alternative Materials

Superclass category: JH

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Version	Description of change	Date

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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Jewellery: Using Alternative Materials

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 suitable for those studying jewellery or working in the jewellery industry.

This Unit enables candidates to produce a body of work that will demonstrate their ability to evaluate various different alternative materials, their construction methods, health and safety considerations and equipment required to influence the production of samples.

This Unit will enable candidates to produce finished pieces of jewellery, which clearly show the investigation and development of the piece. Candidates will investigate various alternative materials and techniques, producing a minimum of two finished items. Evaluation should not concentrate solely on contemporary alternative materials.

Outcome 1

Candidates could be given a brief which requires them to produce thorough investigation of four alternative materials and techniques. Alternative materials could be defined to include unusual or lesser used materials. These could include acrylics, plastics, slate, wood, paper, silicone, recycled materials, cement, clay, bone. Whilst candidates may use the same or similar techniques with different materials, it is expected that at least four different techniques will be explored in the evidence for this Outcome.

Candidates should be encouraged to investigate a wide source of reference techniques including but not limited to the internet, reference books, DVDs, magazines, other publications and gallery or museum visits.

Notes, sketches, photographs and printouts of research could be presented in a work/sketchbook for assessment at the end of the Unit.

Outcome 2

Candidates are required to produce samples using a minimum of four alternative materials. As wide a range of techniques and materials should be investigated as possible. This will allow candidates the greatest flexibility when developing their own ideas. Thorough exploration could be done by producing several examples on one material, and one example on any other material.

A minimum of eight samples could be produced that show an understanding of the material, techniques involved and demonstrate exploration. Samples could be fairly complex, in that they each take several hours to complete and show extension and experimentation of the materials and techniques researched in Outcome 1.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Jewellery: Using Alternative Materials

Candidates should be encouraged to reflect on work in progress and make judgements on possible solutions and approaches.

Samples should be finished to a high standard and presented for assessment with detailed technical notes.

Outcome 3

Candidates are required to manufacture final pieces, which should incorporate at least one alternative material explored and for which samples have been produced in Outcome 2.

The final pieces should be manufactured and finished to good commercial standards ie appropriate to the brief and with no obvious faults.

Technical notes and sketches to accompany the final piece 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 or video.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

Whilst this Unit can be delivered as a standalone Unit it has been developed as part of Jewellery HNC/HND and it is recommended that it should be taught and assessed within the jewellery area.

If this Unit is taken as part of the Jewellery HNC/HND then 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 styles and types of jewellery featuring alternative materials and discuss and demonstrate a range of techniques.

Evaluation could be carried out by candidates investigating and researching different materials and techniques. Candidates should then go on to make experimental samples.

Candidates could initially produce a minimum of one sample for each of the chosen techniques and then decide which techniques to explore more thoroughly.

It is recommended that candidates have access to a wide variety of materials and tools with which to experiment and are 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. Candidates may be unaware of health and safety considerations for some materials eg acrylic resins or bone, and would need thorough guidance from the tutor.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Jewellery: Using Alternative Materials

Candidates could produce all notes, sketches and research material in a work/sketchbook. The work/sketchbook could be in the form of text and illustrations or alternative formats such as web or video could be used.

The production of finished items should show consideration of the alternative materials and techniques evaluated in Outcome 1 and the samples produced in Outcome 2.

Throughout the Unit, candidates should be encouraged to critically reflect on their work and to discuss considerations that influence their creative choices with their tutor.

The finished items should use appropriate materials and construction methods and be produced to a good commercial standard of finish with no obvious faults or flaws. Candidates should show a clear understanding of the qualities of chosen materials and use these appropriately within their finished pieces.

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

Tutors could draw up observation checklists that show candidates are working safely and considerately, or could provide candidates with a risk assessment checklist to work through.

Candidates should be encouraged to critically analyse their work, which could be done in a group setting or one-to-one with the tutor.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of *Communication* and *Problem Solving*, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

All of the components of the Core Skill of *Problem Solving* at SCQF level 6 may be developed through candidates interpreting a brief, experimenting and exploring the use of alternative materials through to the development and production of two finished items of jewellery and a strong reflection and review on the processes and eventual result.

The Written Communication component of the *Communication* Core Skill at SCQF level 6 may be developed should technical notes and reflective practice be in written format and structured in a formal manner. Depending on how work is presented, candidates may also meet the Oral Communication component at SCQF level 6.

Open learning

The practical basis of this Unit makes it very difficult to be delivered via open learning. Candidates would need access to a supervised workshop to ensure health and safety matters had been addressed and would also need access to resources that would allow the exploration of alternative materials and techniques. Centres would also need to make appropriate provision to ensure the authenticity of any work produced.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Jewellery: Using Alternative Materials

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: Jewellery: Using Alternative Materials

This Unit will allow you to evaluate and explore a variety of techniques using alternative materials, producing samples and making final pieces of jewellery, incorporating alternative materials.

Materials could include; acrylics, plastics, slate, wood, paper, silicone, recycled materials, cement, clay, bone.

During this Unit:

- ◆ you will evaluate various alternative materials and techniques used in the manufacture of jewellery. You will be encouraged to explore the range of materials and to evaluate the use of four in detail. This will include associated techniques, their history and development and their suitability for different jewellery uses.
- ◆ you will be encouraged to produce a series of samples that show investigation of the 4 alternative material techniques evaluated in Outcome 1.
- ◆ you will produce two finished items of jewellery incorporating the alternative materials worked on earlier. Your final pieces should use the alternative materials identified earlier in the Unit and should use techniques and construction methods necessary to complete a finished item of jewellery. Your finished items must be finished to a good commercial standard ie with no sign of obvious flaws.

Throughout your exploration of alternative materials you will be expected to maintain detailed technical notes. These notes can be written, oral, IT based or filmed but must show the development of your work through the evaluation, creation of samples to the finished items of jewellery. You will also be expected to reflect on your own work examining what you planned, what you produced and what you could do better.

You will be required to follow correct health and safety procedures at all times.

Assessment will take place throughout the Unit as you work through the evaluation, experimental and production stages. Evaluation of your ability to work safely in the workshop will normally be through tutor observation using checklists designed to confirm your adherence to safe working practice.

The Unit provides opportunities to develop Core Skills of *Problem Solving* and *Communication* at SCQF level 6. All of the components of the Core Skill of *Problem Solving* at SCQF level 6 may be developed through your interpreting a brief, experimenting and exploring the use of alternative materials, through to the development and production of two finished items of jewellery, and subsequent evaluation.

The written component of *Communication* at SCQF level 6 may be developed should your technical support notes and reflective practice be in written format and structured in a formal manner. Depending on how work is presented, oral component may also be developed.