



## **Higher National Unit specification**

### **General information**

**Unit title:** Fashion: Textile Technology

**Unit code:** H31D 34

**Superclass:** WH

**Publication date:** January 2013

**Source:** Scottish Qualifications Authority

**Version:** 01

### **Unit purpose**

This Unit is designed to enable learners to recognise, investigate and evaluate the suitability of textile fabrics for fashion items. It is primarily intended as a general grounding Unit for learners who take up employment in the design, production and retail industries and to those preparing for work within the clothing design or production field.

### **Outcomes**

On successful completion of the Unit the learner will be able to:

- 1 Identify the properties of textile fibres.
- 2 Identify fabric structures and finishes used in garment manufacture.
- 3 Investigate, evaluate and justify appropriate fabric selection for fashion garments.

### **Credit points and level**

1 Higher National Unit credit at SCQF level 7: (8 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7)

### **Recommended entry to the Unit**

No prior knowledge of textiles is required.

## **Higher National Unit specification: General information (cont)**

**Unit title:** Fashion: Textile Technology

### **Core Skills**

Opportunities to develop aspects of Core Skills are highlighted in the Support Notes for this Unit specification.

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skill components in this Unit.

### **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.

### **Equality and inclusion**

This 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](http://www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements).

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

### **Unit title: Fashion: Textile Technology**

Acceptable performance in this Unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the Unit specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to SQA.

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. Learners 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**

Identify the properties of textile fibres.

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

- ◆ Origin and preparation of fibres
- ◆ Physical properties of fibres
- ◆ Aesthetic properties of fibres
- ◆ Research skills

### **Outcome 2**

Identify fabric structures and finishes used in garment manufacture.

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

- ◆ Production methods for woven, non-woven and knitted structures
- ◆ Textile finishes
- ◆ Physical properties of structures and finishes
- ◆ Aesthetic properties of structures and finishes
- ◆ End use

### **Outcome 3**

Evaluate and justify appropriate fabric selection for fashion garments.

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

- ◆ Interpretation of a brief
- ◆ Consumer acceptance
- ◆ Fabric and thread selection
- ◆ Performance.
- ◆ Aftercare
- ◆ Legislation

## Higher National Unit specification: Statement of standards (cont)

**Unit title:** Fashion: Textile Technology

### Evidence Requirements for this Unit

Learners will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills across all Outcomes by showing that they can:

#### Outcome 1

Learners will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can research and identify a range of fibres. They will identify the origin and preparation of:

- ◆ four natural fibres — two animal fibres and two vegetable fibres
- ◆ four man-made fibres — two synthetic fibres and two regenerated fibres

#### Outcome 2

Learners will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can identify fabric structures and finishes to include:

- ◆ fabric structures including 3 woven, 2 knitted and two non-woven structures
- ◆ fabric finishes to include one wet chemical finish and one dry mechanical finish

The identification could include how the fabric is produced, the physical and the aesthetic properties of the structure, and two possible end uses of each fabric.

#### Outcome 3

Learners will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can select fabrics to match a given brief. This brief should include three different garment designs. The learner evidence should be accompanied by a justification which details:

- ◆ an accurate summary which is an interpretation of customer requirements
- ◆ a justification for the choice of fabrics to meet the construction requirements of the garment
- ◆ an accompanying set of aftercare instructions
- ◆ a summary of the legislation which has to be considered to meet the given brief

The response should be gathered together in a logical way which could be used to respond to the brief.



## Higher National Unit Support Notes

### Unit title: Fashion: Textile Technology

Unit Support Notes are offered as guidance and 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 included as a mandatory Unit in the framework of the HNC/HND in Fashion: Design and Production with Retail. It is recommended it should be taught and assessed within the subject area of the Group Award to which it contributes. This Unit provides underpinning knowledge which could be used for the Units where fabrics and yarns are used in production processes and Graded Units within the course.

The content and context should be appropriate to the personal and vocational needs of the learner. Learners will develop their organisational skills when undertaking this Unit. This will be evidenced by collating and presenting all information in a coherent way.

### Guidance on approaches to delivery of this Unit

The teacher/lecturer/tutor role will deliver the initial background to the Unit. Through the use of hand-outs, videos and discussion the tutor will explain the relevance of fibres, yarns, fabrics and finishes to the selection for fashion items. Learners will be encouraged to research various elements of the background information through textbooks, internet research and through company visits where possible.

Explanation of fibre identification, fabric construction and finishing methods will be given. Fabric samples should be available for reference and learners will be encouraged to collect their own samples to develop their folder as a working reference document.

Learners may compile a portfolio of reference sources which includes information on the production, identification and properties of fibres, yarns, fabrics and finishes. While this could be developed in co-operation with others in groups or teams, if this evidence is to be used for assessment purposes, lecturers would need to assure themselves that the descriptions and information in the portfolio are the learner's own work. The portfolio could contain evidence for all three learning Outcomes. Evidence will be drawn from collated research into the specific areas of fibres, yarns, fabric and finishes.

It is important to recognise that the development of portfolio evidence should be ongoing, and there should be periodic reviews between the tutor and the learner to ensure continuity of evidence and the attainment of individual goals. To help the learner manage their time, it is recommended that deadlines are given for hand-in dates and that review dates are set at regular intervals with learners. Learners should be able to show evidence of planning their work and activities, especially where group work is involved it is helpful to use questioning or supervised write-ups of investigation to ensure authenticity of learner work.

## Higher National Unit Support Notes (cont)

**Unit title:** Fashion: Textile Technology

### Guidance on approaches to assessment of this Unit

Evidence can be generated using different types of assessment. The following are suggestions only. There may be other methods that would be more suitable to learners.

Centres are reminded that prior verification of centre-devised assessments would help to ensure that the national standard is being met. Where learners experience a range of assessment methods, this helps them to develop different skills that should be transferable to work or further and higher education.

A range of assessment methods can be used for this Unit. Learners could be provided with an unseen, open-book assessment that requires restricted responses for both Outcome 1 and for Outcome 2. Portfolio evidence would be used for Outcome 3. Alternatively, a holistic assessment could cover all Outcomes. Learners would collate their findings and present a portfolio of work covering all Outcomes. For Outcomes 1 and 2, learners could be given a series of visuals with accompanying pro forma which learners could complete to detail full identifications of each fibre. Alternatively, this information could be given orally. Information could include comparative diagrams, fibre, yarn and fabric samples, photographs and visual evidence to support learner findings. This evidence could be gathered together into a portfolio in a logical way so that it could be used as a reference source. Outcome 3 could then draw on and add to this portfolio evidence.

The brief given for Outcome 3 should cover a variety of garments for different purposes (eg lingerie, light clothing outerwear, sportswear and children's wear) and specify the target market. For each fashion garment outlined in the brief, the learner could produce a design board which includes samples, visuals, descriptions and technical notes. Alternatively, the learner could produce a written report on all selection criteria and justifications.

### Opportunities for e-assessment

E-assessment may be appropriate for some assessments in this Unit. By e-assessment we mean assessment which is supported by Information and Communication Technology (ICT), such as e-testing or the use of e-portfolios or social software. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all learner evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the Evidence Requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. The most up-to-date guidance on the use of e-assessment to support SQA's qualifications is available at [www.sqa.org.uk/e-assessment](http://www.sqa.org.uk/e-assessment).

### Opportunities for developing Core and other essential skills

There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of *Problem Solving*, *Working with Others*, *Information and Communication Technology (ICT)* and *Communication* at SCQF level 5.

## Higher National Unit Support Notes (cont)

**Unit title:** Fashion: Textile Technology

### History of changes to Unit

Version	Description of change	Date

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## General information for learners

### Unit title: Fashion: Textile Technology

This section will help you decide whether this is the Unit for you by explaining what the Unit is about, what you should know or be able to do before you start, what you will need to do during the Unit and opportunities for further learning and employment.

The purpose of this Unit is to enable you to recognise, investigate and evaluate the suitability of textile fabrics for fashion items. You will learn:

- ◆ where fibres come from and what characteristics they have
- ◆ how fabric structures are used in garment manufacture
- ◆ how finishes applied to the fabrics alter their characteristics and therefore what they are used for
- ◆ to select appropriate fabrics for fashion items

You will learn about natural fibres, and man-made fibres studying their physical and aesthetic qualities. You will learn about woven, non-woven and knitted fabric structures and study a variety of fabric finishes. You will also evaluate and justify fabric selection for fashion garments in response to a brief.

The three Outcomes are designed for you to develop a clear understanding of the production of fabrics and the characteristics they have which make them suitable for use in fashion items.

Your teacher/lecturer/tutor will deliver information on these topics in a variety of ways but you should expect to take a high degree of responsibility for your work. Guidance will be given on how to structure your evidence and your evaluation of fabric selections.

You may be assessed either through unseen, restricted response assessments and/or you will gather evidence in a portfolio.

Throughout this Unit you will develop research, evaluation, justification, communication and time management skills.