



Higher National Unit specification

General information

Unit title: Cultural Learning: Competent in Artistic Practice
(SCQF level 8)

Unit code: HD8H 35

Superclass: GE

Publication date: April 2016

Source: Scottish Qualifications Authority

Version: 01

Unit purpose

Cultural Learning: Competent in Artistic Practice (SCQF level 8) is a Unit for practice-based learners who may be practising artists, craft-workers or creative practitioners (eg musicians, actors, dancers, visual artists, film-makers, photographers, potters, authors, designers, poets) with at least 3 years of practice-based learning in the cultural learning sector in both arts-based and non-arts-based settings.

This Unit is concerned with Artistic Practice used in Cultural Learning contexts and is part of a suite of mandatory Units that make up the Professional Development Award for Practice-based Learning for the Creative and Cultural Industries at SCQF level 8 for Cultural Learning. The first three Units may be undertaken in any order but they must be successfully completed before the fourth Unit is undertaken. The four Units are:

- 1 *Cultural Learning: Competent in Artistic Practice* (SCQF level 8)
- 2 *Non-formal Learning: Competent in Sharing Knowledge and Skills* (SCQF level 8)
- 3 *Non-formal Contexts: Competent in Developing Social Potential* (SCQF level 8)
- 4 *Delivering Competent Cultural Learning* (SCQF level 8)

This Unit should be completed by learners in practice-based contexts, eg in the work-place, creative, public or community spaces as an employee, freelancer, trainee, volunteer, apprentice or student.

Higher National Unit specification: General information (cont)

Unit title: Cultural Learning: Competent in Artistic Practice
(SCQF level 8)

Outcomes

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

- 1 Apply and evaluate artistic practice for cultural learning to given purposes in given settings with different social groups.
- 2 Demonstrate relevant contextual and accurate knowledge of artistic practice for cultural learning.
- 3 Describe a range of methods of identifying and solving unpredictable work situations using artistic practice.
- 4 Reflect on their own artistic and creative practice for cultural learning using appropriate frameworks, support material and feedback within the last 24 months.

Credit points and level

2 Higher National Unit credits at SCQF level 8: (16 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 8)

Recommended entry to the Unit

This Unit is for competent community, participatory or socially-engaged artists or creative professionals delivering Cultural Learning. Learners can be employees, freelancers, interns, volunteers or students in the creative and cultural industries with at least 3 years practice-based learning in any of these roles or in any combination of these roles.

This Unit at level 8 is for Practice-based learners in Cultural Learning who are able to meet the requirements through current or prior experiential learning using a range of support material gathered within the last 24 months. This may include:

- ◆ learners already in post as competent workers without a qualification at SCQF level 8 that will meet the requirements of the Professional Development Award in Practice-based Learning at level 8.
- ◆ learners moving on from the SCQF level 6 practitioner qualification who have gained sufficient further practice-based learning to meet the minimum experience requirement of a level 8 practitioner.
- ◆ learners from other workforces with relevant SCQF levels 6 or 7 qualifications;
- ◆ 'direct entry' learners with existing awards at level 7 or above, eg HEI Certificates or Diplomas in Creative and Cultural Industries, media, communications, arts, business, community learning and development that include non-formal or informal practice-based learning.

Learners undertaking the level 8 Professional Development Award should have well developed communication and inter-personal skills. They should be able to explain their practice to others and demonstrate the ability to solve problems and to learn from them. They should be able to give an account of their experiences, reflect on them, make valid conclusions and express personal strengths and development needs. They should also be able to demonstrate their ability to collect and apply feedback to improve their performance and to provide useful feedback to others.

Higher National Unit specification: General information (cont)

Unit title: Cultural Learning: Competent in Artistic Practice
(SCQF level 8)

This Unit is also suitable for learners wishing to study the Unit on its own. Learners may also undertake this Unit as standalone within a Cultural Learning role.

The recommended Core Skills entry level for this Unit at SCQF level 8 is at least:

Communication (SCQF level 5)

Numeracy (SCQF level 5)

Problem Solving (SCQF level 5)

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) (SCQF level 5)

Working with Others (SCQF level 5)

The recommended Core Skills entry level has been adopted to allow learners from a wide range of backgrounds to access the award.

Core Skills Statement

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.

This Unit, like each of the Units that form the qualifications in this suite, should be completed by practice-based learners in non-formal and informal environments, eg in the work-place as an employee, freelancer, trainee, volunteer, apprentice or student. Learners require access to practise-based cultural learning activities. The first three Units may be undertaken in any order but they must be successfully completed before the fourth Unit is undertaken.

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.

Higher National Unit specification: Statement of standards

Unit title: Cultural Learning: Competent in Artistic Practice
(SCQF level 8)

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.

Outcome 1

Apply and evaluate artistic practice for cultural learning to given purposes in given settings with different social groups.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Engage in artistically themed projects using artistic practice for given purposes and evaluate this using an appropriate competency framework (eg Euro-Aspire Framework)
- ◆ Engage in educationally themed projects using artistic practice for given purposes and evaluate this using an appropriate competency framework
- ◆ Engage in socially themed projects using artistic practice for given purposes and evaluate this using an appropriate competency framework
- ◆ Engage in these themed projects in a minimum of two arts-based and two non-arts-based settings with a range of two different social groups

Outcome 2

Demonstrate relevant contextual and accurate knowledge of artistic practice for cultural learning.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Explain the principles and practice, models and techniques of practice and, as appropriate, those of employer, contractor or host organisation
- ◆ Demonstrate relevant contextual and accurate knowledge of artistic practice for cultural learning

Outcome 3

Describe a range of methods of identifying and solving unpredictable work situations using artistic practice.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Describe a range of methods of identifying and solving unpredictable work situations in relation to artistic practice for Cultural Learning contexts
- ◆ Provide examples from their own work of identifying and solving work problems through artistic practice

Higher National Unit specification: Statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Cultural Learning: Competent in Artistic Practice
(SCQF level 8)

Outcome 4

Reflect on artistic and creative practice for cultural learning using appropriate frameworks, support material and feedback within the last 24 months.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Use an appropriate framework to reflect on your delivery of cultural learning
- ◆ Gather and collate support material and feedback within the last 24 months to evaluate and affirm aspects of their practice
- ◆ Gather and collate support material and feedback within the last 24 months to improve aspects of their practice

Evidence Requirements for this Unit

Evidence is required to demonstrate that learners have achieved all Outcomes and Performance Criteria.

A portfolio of support material will provide all the evidence produced from practice-based work carried out within the last 24 months. Competencies should be demonstrated through work products and consist of materials that demonstrate that learner has the required competences.

The portfolio should provide all the evidence of meeting the requirements at the appropriate level in the form of:

A Support material:

A series of work products, audio-visual recordings, documents and commentaries, eg short video sequences, sound-bites blogs or specific written or visual documentation.

Outcome 1

- ◆ Engage in artistically themed projects using artistic practice for given purposes and evaluate this using an appropriate competency framework (eg Euro-Aspire Framework).
- ◆ Engage in educationally themed projects using artistic practice for given purposes and evaluate this using an appropriate competency framework.
- ◆ Engage in socially themed projects using artistic practice for given purposes and evaluate this using an appropriate competency framework.
- ◆ Engage in themed projects in a minimum of two arts-based and two non-arts-based settings with a range of two different social groups.

Outcome 3

- ◆ Describe a range of methods of identifying and solving unpredictable work situations in relation to artistic practice for Cultural Learning contexts.

Higher National Unit specification: Statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Cultural Learning: Competent in Artistic Practice
(SCQF level 8)

Outcome 4

- ◆ Gather and collate support material and feedback within the last 24 months to evaluate and affirm aspects of their practice.

B Reflective Statements:

Three reflective statements: a self-awareness statement, a values statement and a context statement. These statements will refer to the learner's role in Artistic Practice for Cultural Learning.

Outcome 2

- ◆ Demonstrate relevant contextual and accurate knowledge of artistic practice for cultural learning.

Outcome 4

- ◆ Use an appropriate framework to reflect on delivery of cultural learning.

C Professional Dialogue:

A 20-minute professional dialogue held between two assessors and the learner, of which a video-recording is made, solely for assessment. (If an interpreter is required by the learner or either assessors then a further 10 minutes is allocated for this purpose). Part of the dialogue will focus on specialist Artistic Practice for Cultural Learning.

Outcome 2

- ◆ Explain the principles and practice, models and techniques of practice and, as appropriate, those of their employer, contractor or host organisation.

Outcome 3

- ◆ Provide examples from work of identifying and solving work problems through artistic practice.

Outcome 4

- ◆ Gather and collate support material and feedback within the last 24 months to improve aspects of their practice.



Higher National Unit Support Notes

Unit title: Cultural Learning: Competent in Artistic Practice
(SCQF level 8)

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 80 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

This Unit is part of a suite of qualifications that has been developed in response to the need for recognition and validation of practitioners in Cultural Learning and to provide relevant, practice-based qualifications. The Professional Development Award in Practice-based Learning for the Creative and Cultural Industries aims to support the continuing professional development of the Cultural Learning workforce.

This Unit, like each of the Units that form the qualifications in this suite, should be completed by practice-based learners in non-formal and informal environments, eg in the work-place as an employee, freelancer, trainee, volunteer, apprentice or student. Learners require access to practise-based cultural learning activities. The first three Units may be undertaken in any order but they must be successfully completed before the fourth Unit is undertaken.

Cultural Learning is delivered by experienced practising artists to artist peers, budding or emerging artists; people in non-formal or informal sessions using the arts as a tool for general arts and non-arts education; and people using the arts and creative activities to develop their social potential, eg self-expression, self-confidence, effective communication, self-awareness and preparing for work, self-employment and enterprise.

Cultural Learning can be tailored to generalist, specialist and professional participants and sometimes all of these participant types may be present in the same particular working session.

Cultural Learning consists of three strands of activity:

- ◆ Artistic Practice for Cultural Learning
- ◆ Sharing knowledge and Skills in Non-formal and informal contexts
- ◆ Developing Social Potential in Non-formal and informal contexts

These three activities are blended by practitioners according to the emerging requirements of each Cultural Learning session, activity or project.

Higher National Unit Support Notes (cont)

Unit title: Cultural Learning: Competent in Artistic Practice (SCQF level 8)

The Euro-Aspire Framework (EAF) may be used as an appropriate Competency Framework relevant to the Professional Development Award in Practice-based Learning for the Creative and Cultural Industries SCQF level 8 (equivalent to EQF level 5). A summary of the key competencies in the EAF is given below:

- ◆ Deliver given or self-generated aims and objectives
- ◆ Communicate effectively
- ◆ Select or generate and use appropriate content in one or more contexts
- ◆ Use, adapt or modify resources safely
- ◆ Identify, manage and explain the process of any working session
- ◆ Solve problems and demonstrate you can learn from them
- ◆ Know the limits, strengths and development needs of your practice
- ◆ Be aware of the impact of your values in different contexts and with different participants
- ◆ Select, generate or blend three strands of activity and explain the rationale for the choices you make
- ◆ Engage in the assessment and development of your own practice and that of others

Guidance on approaches to delivery of this Unit

This Unit, like each of the Units that form the qualifications in this suite, should be completed by practice-based learners in non-formal and informal environments, eg in the work-place as an employee, freelancer, trainee, volunteer, apprentice or student. Learners require access to practise-based cultural learning activities. The first three Units may be undertaken in any order but they must be successfully completed before this Unit is undertaken.

Guidance on approaches to assessment of this Unit

This Unit needs to be assessed in non-formal or informal environments, eg in practice-based roles as an employee, freelancer, trainee volunteer, apprentice or student. This Unit at level 8 is for Practice-based learners in Cultural Learning who are able to meet the requirements through current or prior experiential learning using a range of support material gathered within the last 24 months.

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.

Higher National Unit Support Notes (cont)

Unit title: Cultural Learning: Competent in Artistic Practice
(SCQF level 8)

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.

Opportunities for developing Core and other essential skills

This Unit can help develop *Communication skills*, *Problem Solving* and *Working with Others*. Depending on the type of project(s) covered, *Information and Communication Technology (ICT)* skills may also be enhanced.

History of changes to Unit

Version	Description of change	Date

© Scottish Qualifications Authority 2016

This publication may be reproduced in whole or in part for educational purposes provided that no profit is derived from reproduction and that, if reproduced in part, the source is acknowledged.

Additional copies of this Unit specification can be purchased from the Scottish Qualifications Authority. Please contact the Business Development and Customer Support team, telephone 0303 333 0330.

General information for learners

Unit title: Cultural Learning: Competent in Artistic Practice
(SCQF level 8)

This section will help you decide whether this Unit is 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.

This Unit is a mandatory Unit within a suite of qualifications that has been developed to provide relevant, practice-based qualifications for Cultural Learning and to support the continuing professional development of the Cultural Learning workforce.

Cultural Learning consists of three strands of activity:

- ◆ Artistic Practice for Cultural Learning
- ◆ Sharing knowledge and Skills in Non-formal and informal contexts
- ◆ Developing Social Potential in Non-formal and informal contexts

These three activities are blended by practitioners according to the emerging requirements of each Cultural Learning session, activity or project.

Four mandatory Units make up the Professional Development Award for Practice-based Learning for the Creative and Cultural Industries at SCQF level 8 in Cultural Learning. These are:

- 1 *Cultural Learning: Competent in Artistic Practice* (SCQF level 8)
- 2 *Non-formal Learning: Competent in Sharing Knowledge and Skills* (SCQF level 8)
- 3 *Non-formal Contexts: Competent in Developing Social Potential* (SCQF level 8)
- 4 *Delivering Competent Cultural Learning* (SCQF level 8)

The first three Units may be undertaken in any order but they must be successfully completed before the fourth Unit is undertaken.

This Unit is for you if you are a practice-based learner in the cultural learning sector such as an artist, craft-worker or creative practitioner (eg musician, actor, dancer, visual artist, film-maker, photographer, ceramicist, author, designer, poet, etc) who is currently delivering cultural learning in arts-based and non-arts-based settings.

This means that you are likely to be a community, participatory or socially-engaged artist or creative professional delivering Cultural Learning. You may be an employee, freelancer, intern, volunteer or student in the creative and cultural industries with at least 3 years practice-based learning in any of these roles or in any combination of these roles.

General information for learners (cont)

Unit title: Cultural Learning: Competent in Artistic Practice (SCQF level 8)

This Unit at SCQF level 8 (EQF level 5) is for you if you are able to meet the requirements through current or prior experiential learning using a range of support material gathered within the last 24 months. This may include you if you are:

- ◆ already in post as a competent worker without a qualification at SCQF level 8 (equivalent to EQF level 5) that will meet the requirements of the Professional Development Award in Practice-based Learning at level 8.
- ◆ moving on from the SCQF level 6 practitioner qualification and have gained sufficient further practice-based learning to meet the minimum experience requirement of a level 8 practitioner.
- ◆ from other workforces with relevant SCQF levels 6 or 7 qualifications;
- ◆ a 'direct entry' learner with existing awards at level 7 or above, eg HEI Certificates or Diplomas in Creative and Cultural Industries, media, communications, arts, business, community learning and development that include non-formal or informal practice-based learning.

You should have well developed communication and inter-personal skills. You should be able to explain your practice to others and demonstrate the ability to solve problems and to learn from them. You should be able to give an account of your experiences, reflect on them, make valid conclusions and express personal strengths and development needs. You should also be able to demonstrate your ability to collect and apply feedback to improve your performance and to provide useful feedback to others.

The recommended Core Skills entry level for this Unit at SCQF level 8 is at least:

Communication (SCQF level 5)

Numeracy (SCQF level 5)

Problem Solving (SCQF level 5)

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) (SCQF level 5)

Working with Others (SCQF level 5)

The recommended Core Skills entry level has been adopted to allow learners from a wide range of backgrounds to access the award.

This Unit will enable you to:

- 1 Apply and evaluate artistic practice for cultural learning to given purposes in given settings with different social groups.
- 2 Demonstrate relevant contextual and accurate knowledge of artistic practice for cultural learning.
- 3 Describe a range of methods of identifying and solving unpredictable work situations using artistic practice.
- 4 Reflect on your own artistic and creative practice for cultural learning using appropriate frameworks, support material and feedback within the last 24 months.

You will need to undertake the Unit and assessments in practice-based settings such as in the work-place, in creative, public spaces or community spaces as an employee, freelancer, trainee, volunteer, apprentice or student.

General information for learners (cont)

Unit title: Cultural Learning: Competent in Artistic Practice
(SCQF level 8)

This Unit at level 8 is for Practice-based learners who are able to meet the requirements through current or prior experiential learning using a range of support material gathered within the last 24 months.