



National 3
Course
Specification



National 3 Practical Craft Skills Course Specification (C759 73)

Valid from August 2013

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Please refer to the note of changes at the end of this Course Specification for details of changes from previous version (where applicable).

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Course outline

Course title: National 3 Practical Craft Skills

SCQF: level 3 (18 SCQF credit points)

Course code: C759 73

Mandatory Units

H25G 73	Working with Tools (National 3)	6 SCQF credit points
H25H 73	Working with Materials (National 3)	6 SCQF credit points
H25J 73	Making an Item (National 3)	6 SCQF credit points

Recommended entry

Entry to this Course is at the discretion of the centre. However, learners would normally be expected to have attained the skills, knowledge and understanding required by the following or equivalent qualifications and/or experience:

- ◆ National 2 Practical Craft Skills

In terms of prior learning and experience, relevant experiences and outcomes may also provide an appropriate basis for doing this Course.

Progression

This Course or its Units may provide progression to:

- ◆ other qualifications in Practical Technologies or related areas
- ◆ further study, employment and/or training

Further details are provided in the *Course Support Notes*.

Equality and inclusion

This Course 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. For further information, please refer to the *Course Support Notes*.

Rationale

All new and revised National Courses reflect Curriculum for Excellence values, purposes and principles. They offer flexibility, provide more time for learning, more focus on skills and applying learning, and scope for personalisation and choice.

In this Course, and its component Units, there will be an emphasis on skills development and the application of those skills. Assessment approaches will be proportionate, fit for purpose and will promote best practice, enabling learners to achieve the highest standards they can.

This Course provides learners with opportunities to continue to acquire and develop the attributes and capabilities of the four capacities as well as skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work.

All Courses provide opportunities for learners to develop breadth, challenge and application, but the focus and balance of the assessment will be appropriate for the subject area.

Relationship between the Course and Curriculum for Excellence values, purposes and principles

This Course provides a broad and engaging introduction to Practical Craft Skills. The Course is largely workshop-based. It offers experiences in practical woodworking and/or practical metalworking, allowing for personalisation and choice. Within these two crafts there is scope for practical creativity.

The Course is of broad educational benefit. It allows learners to develop a range of useful skills which will be valuable for learning, for life and for the world of work.

The Course encourages learners to become successful, responsible and creative in their use of technologies. It allows them to continue to acquire and develop the attributes and capabilities of the four capacities, including: creativity, flexibility and adaptability; enthusiasm and a willingness to learn; perseverance, independence and resilience; responsibility and reliability; and confidence and enterprise.

The Course provides skills that are complementary to other curriculum areas, including expressive arts and other areas of study in the technologies. It provides consolidation of, and progression from experiences and outcomes in, craft, design, engineering, and graphics.

Purpose and aims of the Course

The Course is practical and experiential in nature. It focuses on the development of practical woodworking and/or practical metalworking skills. It provides opportunities for learners to gain practical craft skills in the use of a range of tools, equipment and materials, working with wood, manufactured boards and/or metals. It allows learners to follow a series of activities through to the completion of a finished item.

The Course provides opportunities to develop and enhance practical creativity and practical problem-solving skills, and to gain an appreciation of safe working practices in a workshop or similar environment.

The aims of the Course are to enable learners to:

- ◆ develop skills in reading and interpreting drawings and diagrams
- ◆ identify, select and use a range of workshop tools, equipment and materials
- ◆ develop basic skills in measuring and marking out of materials
- ◆ develop basic skills in cutting, shaping, fixing and joining materials
- ◆ apply safe working practices in a workshop or similar environment
- ◆ take account of good practice regarding sustainability and recycling

Information about typical learners who might do the Course

This Course is a broad-based qualification for learners with an interest in practical woodworking and/or metalworking. It is also suitable for learners wanting to progress to higher levels of study in practical crafts.

The Course provides opportunities to develop and enhance psychomotor skills, practical creativity, practical problem-solving skills and an appreciation of safe working practices in a practical craft context. It provides opportunities to gain knowledge and understanding of good practice regarding recycling and sustainability.

Course activities also provide opportunities to build self-confidence, generic and transferable skills in numeracy, employability skills, thinking skills, and skills in planning and organising work tasks and working independently and in collaboration with others, as well as skills in communication and in self- and peer-evaluation in a practical craft context.

The Course is also suitable for any learner who wants to progress to higher levels of study in practical craft skills.

Course structure and conditions of award

Course structure

The Course is practical, exploratory and experiential in nature. It focuses on elements of practical crafts techniques and standard practice, allowing learners to develop a range of practical skills, using either woodworking or metalworking (or both) as the means by which these techniques and skills can be developed.

Units can be taught sequentially or in parallel. Learning and teaching approaches should provide opportunities to integrate skills where possible.

On completing the Course, learners will have developed skills in the correct use of tools and equipment and a range of woodworking and/or metalworking materials. Learners will also have gained an appreciation of safe working practices in a workshop environment.

The structure of the Course allows learners to cover fundamental practical craft skills in a progressive fashion. Together, these Units cover an introduction to the main stages of any practical crafts activity.

Units are statements of standards for assessment and not programmes of learning and teaching. They can be delivered in a number of ways.

The Course comprises three mandatory Units.

Working with Tools (National 3)

In this Unit, learners will develop knowledge of a range of common tools and equipment used in woodworking and/or metalworking. The learner will also develop skills for measuring and marking out and for preliminary cutting and shaping of materials.

Working with Materials (National 3)

In this Unit, learners will develop skills in working with different woodworking and/or metalworking materials. This Unit helps learners to develop skills in cutting, shaping, fixing and joining materials, using a variety of appropriate craft techniques.

Making an Item (National 3)

In this Unit, learners will develop skills in making an item from wood, metal or a combination of these materials. Learners will learn to read and interpret simple working drawings, select and use tools safely, apply appropriate finishing techniques and review their completed item.

In each of the three Units, learners will develop an appreciation of safe working practices in a workshop environment. They will also develop knowledge of good practice in sustainability and recycling.

Conditions of award

To achieve the National 3 Practical Craft Skills Course, learners must pass all of the required Units. The required Units are shown in the Course outline section.

National 3 Courses are not graded.

Skills, knowledge and understanding

Full skills, knowledge and understanding for the Course are given in the *Course Support Notes*. A broad overview of the subject skills, knowledge and understanding that will be covered in the Course is given in this section.

This includes:

- ◆ following, with guidance, simple working drawings and diagrams
- ◆ selecting, and using safely, a range of common workshop tools and equipment
- ◆ basic skills in measuring and marking out of materials
- ◆ basic skills in cutting, shaping, fixing and joining materials
- ◆ basic skills in applying appropriate finishing techniques
- ◆ reviewing completed item against working drawings
- ◆ application of safe working practices in a workshop environment
- ◆ an appreciation of sustainability issues and recycling in a practical craft context

Skills, knowledge and understanding to be included in the Course will be appropriate to the SCQF level of the Course. The SCQF level descriptors give further information on characteristics and expected performance at each SCQF level (www.sqa.org.uk/scqf).

Assessment

Further information about assessment for the Course is included in the *Course Support Notes*.

Unit assessment

All Units are internally assessed against the requirements shown in the Unit Specification.

They can be assessed on an individual Unit basis or by using other approaches which combine the assessment for more than one Unit.

They will be assessed on a pass/fail basis within centres. SQA will provide rigorous external quality assurance, including external verification, to ensure assessment judgments are consistent and meet national standards.

The assessment of the Units in this Course will be as follows.

Working with Tools (National 3)

In this Unit, learners will be required to provide evidence of skills in measuring and marking out of materials, as well as preliminary cutting and shaping work.

Working with Materials (National 3)

In this Unit, learners will be required to provide evidence of skills in working with wood or metal, building on the basic skills from the Working with Tools Unit. In addition, learners will provide evidence of skills in fixing and joining materials using a variety of appropriate craft techniques.

Making an Item (National 3)

In this Unit, learners will be required to provide evidence of making an item from wood, metal, or a combination of these materials. Learners will also provide evidence of skills in preparing surfaces and applying appropriate finishes.

Development of skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work

It is expected that learners will develop broad, generic skills through this Course. The skills that learners will be expected to improve on and develop through the Course are based on SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work* and drawn from the main skills areas listed below. These must be built into the Course where there are appropriate opportunities.

2 Numeracy

2.2 Money, time and measurement

5 Thinking skills

5.2 Understanding

5.3 Applying

Amplification of these skills is given in SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work*. The level of these skills will be appropriate to the level of the Course. Further information on building in skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work for the Course is given in the *Course Support Notes*.

Administrative information

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History of changes to National Course Specification

Course details	Version	Description of change	Authorised by	Date

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