PHOTOGRAPHY
SCQF level 6

First edition — published April 2011

National Course specification

COURSE	**Photography (SCQF level 6)**
COURSE CODE	C06M 12

Publication date:	April 2011
Source:	Scottish Qualifications Authority
Version:	01

Course Structure

This Course has two mandatory Units

F8KH 12	Photography: Basic Camera Techniques (SCQF level 6)	1 credit (40 hours)
F8KJ 12	Photography: Research Project (SCQF level 6)	1 credit (40 hours)

and **one** optional Unit selected from

F8KM 12	Photography: Digital Imaging (SCQF level 6)	1 credit (40 hours)
F8KL 12	Photography: Reportage (SCQF level 6)	1 credit (40 hours)
F8KK 12	Photography: Creative Image Making Techniques (SCQF level 6)	1 credit (40 hours)

All Courses include 40 hours over and above the 120 hours for the Units. This may be used for induction, extending the range of learning and teaching approaches, support, consolidation, integration of learning and preparation for Course assessment.

Recommended entry

Entry is at the discretion of the centre.

Progression

This Course or its Units may provide progression to:

♦ Further Education programmes
♦ Higher Education programmes
♦ training or employment

National Course specification: (cont)

COURSE   Photography (SCQF level 6)

Credit value

The SCQF level 6 Course in Photography is allocated 24 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 6*.

SCQF points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification is allocated a number of SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.

Core Skills

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

National Course specification: Course details (cont)

COURSE   Photography (SCQF level 6)

Rationale

Photography has an increasingly significant core function within the Creative Industries and also within the commercial and scientific community in Scotland. Employment opportunities in Photography continue in Scotland, but the required skill set has changed to reflect technological advances in the subject and the prevalence of digital photography, combined with the demands of employers for a technologically aware and flexible workforce.

The camera has become both a tool and medium in almost every area of the Creative Industries. Fine Art practitioners are now embracing digital imaging technology and using it as a medium in its own right, or combining it with conventional photographic techniques.

The Photography Course at SCQF level 6 offers candidates the opportunities for an integrated, hands-on, skill development with clear exit paths to employment or progression onto further and/or higher education.

Summary

♦   Enhanced provision in both School and FE sectors
♦   Reacts to the needs of candidates, industry, employers
♦   Offers candidates the opportunity to broaden knowledge and practical skills within Photography contexts

Course aims

This Course aims to:

♦   Develop practical skills
♦   Develop knowledge, understanding and skills involved in photography
♦   Develop planning and evaluation skills
♦   Make a positive contribution to personal development
♦   Have a degree of flexibility which allows for a variety of approaches in centres

National Course specification: Course details (cont)

COURSE   Photography (SCQF level 6)

Course content

The Course consists of two mandatory Units:

- *Photography: Basic Camera Techniques*   *SCQF level 6*
- *Photography: Research Project*   *SCQF level 6*

and **one** of the following optional Units:

- *Photography: Creative Image Making Techniques*   *SCQF level 6*
- *Photography: Digital Imaging*   *SCQF level 6*
- *Photography: Reportage*   *SCQF level 6*

The Course is focused mainly on practical work and takes place in a practical environment. Wherever a new skill is to be introduced, this should be demonstrated to candidates and any accompanying underpinning knowledge explained to aid understanding.

Photography: Basic Camera Techniques

This Unit is designed to enable candidates to acquire a broad based knowledge and understanding of the basic techniques involved in photography, and an understanding of the basic features of a camera. Candidates will be given the opportunity to develop basic skills/knowledge of exposure, composition and framing.

Photography: Research Project

This Unit is designed to enable candidates to engage in a photographic research project in a creative, structured way. Candidates will investigate a photographic theme and use problem solving techniques to produce effective research material and evidence of the creative use of techniques. Candidates will present their completed work and reflect on their work and research.

Photography: Creative Image Making Techniques

This Unit is designed to enable candidates to develop an understanding of a range of image manipulation techniques and the underpinning knowledge behind them. Candidates will also develop good practice in order to produce and evaluate their own original and well planned images. Successful completion of this Unit should prepare candidates for more advanced photographic training/study.

Photography: Digital Imaging

This Unit is designed to enable candidates to develop knowledge and understanding of a range of digital techniques and an understanding of the underpinning knowledge behind these techniques. Candidates will also develop good practice in producing their own original and well planned images. Successful completion of this Unit should prepare candidates for more advanced training/study.

COURSE Photography (SCQF level 6)

Photography: Reportage

This Unit is designed to enable candidates to acquire knowledge of the skills involved in producing a photographic essay or photo story. Candidates will develop the ability to apply a thematic approach to a given brief, where a series of images will be produced to tell a story.

Assessment

To achieve the Course award the candidate must achieve the Units as well as pass the Course assessment. The candidate's grade is based on the Course assessment. Candidates must provide evidence that they have achieved the requirements of all of the Outcomes and Performance Criteria of the Units.

Assessment objectives

The key elements of the Photography Course at SCQF level 6 are knowledge, understanding, and practical skills. There is assessment of:

♦ camera techniques
♦ photographic and manipulation techniques
♦ planning
♦ investigative research
♦ critical thinking and evaluating skills

Unit assessment

Photography: Basic Camera Techniques (M)
Outcomes 1 and 2   Short/restricted response questions
Outcomes 3 and 4   Folio

Photography: Research Project (M)
Outcome 1   Plan of action
Outcomes 2 and 3   Folio
Outcome 4   Evaluation

Photography: Creative Image Making Techniques (O)
Outcome 1   Identification and description of manipulative processes
Outcomes 2 and 3   Explanation of procedures used for manipulating; Annotated workbook

Photography: Digital Imaging (O)
Outcomes 1 – 4   Folio

Photography: Reportage (O)
Outcome 1   Plan of action
Outcomes 2 and 3   Annotated folio and/or annotated digital workbook

(M) Mandatory Unit
(O) Optional Unit

National Course specification: Course details (cont)

COURSE Photography (SCQF level 6)

Further details about Unit assessment for this Course can be found in the Unit specifications and the National Assessment Bank (NAB) materials.

Course assessment

The external course assessment is based on a Practical Assignment.

To gain the award for the Course candidates must have completed all of the prescribed Units, and must be able to generate reliable evidence, capable of being authenticated and assessed externally.

With Project-based National Courses the induction and the preparation for external assessment should focus on preparing candidates for project work, by ensuring they have the skills required to carry out the project. This should take approximately 10 hours, leaving the remaining time for candidates to carry out the project work and produce their assessment evidence. This means that the time allowed for the completion of Course assessments in project-based National Courses is approximately 30 hours of supervised time, with any additional work carried out in candidates' own time.

Although all National Courses are externally assessed, centres are responsible for managing the arrangements leading up to external assessment. For Project-based National Courses this means responsibility for organising the production of candidates' project evidence and then presenting or submitting the evidence to SQA for external assessment.

Project-based National Courses must generate reliable assessment decisions. It is important therefore to ensure that evidence arising from projects can be authenticated as candidates' own work.

Further details of the Course assessment and information relating to authentication are provided in the *Practical Assignment* available on the NQ Art and Design page on SQA's website **www.sqa.org.uk**

National Course specification: Course details (cont)

COURSE   Photography (SCQF level 6)

Marking and grading Project-based National Courses

The assessment evidence for Project-based National Courses is marked externally by SQA.

The total mark for the project is 200. This reflects the comparative size or weight of these projects when compared to projects embedded in National Courses which are largely question paper based. It also allows Markers to discriminate between levels of performance in each stage of the project.

These marks will be allocated to assessment evidence from the three project stages as follows:

Project stage	Assessment Evidence	Mark Allocation
Plan of Action	Plan of Action maximum 1000 words (minimum 500)	40
Development	Evidence arising from the hands-on practical activity and from documenting the underpinning processes involved	120
Evaluation	Extended evaluation report maximum 1000 words	40

To underpin this assessment system there are criteria to which marks are pegged, against which the candidate evidence from each of the three Practical Assignment stages is assessed. The use of such mark categories linked to broad criteria, allows for the aggregation of the various parts of the assessment which do not necessarily have the same weighting in the overall grade. The criteria to be used to assess candidate evidence is contained in the *Practical Assignment* document available on the NQ Art and Design page on SQA's website **www.sqa.org.uk**

National Course specification: Course details (cont)

COURSE   Photography (SCQF level 6)

Estimates and appeals

Although Project-based National Courses are externally assessed by SQA Markers, candidates will benefit from estimate grades based on accurate internal assessment of their projects, ie the grade that assessors' judge a candidate should be awarded, based on all the available evidence.

The processes for deciding an estimate grade are similar to the processes the Markers would use for the final assessment. The main benefit of an estimate to an individual candidate is that an appeal can be submitted against an external decision where the estimate given the candidate was at grade C or better. An appeal will not normally be considered for candidates for whom no estimate has been received. SQA will provide a form for submission of estimates.

For the internal marking process for estimates, internal assessors are expected to:

♦ compare candidate evidence arising from each stage of the Practical Assignment to the criteria outlined, and decide on the mark category which most accurately describes it
♦ decide on a particular mark for the candidate within that broad mark category for each stage, depending on how marginal the decision was
♦ maintain a brief record of why a certain mark was given for each of the three Practical Assignment stages (for internal verification purposes)
♦ follow the internal verification processes within their centre
♦ aggregate the internally verified marks for each candidate. That gives a total mark out of 200
♦ divide that total mark by two to give a percentage
♦ convert the overall % mark for each candidate into an estimated grade and a band using the following table

% Mark range	Grade	Band (for estimates)
85 – 100	A (upper)	1
70 – 84	A (lower)	2
65 - 69	B (upper)	3
60 – 64	B (lower)	4
55 – 59	C (upper)	5
50 – 54	C (lower)	6
45 – 49	Fail (near miss)	7
40 – 44	Fail	8
Less than 40	Fail	9

♦ check the grade already given to candidates against the grade descriptions. This is to ensure that candidates have effectively integrated each stage of the Practical Assignment. Please use the grade descriptions as a touchstone against which grades can be checked
♦ provide estimates as bands

Further information and guidance is contained in the *Practical Assignment* document.

National Course specification: Course details (cont)

COURSE   Photography (SCQF level 6)

Grade Descriptions at Grade A, Grade B AND Grade C

Practical Assignment

The candidate's grade will be based on the total score obtained from the Course assessment. The following grade descriptions indicate the nature of achievement required for an award at Grade A, B and C in the Practical Assignment.

A	B	C
Content and scope appropriate for Higher		
Looking at the evidence as a whole:	**Looking at the evidence as a whole:**	**Looking at the evidence as a whole:**
A Practical Assignment at Grade A:	**A Practical Assignment at Grade B:**	**A Practical Assignment at Grade C:**
♦ produces high quality, clearly inter-related documented and product or process-related evidence for the three essential phases of the Practical Assignment	♦ produces good quality, inter-related documented and product or process-related evidence for the three essential phases of the Practical Assignment	♦ produces adequate, fairly well inter-related documented and product or process-related evidence, for the three essential phases of the Practical Assignment
♦ is an exercise to which candidates have brought an accurate and insightful interpretation of the Practical Assignment brief	♦ is an exercise to which candidates have brought an accurate interpretation of the Practical Assignment brief	♦ an exercise to which candidates have brought an acceptable interpretation of the Practical Assignment brief
♦ is tightly structured, relevant to the content of the Units and displays a high level of subject/occupational expertise	♦ is well structured and displays a good level of subject/occupational expertise	♦ is reasonably well structured and displays an adequate level of subject/occupational expertise
♦ effectively applies integrated and consolidated knowledge, understanding and skills from the Course Units to complex situations and/or design specifications	♦ satisfactorily applies integrated and consolidated knowledge, understanding and skills from the Course Units to situations and/or design specifications which include a degree of complexity	♦ applies integrated knowledge, understanding and skills from the Course Units with some lack of continuity and consistency

National Course specification: Course details (cont)

COURSE   Photography (SCQF level 6)

The evidence

The *Notes of Information for Teachers/Lecturers for the Project-based National Course: Photography – Higher* document is circulated to centres annually in March. This contains specific information on submitting candidate evidence. Where materials have to be sent to SQA for marking, labels, flyleafs and envelopes will be distributed to centres.

The following must be sent to SQA for the Practical Assignment:

♦ plan of action
♦ all transportable evidence
♦ extended evaluation report

Quality assurance

All National Courses are subject to external marking and/or verification. External Markers, Visiting Examiners and Verifiers are trained by SQA to apply national standards.

The Units of all Courses are subject to internal verification and may also be chosen for external verification. This is to ensure that national standards are being applied across all subjects.

To assist centres, External and Internal Assessment Reports are published on SQA's website **www.sqa.org.uk**

National Course specification: Course details (cont)

COURSE Photography (SCQF level 6)

Guidance on learning and teaching approaches for this Course

Units can be delivered separately from the Practical Assignment, but it is also possible to integrate some or all Units and/or individual Outcomes into the Practical Assignment. This is particularly helpful to centres where there are time constraints. Integration of Units will promote coherence, relevance and depth of study.

Centres should note that Performance Criteria for Units require candidates to demonstrate basic competency. When integrating Units into the Practical Assignment, centres must ensure that assessment requirements for the Practical Assignment are met both in terms of quantity and quality.

It should be noted that while candidate work in digital format is acceptable assessment evidence for Units, this is not the case with the Practical Assignment. Product evidence must be submitted in the form of research material, contact sheets/enprints, photographic prints, etc and organised in an appropriate format.

In the selection of Practical Assignment themes, centres should ensure that the chosen theme and interpretation allow both the Practical Assignment and the integrated Units to be completed successfully.

Centres should ensure that integrated Unit work submitted for assessment is relevant to the candidate's chosen theme and approach to the Practical Assignment. The inclusion of Unit work which does not relate to the candidate's Practical Assignment may affect the coherence of the project. Unit evidence which does not relate directly to the Practical Assignment must be retained in the centre for verification purposes and should not be submitted to SQA.

The following tables are designed to assist centres who choose to take this approach. Centres must also refer to the Performance Criteria and evidence requirements for each Outcome to ensure that assessment criteria are fulfilled. Details are contained in the Unit Specifications and NABs.

National Course specification: Course details (cont)

COURSE   Photography (SCQF level 6)

Guidance on integrating Units with the Practical Assignment

Practical Assignment	Photography: Research Project

Plan of Action	**Outcome 1** Investigate and research a theme in photography in response to a given brief.
	
	Performance Criteria
	  (a) Identify the requirements of the brief in terms of purpose, constraints, theme and key issues.
	  (b) Select appropriate research sources.
	  (d) Use relevant research material to produce a plan of action.
	
	♦ *1000 words must be produced to meet the assessment requirement for the Practical Assignment (minimum 500 words).*

Development	**Outcome 1** Investigate and research a theme in photography in response to a given brief.
	
	Performance Criteria
	  (c) Collect a range of relevant research material from both primary and secondary sources.
	
	♦ *Candidates are required to research the work of two photographers. The photographers selected should be relevant to the theme/approach chosen in the Practical Assignment.*
	
	Outcome 2 Use appropriate photographic techniques, materials and equipment in response to the given brief.
	
	Performance Criteria
	  (a) Select appropriate photographic techniques, equipment and materials.
	  (b) Use the chosen photographic techniques, equipment and materials to produce examples of photography.
	  (c) Demonstrate a creative and confident use of photographic techniques, equipment and materials.
	
	Outcome 3 Produce and present a folio of finished, annotated work in response to the given brief.
	
	Performance Criteria
	  (a) Select and edit key items from the gathered research, investigation work and own photographs.
	  (b) Present the finished, annotated work in an appropriate and effective manner.

National Course specification: Course details (cont)

COURSE   Photography (SCQF level 6)

Practical Assignment	Photography: Research Project (cont)

Evaluation	**Outcome 4** Evaluate the folio of finished work.
	
	Performance Criteria
	   (a) Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the finished work in terms of creativity, use of materials, equipment and technique.
	   (b) Evaluate how well the finished work fulfils the requirements of the original brief.
	
	♦ *The Research Project requires only 500 words of evaluation. This can be overtaken within the Practical Assignment, which requires 1000 words.*
	♦ *The final evaluation for the Practical Assignment must be carried out in supervised conditions. The candidate's completed assignment and one side of A4 notes are allowed as reference material.*

National Course specification: Course details (cont)

COURSE Photography (SCQF level 6)

Guidance on integrating Units with the Practical Assignment

Practical Assignment	Photography: Basic Camera Techniques
Development	**Outcome 3** Produce examples of correctly exposed photographic images to a given brief. **Performance Criteria** (a) Select appropriate recording media and equipment to produce correctly exposed photographic images. (b) Use most appropriate exposure for given situations. (c) Use appropriately exposed media for selected situations. **Outcome 4** Produce examples of effectively composed and framed photographic images to a given brief. **Performance Criteria** (a) Select appropriate viewpoint and framing for the chosen composition. (b) Control correct focus for desired effect. ♦ *Candidates' annotations should demonstrate understanding of the concepts learned in Photography: Basic Camera Techniques.*

National Course specification: Course details (cont)

COURSE   Photography (SCQF level 6)

Guidance on integrating Units with the Practical Assignment

Practical Assignment	Photography: Creative Image Making Techniques
Development	**Outcome 1** Investigate manipulative processes used in photography. **Performance Criteria** (a) Identify manipulative processes used in a range of given images. (b) Describe the procedures used for manipulating the given images. **Outcome 2** Produce a series of manipulated images. **Performance Criteria** (a) Use appropriate camera equipment manipulation to demonstrate zooming or panning to achieve desired effect in images. (b) Use effective manipulation of shutter speeds to obtain controlled movement within the images. (c) Apply appropriate special effect filters to achieve the desired effect within the images. (d) Explain the procedures used for manipulating images, across all specified techniques. **Outcome 3** Use equipment to produce a series of manipulated images. **Performance Criteria** (a) Apply appropriate texture screens or layers for achieving the desired effect in images. (b) Use selected equipment to manipulate the image and effectively demonstrate distortion in images. (c) Use the procedure of double exposure technique correctly to achieve desired effect in images. (d) Explain the procedures used for manipulating images through the use of the enlarger, or appropriate software, across all specified techniques.

National Course specification: Course details (cont)

COURSE   Photography (SCQF level 6)

Guidance on integrating Units with the Practical Assignment

Practical Assignment	Photography: Creative Image Making Techniques (cont)
Development	**Outcome 4** Use selected techniques or chemicals to produce manipulated images. **Performance Criteria** (a) Demonstrate effective control of the action of chemicals or techniques on images and show its appropriateness to specific toning technique. (b) Use equipment and chemicals safely at all times and in accordance with current health and safety regulations (c) Explain the procedures used for manipulating images through the use of selected chemicals or techniques, across all specified techniques. *While candidates must show evidence of manipulated images, demonstrating a number of techniques, for the Unit assessment, there is **no requirement** to select these particular images for their final 12 photographs in the Practical Assignment. Candidates may choose to include some manipulated images, but care should be taken when selecting, as 'over' manipulated images may not communicate certain themes effectively.*

National Course specification: Course details (cont)

COURSE Photography (SCQF level 6)

Guidance on integrating Units with the Practical Assignment

Practical Assignment	Photography: Digital Imaging
Development	**Outcome 1** Import a range of image types into a digital environment. **Performance Criteria** (a) Identify the correct hardware required to import images from film, print and digital cameras. (b) Set the software controls correctly to achieve the required file size. (c) Import the chosen images into the digital environment. (d) Save the imported images into an appropriate file type. **Outcome 2** Process/manipulate images within a given software package. **Performance Criteria** (a) Adjust resolution and size correctly to achieve appropriate final output. (b) Carry out appropriate adjustments of colour balance, contrast and brightness as required. (c) Use correct technology to remove blemishes or marks from the image. (d) Combine at least two images to create a new image. (e) Save the images in an appropriate file format. ♦ *For the Unit assessment, the images used in Outcomes 1 and 2 may be supplied by the teacher/lecturer. If these particular Outcomes are included in the Practical Assignment, then the images **must** be the candidate's own work.* **Outcome 3** Produce a series of digitally enhanced or manipulated images. **Performance Criteria** (a) Select appropriate camera equipment and hardware to produce a series of digitally enhanced or manipulated images. (b) Use selected equipment and hardware to produce images and import them into the digital environment. (c) Correctly process and manipulate the images. (d) Save the digitally enhanced or manipulated images in an appropriate file format.

National Course specification: Course details (cont)

COURSE   Photography (SCQF level 6)

Guidance on integrating Units with the Practical Assignment

Practical Assignment	Photography: Digital Imaging (cont)

Development	**Outcome 4** Collate and present final images in an appropriate format.
	
	Performance Criteria
	   (a) Select final images for presentation.
	   (b) Identify the hardware on which images will be produced.
	   (c) Select media to be used.
	   (d) Set up appropriate resolution to suit image and selected media.
	   (e) Present final images in an appropriate format.
	
	♦ *Annotations should clearly explain the candidate's use of the specified processes.*
	♦ *While candidates must show evidence of manipulated/processed images, demonstrating a number of techniques, for the Unit assessment, there is **no requirement** to select these particular images for their final 12 photographs in the Practical Assignment. Candidates may choose to include some manipulated/processed images, but care should be taken when selecting, as 'over' manipulated images may not communicate certain themes effectively.*
	♦ *Candidates should also be aware that 10 images are required for the Unit assessment, whereas 12 are required for the Practical Assignment.*

National Course specification: Course details (cont)

COURSE Photography (SCQF level 6)

Guidance on integrating Units with the Practical Assignment

Practical Assignment	Photography: Reportage
Plan of Action	**Outcome 1** Investigate a photographic theme in response to a given brief. **Performance Criteria** (a) Identify the constraints and requirements. (b) Select an appropriate theme with developmental potential to tell a story. (c) Identify appropriate timelines and location. (d) Select appropriate techniques and equipment for effective photography. ♦ *The Practical Assignment Plan of Action has a word count of 1000 words.* ♦ *When selecting a theme and approach, it should be noted that not all Practical Assignment themes lend themselves to Reportage.*
Development	**Outcome 2** Produce a series of photographic images of the chosen theme in response to a given brief. **Performance Criteria** (a) Use appropriate camera equipment to ensure effective photography. (b) Use appropriate compositional and focusing techniques to ensure effective photography. (c) Use techniques correctly to ensure effective series of photographic images that communicate the story of the chosen theme. **Outcome 3** Prepare and present images to communicate the chosen theme in response to the brief. **Performance Criteria** (a) Select and edit the most appropriate images in response to the chosen theme. (b) Crop the images, where appropriate, to enhance and ensure effective visual impact of the thematic images. (c) Remove all blemishes and marks where necessary. (d) Ensure images are appropriate in terms of exposure, contrast, tonal range and sharpness. (e) Present final images in a format that effectively communicates the chosen theme. ♦ *In each case, annotations should clearly explain the candidate's selections and editing decisions.* ♦ *Candidates should be aware that while 6-12 final images can be presented for the Reportage Unit, 12 photographs are required for the Practical Assignment.*

National Course specification: Course details (cont)

COURSE   Photography (SCQF level 6)

Practical Assignment

Selection of a theme

Centres are reminded that themes are deliberately broad to allow for personal interpretation. Centres should encourage candidates to consider particular aspects of their theme, which may be more effective and realistic than trying to cover it in its entirety.

Approaches to themes

Centres should ensure that the approach selected is appropriate to the theme and not too tenuous. Candidates must be able to justify why their selected approach fits into this theme. Centres should be mindful that candidates may have preconceived ideas which limit their creativity.

It is recommended that candidates do not select assignments which are totally unrealistic in terms of accessibility. Candidates should ensure that they consider the limitations of their equipment when selecting assignments; candidates should be aware of the limitations of using an inexpensive camera. It should also be noted that expensive camera equipment does not always make for a better quality of photograph.

Health and safety, legal and welfare issues

Centres have a responsibility to ensure that candidates do not select approaches which may place them in danger or involve them in illegal activities. Candidates should be made aware of any legal implications, eg use of model release forms for under 16s.

Plan of Action

Candidates should ensure that:

♦ the work carried out in the Practical Assignment reflects the original Plan
♦ the Plan is clear, concise and written in the future tense
♦ they work within the word limit (max 1000; min 500).

Development - Research

Candidates should include physical evidence of their research – a list of websites is not acceptable. Centres should encourage candidates to engage with their research material eg annotations, sketches, etc. The research should inform and underpin candidates' work. Candidates should be encouraged to explore a variety of appropriate research sources and include details of these sources.

Development – Photographic work

Candidates must ensure that a substantial body of work is presented which demonstrates evidence that they have engaged with the process – one or two contact sheets will not suffice. Centres should encourage candidates to interact with their work. Their thought processes should be evident at this stage.

National Course specification: Course details (cont)

COURSE Photography (SCQF level 6)

Practical Assignment

Presentation formats

Centres should ensure that the format chosen allows candidates' work to arrive at SQA intact. Sketchbooks, workbooks, and display books work well. A4 ring binders can fall apart in transit. Contents should be clearly labelled and packaged together in an appropriate and secure manner.

Presentation of Development work

Centres are advised to include an edited selection of candidates' work. Ensure that everything sent for external assessment is relevant to the assessment criteria for the Practical Assignment.

Centres are advised not to over edit – for instance, it is helpful to see evidence of (relevant) photo shoots which were less successful, if it is clear that the candidate has learned from the experience.

Candidates should be encouraged to present their work in a logical, coherent and organised format and it should be very clear where the final 12 images have originated in the candidate's development work.

Candidates working in colour must make sure that their contact sheets are also in colour.

National Course specification: Course details (cont)

COURSE   Photography (SCQF level 6)

Guidance on approaches to assessment

Selection of the final 12 images

Centres are advised to build in some quality control procedures, eg peer assessment, critiques/interim assessment, so that candidates are more aware of what makes a successful image when they make their final selection.

Candidates should be encouraged to consider variety and avoid repetition of images/ideas. Centres are reminded that much of the mark is dependent on the success of the final 12 images.

Editing and enhancement

Centres should encourage candidates to exercise restraint – images can be ruined by over sharpening, for instance, or in overdoing other digital effects. Candidates should be reminded that out of focus images cannot be 'fixed' on the computer.

Printing the final images

All prints must be of photographic quality. In traditional photography, prints should be blemish free. Digital images should not be printed on copier paper or with poorly calibrated printers. It is acceptable to outsource printing. Prints need not be A4 size if cost is a factor; the minimum size is A5. Centres should consider resolution when deciding on print size.

Presentation of the final 12 prints

Candidates must present their final images neatly and 'professionally' using suitable adhesives and mounts. It is not advisable to use a wet adhesive; double-sided tape is a suitable option. Candidates should mount their work using a common orientation. Titles should not be added to photographs – they should speak for themselves. Prints must be able to be viewed clearly, eg avoid high gloss display books for final prints.

Evaluation

Candidates should be supported and given guidance on how to complete the evaluation, eg a list of questions or a structure to follow. Candidates must ensure that they balance discussion of the effectiveness of the process with consideration of the success of the final 12 images. Encourage analytical and evaluative responses rather than purely descriptive ones. Encourage holistic evaluation rather than an evaluation of each final image; ensure candidates consider the images as a group.

Candidates are encouraged to identify weaknesses as well as strengths, and should refer to their original plan; did they do what they set out to do? Candidates should also be reminded to keep to the maximum word limit (1000).

It is not advisable for candidates to produce work that does not add value, eg mock-ups of calendars, graphic designs etc if the time would be more appropriately spent on their photographic work.

National Course specification: Course details (cont)

COURSE   Photography (SCQF level 6)

Disabled candidates and/or those with additional support needs

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering whether any reasonable adjustments may be required. Further advice can be found on our website **www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements**.

National Unit specification: general information

Unit title: Photography: Basic Camera Techniques (SCQF level 6)

Unit code: F8KH 12

Superclass: KE

Publication date: January 2011

Source: Scottish Qualifications Authority

Version: 02

Summary

This Unit is designed to enable candidates to acquire a broad based knowledge and understanding of the basic techniques involved in photography, and an understanding of the basic features of a camera. Candidates will be given the opportunity to develop basic skills/ knowledge of exposure, composition and framing.

This Unit has been designed as a mandatory Unit of the Photography Course at SCQF level 6. It may also be taken as a freestanding Unit.

Outcomes

1   Describe the basic principles involved in image formation.
2   Identify and describe the basic features of a camera.
3   Produce examples of correctly exposed photographic images to a given brief.
4   Produce examples of effectively composed and framed photographic images to a given brief.

Recommended entry

Entry is at the discretion of the centre.

Credit points and level

1 National Unit credit at SCQF level 6 (6 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 6)*

*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.

General information (cont)

Unit title: Photography: Basic Camera Techniques (SCQF level 6)

Core Skills

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

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

National Unit specification: statement of standards

Unit title: Photography: Basic Camera Techniques (SCQF level 6)

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

Describe the basic principles involved in image formation.

Performance Criteria

(a) Describe accurately the main properties of light in relation to photography.
(b) Describe correctly how images are formed using a simple positive lens.

Outcome 2

Identify and describe the basic features of a camera.

Performance Criteria

(a) Describe accurately the light path through the camera.
(b) Identify accurately the controls of the camera and correctly explain their use.
(c) Demonstrate correctly the loading and unloading of the camera's recording media.

Outcome 3

Produce examples of correctly exposed photographic images to a given brief.

Performance Criteria

(a) Select appropriate recording media and equipment to produce correctly exposed photographic images.
(b) Use most appropriate exposure for given situations.
(c) Use appropriately exposed media for selected situations.

Outcome 4

Produce examples of effectively composed and framed photographic images to a given brief.

Performance Criteria

(a) Select appropriate viewpoint and framing for the chosen composition.
(b) Control correct focus for desired effect.

National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Photography: Basic Camera Techniques (SCQF level 6)

Evidence Requirements for this Unit

Evidence for this Unit is required to demonstrate that the candidate has achieved all Outcomes and Performance Criteria.

During the delivery of this Unit the following product evidence and written and/or oral evidence will be produced to demonstrate that the candidate has achieved all of the Outcomes and Performance Criteria.

Each candidate must produce a folio of work that includes the following:

♦   Written and/or oral evidence demonstrating an understanding of image formation and an explanation of basic camera techniques.
♦   A minimum of three photographic examples showing a range of tonal/lighting conditions.
♦   A minimum of three photographic examples showing effective selection of viewpoints and compositions.

The evidence for Outcomes 1 and 2 must be produced under supervised conditions.

The evidence for Outcomes 3 and 4 must be produced under open-book conditions at appropriate points throughout delivery of the Unit, with progress monitored by the teacher/ lecturer on an ongoing basis.

The folio of work can be presented in a sketchbook, workbook or display board format and all assessment evidence must be retained along with a copy of the given brief and assessor checklists.

The National Assessment Bank (NAB) pack provided for this Unit illustrates the standard that should be applied. It contains an assessor checklist. If a centre wishes to design its own assessments for this Unit, they must be of a comparable standard.

National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Photography: Basic Camera Techniques (SCQF level 6)

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 has been designed as a mandatory Unit of the Photography Course at SCQF level 6. It may also be taken as a freestanding Unit.

This Unit is designed to enable candidates to acquire a broad-based knowledge and understanding of the basic techniques involved in photography, and an understanding of the basic features of a camera. Candidates will be given the opportunity to develop skills/knowledge of exposure, composition and framing.

Candidates will cover the basic concept of image formation and light. They should develop an understanding and be able to use the features of the camera they are using, and produce images to an acceptable quality to meet the assignments or achieve the Outcomes.

Guidance on learning and teaching approaches for this Unit

Outcomes 1, 2, 3 and 4 will benefit from teacher/lecturer or peer group discussion where candidates are given the opportunity to discuss the work and can be questioned in areas they may have failed to notice or consider as possible areas of investigation. Working in this way will allow candidates to learn from each other and broaden their understanding of the images and develop critical thinking skills.

Outcomes 1 and 2 are likely to be teacher/lecturer led on a formal basis with candidates gaining some hands-on practical experience in Outcome 2.

Outcomes 3 and 4 involves the examination of examples of photographic images produced by candidates in conjunction with practical product based exercises.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

There are opportunities to develop aspects of the Core Skill of *Communication* (SCQF level 4) through participation in group discussion, critiques and analysis of the candidate's own work.

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Photography: Basic Camera Techniques (SCQF level 6)

Guidance on approaches to assessment for this Unit

For Outcomes 1 and 2 written and/or oral evidence is required. The evidence can be in the form of a centre generated multiple-choice question and short-answer style assessment and will be gathered under supervised conditions.

Assessment for Outcomes 3 and 4 can be integrated and can involve a practical assignment devised to satisfy all of the Performance Criteria for the two Outcomes. Candidates do not have to work within a darkroom and commercial image output is acceptable. The emphasis should be on the capture of images demonstrating a range of tonal situations/lighting conditions with due regard to compositional elements. All images produced may be by traditional or digital means as long as all Performance Criteria are met.

Opportunities for the use of 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 e-checklists. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all candidate evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the Evidence Requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. Further advice is available in *SQA Guidelines on Online Assessment for Further Education (AA1641, March 2003), SQA Guidelines on e-assessment for Schools (BD2625, June 2005).*

Disabled candidates and/or those with additional support needs

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering whether any reasonable adjustments may be required. Further advice can be found on our website **www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements**.

National Unit specification: general information

Unit title: Photography: Research Project (SCQF level 6)

Unit code: F8KJ 12

Superclass:	KE
Publication date:	May 2010
Source:	Scottish Qualifications Authority
Version:	01

Summary

This Unit is designed to enable candidates to engage in a photographic research project in a creative, structured way. Candidates will investigate a photographic theme and use problem solving techniques to produce effective research material and evidence of the creative use of techniques. Candidates will present the completed work in a suitable format. Candidates will reflect on their own work and research.

This Unit has been designed as a mandatory Unit of the Photography Course at SCQF level 6. It may also be taken as a freestanding Unit.

Outcomes

1   Investigate and research a theme in photography in response to a given brief.
2   Use appropriate photographic techniques, materials and equipment in response to the given brief.
3   Produce and present a folio of finished, annotated work in response to the given brief.
4   Evaluate the folio of finished work.

Recommended entry

While entry is at the discretion of the centre, candidates would benefit from having attained the following, or equivalent:

F8KH 12   *Photography: Basic Camera Techniques*

General information (cont)

Unit title: Photography: Research Project (SCQF level 6)

Credit points and level

1 National Unit credit at SCQF level 6 (6 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 6*)

*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.

Core Skills

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

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

National Unit specification: statement of standards

Unit title: Photography: Research Project (SCQF level 6)

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

Investigate and research a theme in photography in response to a given brief.

Performance Criteria

(a) Identify the requirements of the brief in terms of purpose, constraints, theme and key issues.
(b) Select appropriate research sources.
(c) Collect a range of relevant research material from both primary and secondary sources.
(d) Use relevant research material to produce a plan of action.

Outcome 2

Use appropriate photographic techniques, materials and equipment in response to the given brief.

Performance Criteria

(a) Select appropriate photographic techniques, equipment and materials.
(b) Use the chosen photography techniques, equipment and materials to produce examples of photography.
(c) Demonstrate a creative and confident use of photography techniques, equipment and materials.

Outcome 3

Produce and present a folio of finished, annotated work in response to the given brief.

Performance Criteria

(a) Select and edit key items from the gathered research, investigation work and own photographs.
(b) Present the finished, annotated work in an appropriate and effective manner.

Outcome 4

Evaluate the folio of finished work.

Performance Criteria

(a) Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the finished work in terms of creativity, use of materials, equipment and technique.
(b) Evaluate how well the finished work fulfils the requirements of the original brief.

National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Photography: Research Project (SCQF level 6)

Evidence Requirements for this Unit

Evidence is required to demonstrate that candidates have achieved all Outcomes and Performance Criteria for this Unit.

Written and/or oral evidence and product evidence is required.

This evidence will be produced under open-book conditions in response to a given brief at appropriate points throughout delivery of the Unit.

Candidates will produce a folio of work which will include:

♦ a Plan of Action which identifies the requirements of the brief in terms of:
  – purpose
  – constraints
  – theme
  – key issues
  – relevant research sources
  – conclusions derived from research
♦ a range of gathered research materials from a minimum of two photographers (historical and/or contemporary)
♦ a series of experimental examples of photographs demonstrating creative use of photographic materials, equipment and techniques
♦ a final presentation of annotated work in a suitable format
♦ an evaluation of the finished work — approx 500 words

It would be appropriate for this evidence to be in the format of a traditional or electronic annotated workbook.

The National Assessment Bank (NAB) pack provided for this Unit illustrates the standard that should be applied. It contains an assessor checklist. If a centre wishes to design its own assessments for this Unit, they must be of a comparable standard.

National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Photography: Research Project (SCQF level 6)

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 has been designed as a mandatory Unit of the Photography Course at SCQF level 6. It may also be taken as a freestanding Unit.

This Unit is designed to enable candidates to engage in a photographic research project in a creative, structured way. Candidates will investigate a photographic theme and use problem solving techniques to produce effective research material and evidence of the creative use of techniques. Candidates will present the completed work in a suitable format. Candidates will reflect on their own work and research.

The intention is to provide an opportunity for candidates to participate in an area of specialist study, of which they may have no previous experience and to allow them to explore that area creatively. To this end, it is recommended that consideration is given to providing creative and imaginative briefs and projects if completing as a freestanding Unit.

Teachers/lecturers should be aware that the assessment of the work is in terms of technical ability as well as creative approach to the subject.

Candidates will be encouraged to investigate photographic techniques, equipment and materials creatively.

Candidates should be directed to an area and a brief which is realistically within their capabilities. Available equipment should also be taken into account when selecting a brief.

Outcome 1

The brief should cover both the instructions set out in finding the solution to a design problem, and the sort of project which might be set for candidates to explore a photographic theme. In any case, it should be imaginative, and allow for individual creativity as well as the opportunity to demonstrate technical ability in photography.

Outcome 2

The different areas of photography may require different approaches in terms of selection of equipment and use of techniques, eg sports photography is a very different discipline from studio based still-life. Landscape requires a different approach to macro photography of flowers and insects.

Outcome 3

The collated materials either produced or gathered by candidates should relate to the given brief. The subsequent editing and annotation should clarify the theme and show engagement by each candidate with the research.

Unit title: Photography: Research Project (SCQF level 6)

Outcome 4

The purpose of this Outcome is to allow candidates to reflect on their work and identify and evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the skills acquired throughout the process of the research and development. Candidates should receive guidance and feedback throughout the work of the Unit.

Guidance on learning and teaching approaches for this Unit

This Unit can be delivered and integrated into the Practical Assignment of the Art and Design: Photography (Higher). If this approach is taken then teachers/lecturers should note that the brief must be selected from the options given in the Practical Assignment.

If the Unit is being delivered as a stand-alone Unit then candidates would be expected to select their chosen brief from a range provided by the lecturer/teacher. However, candidates may wish to generate their own brief in negotiation with the lecturer/teacher. The chosen brief must be broad enough to allow the candidates enough scope to develop creative and imaginative solutions.

The teacher/lecturer should ensure that the techniques, equipment and materials required for the successful completion of the candidate's chosen brief are available and accessible within the centre's resources.

The research project should be presented using a coherent and logical structure. The folio of work should be collated in an annotated workbook. Candidates will benefit from having a clear idea of the format required from the outset of the project and exemplification would be helpful at the start.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

If using electronic formats for their research, the candidate would have the opportunity to develop aspects of the Core Skill of *Information and Communication Technology*.

In this Unit the candidate will follow a brief to solve a problem, demonstrate knowledge and understanding of investigation and research skills producing examples and evaluating their own skills. This offers ideal opportunities to develop aspects of the Core Skill of *Problem Solving*.

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Photography: Research Project (SCQF level 6)

Guidance on approaches to assessment for this Unit

Outcomes 1 and 2 will benefit from teacher/lecturer or peer group discussion where candidates are given the opportunity to discuss their analysis and research and can be questioned in areas they may have failed to notice or consider as possible areas of investigation. Working in this way will allow the candidates to learn from each other and broaden their understanding of the brief and develop critical thinking skills. Checklists could be used to record candidate progress during formative stages of assessment.

Outcome 1

Candidates will be given a brief to follow and must show that they have gathered a wide range of relevant research material related to the chosen theme. An appropriate Instrument of Assessment will be the candidate's gathered research in response to the brief. Evidence may be in the form of annotated sketches, drawings, or photographs.

Outcome 2

Candidates are required to determine and creatively use the most appropriate photographic techniques, materials and equipment to produce their own examples of photographic work related to the chosen theme and requirements of the brief. An appropriate Instrument of Assessment will be the candidate's own photographic work produced in response to the brief.

Outcome 3

Candidates will edit and select an appropriate body of work from the research and investigation materials, gathered and/or produced which will be collated, edited and presented in a workbook with appropriate annotation throughout. An appropriate Instrument of Assessment will be the finished, annotated folio of work.

Outcome 4

Candidates will evaluate the finished work. Assessment will be in the form of a written and/or oral evaluation of 500 words. Teachers/lecturers may wish to provide a pro forma for this assessment which gives candidates a basic structure or series of questions to answer.

This Outcome is designed to encourage candidates critical analysis and self-evaluation of their own work.

The teacher/lecturer must be satisfied that the evidence submitted is the work of individual candidates. Although group work may be used as a learning and teaching approach, any work that contributes to a candidate's assessment evidence must be carried out on an individual basis to ensure authenticity.

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Photography: Research Project (SCQF level 6)

Opportunities for the use of 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 e-checklists. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all candidate evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the Evidence Requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. Further advice is available in *SQA Guidelines on Online Assessment for Further Education (AA1641, March 2003), SQA Guidelines on e-assessment for Schools (BD2625, June 2005)*.

Disabled candidates and/or those with additional support needs

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National Unit specification: general information

Unit title: Photography: Creative Image Making Techniques (SCQF level 6)

Unit code: F8KK 12

Superclass: KE

Publication date: May 2010

Source: Scottish Qualifications Authority

Version: 01

Summary

This Unit is designed to enable candidates to develop an understanding of a range of image manipulation techniques and the underpinning knowledge behind them. Candidates will also develop good practice in order to produce and evaluate their own original and well planned images. Successful completion of this Unit should prepare candidates for more advanced photographic training/study.

This Unit has been designed as an optional Unit of the Photography Course at SCQF level 6. It may also be taken as a freestanding Unit.

Outcomes

1   Investigate manipulative processes used in photography.
2   Produce a series of manipulated images.
3   Utilise equipment to produce a series of manipulated images.
4   Utilise selected techniques or chemicals to produce manipulated images.

Recommended entry

While entry is at the discretion of the centre, candidates would normally be expected to have attained the following, or equivalent:

F8KH 12   *Photography: Basic Camera Techniques*
F8KM 12   *Photography: Digital Imaging*

General information (cont)

Unit title: Photography: Creative Image Making Techniques
(SCQF level 6)

Credit points and level

1 National Unit credit at SCQF level 6 (6 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 6*)

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.

Core Skills

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

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

National Unit specification: statement of standards

Unit title: Photography: Creative Image Making Techniques (SCQF level 6)

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

Investigate manipulative processes used in photography.

Performance Criteria

(a) Identify manipulative processes used in a range of given images.
(b) Describe the procedures used for manipulating the given images.

Outcome 2

Produce a series of manipulated images.

Performance Criteria

(a) Use appropriate camera equipment manipulation to demonstrate zooming or panning to achieve desired effect in images.
(b) Use effective manipulation of shutter speeds to obtain controlled movement within the images.
(c) Apply appropriate special effect filters to achieve the desired effect within the images.
(d) Explain the procedures used for manipulating images, across all specified techniques.

Outcome 3

Use equipment to produce a series of manipulated images.

Performance Criteria

(a) Apply appropriate texture screens or layers for achieving the desired effect in images.
(b) Use selected equipment to manipulate the image and effectively demonstrate distortion in images.
(c) Use the procedure of double exposure technique correctly to achieve desired effect in images.
(d) Explain the procedures used for manipulating images through the use of the enlarger or appropriate software, across all specified techniques.

National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Photography: Creative Image Making Techniques (SCQF level 6)

Outcome 4

Use selected techniques or chemicals to produce manipulated images.

Performance Criteria

(a) Demonstrate effective control of the action of chemicals or techniques on images and show its appropriateness to specific toning technique.
(b) Use equipment and/or chemicals safely at all times and in accordance with current health and safety regulations.
(c) Explain the procedures used for manipulating images through use of selected chemicals or techniques, across all specified techniques.

Evidence Requirements for this Unit

Evidence is required to demonstrate that candidates have achieved all Outcomes and Performance Criteria for this Unit.

Written and/or oral evidence and product evidence is required.

It would be appropriate for this evidence to be in the format of a traditional or electronic annotated work.

Outcome 1

Written and/or oral evidence is required to demonstrate the candidate's ability to identify and describe the manipulative processes of zooming and panning, use of shutter speeds and use of special effect filters from a wide selection of given images exemplifying these techniques.

Outcome 2

One image must also be produced by candidates for each of the following three techniques:

(i)   Camera equipment manipulation — zooming or panning.
(ii)   Manipulation of shutter speeds.
(iii)   Application of special effect filters.

In the production of each of the three images candidates must demonstrate their ability to utilise the relevant techniques.

Prints will be a minimum size A5.

Written and/or oral explanation of procedures used for manipulating images, across all techniques specified is required.

National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Photography: Creative Image Making Techniques (SCQF level 6)

Outcome 3

One image must be produced by the candidate for each of the following three techniques:

(i)   Use of texture screens/digital layers.
(ii)   Image distortion.
(iii) Double exposure.

In the production of each of the three images candidates must demonstrate their ability to utilise the relevant techniques.

Prints will be a minimum size A5.

Written and/or oral explanation of procedures used for manipulating images through the use of the enlarger or appropriate software, across all techniques specified, is required.

Outcome 4

One image must be produced by the candidate for each of the following two techniques:

(i)   Pseudo-solarisation.
(ii)   Toning — any **one** of the following techniques:
   –   single colour toning
   –   multi-colour toning
   –   hand tinting
   –   selenium toning

In the production of the two images candidates must demonstrate their ability to utilise the relevant techniques.

Prints will be a minimum size A5.

Written and/or oral explanation of procedures used for manipulating images through use of selected chemicals or techniques across the techniques specified is required.

The National Assessment Bank (NAB) pack provided for this Unit illustrates the standard that should be applied. It contains an assessor checklist. If a centre wishes to design its own assessments for this Unit, they must be of a comparable standard.

National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Photography: Creative Image Making Techniques (SCQF level 6)

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 has been designed as an optional Unit of the Photography Course at SCQF level 6. It may also be taken as a freestanding Unit.

The aim is for candidates to gain a knowledge and understanding of a range of image manipulation techniques. *Candidates will produce evidence which will include an annotated workbook which contains a range of given manipulated images and descriptions about the equipment and techniques used along with eight* finished manipulated images.

Outcome 1

Performance Criteria (a) and (b) — the images presented for identification should clearly reflect the results of manipulative techniques used by practising photographers. The images could be collected from magazines, newspapers, past photographs, etc. The images can be presented individually or collectively, and could have a means of identification (ie number, letter) for assessment purposes.

Outcome 2

Performance Criteria (c) — appropriate special effect filters should be made available to the candidate, ie Split Image, Red/Orange and Star Burst filters.

Several photographs may be taken by the candidate but it is only necessary to print three selected images.

Outcome 3

The suitability of the images used for this Outcome should be agreed with the teacher/ lecturer. The images may be produced specifically for this Outcome, or could be those produced in Outcome 1. Alternatively they could have been produced independently of this Unit (ie for the Unit *Photography: Research Project* or candidate's portfolio).

Performance Criteria (b) — appropriate texture screens should be made available to the candidate. Texture screens used should be suitable for the format used.

Unit title: Photography: Creative Image Making Techniques
                    (SCQF level 6)

Outcome 4

Safe working practices should be emphasised in this Outcome. The proper processes for using chemicals must be maintained.

The suitability of the images used for this Outcome should be agreed with the teacher/ lecturer. As with Outcome 2 these can be produced specifically for this Outcome or can be those produced in Outcome 2, or independently of this Unit.

Chemicals appropriate to the function should be made available to the candidate.

Throughout this Unit safety must be stressed. Safe working practices should be an integral part of all the activities.

Guidance on learning and teaching approaches for this Unit

Outcomes 1, 2, 3 and 4 will benefit from teacher/lecturer or peer group discussion where candidates are given the opportunity to discuss the work and can be questioned in areas they may have failed to notice or consider as possible areas of investigation. Working in this way will allow candidates to learn from each other and broaden their understanding of the images and develop critical thinking skills.

A candidate centred resource based learning approach is recommended. During the work of the Unit candidates should have several opportunities to develop their practical skills, and should be assessed at appropriate points throughout delivery of the work. Candidates will benefit from teacher/lecturer demonstration at key points in the Unit. Appropriate terminology should be presented in context throughout the Unit.

Where candidates are unsuccessful in achieving an Outcome, provision should be made for remediation and reassessment.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

There are opportunities to develop aspects of the Core Skill of *Communication* at SCQF level 4 through participation in group discussion, critiques and analysis of the candidate's own work.

Guidance on approaches to assessment for this Unit

Centres may use Instruments of Assessment which are considered to be most appropriate. Examples of Instruments of Assessment which could be used to generate and gather evidence of achievement are as follows.

Outcome 1

An appropriate Instrument of Assessment would be a restricted response style questionnaire. Candidates should be presented with a selection of images exemplifying the different techniques (camera equipment control, use of shutter speeds, and use of special filters). Satisfactory achievement of this Outcome would be based on candidates correctly identifying the processes utilised in 75% of these images.

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Photography: Creative Image Making Techniques (SCQF level 6)

Outcomes 2, 3 and 4

An appropriate Instrument of Assessment will be practical exercises to produce eight final annotated images utilising the relevant techniques and equipment.

The teacher/lecturer must be satisfied that the evidence submitted is the work of individual candidates. Although group work may be used as a learning and teaching approach, any work that contributes to candidate assessment evidence must be carried out on an individual basis to ensure authenticity.

Opportunities for the use of 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 e-checklists. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all candidate evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the Evidence Requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. Further advice is available in *SQA Guidelines on Online Assessment for Further Education (AA1641, March 2003), SQA Guidelines on e-assessment for Schools (BD2625, June 2005)*.

Disabled candidates and/or those with additional support needs

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering whether any reasonable adjustments may be required. Further advice can be found on our website **www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements**.

National Unit specification: general information

Unit title: Photography: Reportage (SCQF level 6)

Unit code: F8KL 12

Superclass: KE

Publication date: May 2010

Source: Scottish Qualifications Authority

Version: 01

Summary

This Unit is designed to enable candidates to acquire knowledge of the skills involved in producing a photographic essay or photo story. Candidates will develop the ability to apply a thematic approach to a given brief, where a series of images will be produced to tell a story.

This Unit has been designed as an optional Unit of the Photography Course at SCQF level 6. It may also be taken as a freestanding Unit.

Outcomes

1   Investigate a photographic theme in response to a given brief.
2   Produce a series of photographic images of the chosen theme in response to the brief.
3   Prepare and present images to communicate the chosen theme in response to the brief.

Recommended entry

While entry is at the discretion of the centre, candidates would normally be expected to have attained one of the following, or equivalent:

F8KH 12   *Photography: Basic Camera Techniques* (SCQF level 6)
D956 12   *Photography: Monochrome Film Processing and Printing* (SCQF level 6)
F8KM 12   *Photography: Digital Imaging*

General information (cont)

Unit title: Photography: Reportage (SCQF level 6)

Credit points and level

1 National Unit credit at SCQF level 6 (6 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 6*)

*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.

Core Skills

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

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

National Unit specification: statement of standards

Unit title: Photography: Reportage (SCQF level 6)

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

Investigate a photographic theme in response to a given brief.

Performance Criteria

(a) Identify the constraints and requirements.
(b) Select an appropriate theme with developmental potential to tell a story.
(c) Identify appropriate timelines and location.
(d) Select appropriate techniques and equipment for effective photography.

Outcome 2

Produce a series of photographic images of the chosen theme in response to the brief.

Performance Criteria

(a) Use appropriate camera equipment to ensure effective photography.
(b) Use appropriate compositional and focusing techniques to ensure effective photography.
(c) Use techniques correctly to ensure effective series of photographic images that communicate the story of the chosen theme.

Outcome 3

Prepare and present images to communicate the chosen theme in response to the brief.

Performance Criteria

(a) Select and edit the most appropriate images in response to the chosen theme.
(b) Crop the images, where appropriate, to enhance and ensure effective visual impact of the thematic images.
(c) Remove all blemishes and marks where necessary.
(d) Ensure images are appropriate in terms of exposure, contrast, tonal range and sharpness.
(e) Present final images in a format that effectively communicates the chosen theme.

National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Photography: Reportage (SCQF level 6)

Evidence Requirements for this Unit

Evidence is required to demonstrate that candidates have achieved all Outcomes and Performance Criteria for this Unit.

Written and/or oral evidence and product evidence is required.

This evidence will be produced under open-book conditions in response to a given brief.

The candidate will produce a folio of evidence which will include:

♦ A basic plan that includes timescales for completion of the key tasks and consideration of location, methods, techniques and equipment
♦ A series of thematic images produced by the candidate in response to the brief
♦ Annotation explaining the candidate's selection from the initial series of photographic images
♦ Selected images before and after editing with annotation to explain adjustments and decisions made
♦ A final presentation of a minimum of eight, a maximum of 12 finished images produced by the candidate in response to the brief. All images will be a minimum size of A5.

The National Assessment Bank (NAB) pack provided for this Unit illustrates the standard that should be applied. It contains an assessor checklist. If a centre wishes to design its own assessments for this Unit, they must be of a comparable standard.

National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Photography: Reportage (SCQF level 6)

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 has been designed as an optional Unit of the Photography Course at SCQF level 6. It may also be taken as a freestanding Unit.

This Unit is designed to enable candidates to acquire the skills necessary to produce a photographic essay or photo story.

Candidates will develop the ability to apply a thematic approach to a given brief, where a series of images will be produced to tell a story.

The intention is to provide an opportunity for candidates with some experience of photography to respond to a given brief and demonstrate effective choices of theme, equipment, techniques and approach in developing and producing a series of thematic, photographic images. The exercises undertaken in the study of this Unit will give adequate opportunity for candidates to creatively research the subject of Reportage and apply knowledge and skills of photographic techniques acquired to their own work.

Health and safety guidance relating to studio practice and location work should be given. Candidates will be expected to adopt safe working practices at all times.

Guidance on learning and teaching approaches for this Unit

Candidates will be presented with an integrative practical exercise to assess their ability to carry out a photo reportage assignment (telling a story in photographic form).

This centre devised brief should be used as the starting point to generate research which should be individual in nature and lead the candidate on a personal line of enquiry. Suitable briefs could include *current affairs, environmental issues, sporting events, etc.*

Exemplar material of a relevant standard could be made available for review and discussion at Unit induction, as this would support candidates' understanding of the Unit requirements before embarking on the project.

It would also be advantageous for candidates to become familiar with the work of 'Photo Reportage' photographers by viewing publications and exhibitions, where possible, in order to become aware of differing photographic styles.

Analysis of the brief should be carried out by candidates, enabling them to analyse the constraints and requirements of the brief, identify the key issues and interpret and decide upon an individual line of enquiry. This will help candidates to plan the process and manage their timescales for completion of the key project stages.

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Photography: Reportage (SCQF level 6)

A candidate-centred resource-based learning approach is recommended. During the work of the Unit, candidates should have a number of opportunities to develop their practical skills and should be assessed at appropriate points.

The teacher/lecturer should demonstrate how to select appropriate equipment and techniques for the production of a series of thematic images. A demonstration on effective ways of editing/cropping/printing the images for the final presentation should be given.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

There are opportunities to develop aspects of the Core Skill of *Communication* through participation in group discussion, critiques and analysis of the work of practising photographers.

Through the development and planning of the work in response to the given brief candidates will have the opportunity to develop the Core Skill of *Problem Solving*.

As this Unit reflects the identified need to develop and extend the use of technology to reflect industry expectations candidates will have the opportunity to develop the Core Skill of *Information and Communication Technology*.

Guidance on approaches to assessment for this Unit

A suitable Instrument of Assessment for this Unit will be a practical exercise(s) and written and/or oral evidence. This Unit will allow candidates to be supported throughout the process and allow them time to develop any areas that would benefit from further study and investigation.

Outcome 1

Assessment of this Outcome will be written and/or oral evidence to include a basic plan that clarifies issues of the brief (theme, feasibility; timescale/deadline; location; specific requirements; freedom of interpretation; colour/monochrome; digital/traditional image).

This Outcome will benefit from teacher/lecturer or peer group discussion where candidates are given the opportunity to discuss their research of the brief and can be questioned in areas they may have failed to notice or consider as possible lines of investigation. Working in this way will allow candidates to learn from each other and broaden their understanding of the brief and develop critical thinking skills. Checklists can be used to record candidate progress during formative stages of assessment.

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Photography: Reportage (SCQF level 6)

Outcome 2

Product evidence in the form of a series of thematic images, which the candidate has produced on their own, at appropriate points throughout the Unit.

The brief will inform candidates that the series of thematic images must be the result of:

♦ Appropriate selection of equipment, eg:
— format of camera(s)/camera type
— focal length of lenses/maximum aperture
— portable flashguns/battery packs
— memory equipment (eg 2GB, 4GB, etc)
Type of image capture:
— monochrome/colour
— traditional/digital
File type (eg RAW, jpeg, TIFF, etc)
♦ Effective selection of techniques, eg:
— composition:
– viewpoint
– perspective
– angle of view
— focusing:
– differential focus
– pre-set focus
– hyper focal distance
♦ Appropriate production of images in terms of:
— exposure
— contrast
— sharpness
— file size
— composition

It would be appropriate for this evidence to be presented in a workbook format of traditional prints or electronic display or digital prints.

Outcome 3

Product evidence in the form of a final presentation that demonstrates effective editing, cropping printing technique (if appropriate), layout and communication of the theme/story.

It would be appropriate for this evidence to be presented in a format of traditional prints or electronic display or digital prints. Candidates should be supported by the teacher/lecturer when making choices in relation to selecting a chosen idea or concept for the final photographic images.

The teacher/lecturer must be satisfied that the evidence submitted is the work of individual candidates. Although group work may be used as a learning and teaching approach, any work that contributes to a candidate's assessment evidence must be carried out on an individual basis to ensure authenticity.

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Photography: Reportage (SCQF level 6)

Candidates should follow an activity-based learning approach, seeking guidance at each stage.

Candidates should be encouraged to compare each other's work and to discuss different approaches and solutions to problems. This can be on an informal basis, but teacher/lecturer led discussions can be held at regular intervals.

A coaching approach can be used, with the teacher/lecturer demonstrating techniques and the candidate practising them within the context of a brief. The teacher/lecturer should give constant support and feedback, with intervention where appropriate and group discussions about common problems could be an ongoing feature.

Opportunities for the use of 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 e-checklists. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all candidate evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the Evidence Requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. Further advice is available in *SQA Guidelines on Online Assessment for Further Education (AA1641, March 2003), SQA Guidelines on e-assessment for Schools (BD2625, June 2005)*.

Disabled candidates and/or those with additional support needs

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering whether any reasonable adjustments may be required. Further advice can be found on our website **www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements**.

National Unit specification: general information

Unit title: Photography: Digital Imaging (SCQF level 6)

Unit code: F8KM 12

Superclass:	KE
Publication date:	May 2010
Source:	Scottish Qualifications Authority
Version:	01

Summary

This Unit is designed to enable candidates to develop knowledge and understanding of a range of digital techniques and an understanding of the underpinning knowledge behind these techniques. Candidates will also be provided with the opportunity to develop good practice in producing their own original and well planned images. Successful completion of this Unit should prepare candidates for more advanced training/study.

This Unit has been designed as an optional Unit of the Photography Course at SCQF level 6 and the National Certificate in Art and Design at SCQF level 6. It may also be taken as a freestanding Unit.

Outcomes

1 Import a range of image types into a digital environment.
2 Process/manipulate images within a given software package.
3 Produce a series of digitally enhanced or manipulated images.
4 Collate and present final images in an appropriate format.

Recommended entry

While entry is at the discretion of the centre it would be beneficial if candidates had prior experience in the use of camera controls.

Credit points and level

1 National Unit credit at SCQF level 6 (6 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 6*)

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.

General information (cont)

Unit title: Photography: Digital Imaging (SCQF level 6)

Core Skills

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

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

National Unit specification: statement of standards

Unit title: Photography: Digital Imaging (SCQF level 6)

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

Import a range of image types into a digital environment.

Performance Criteria

(a) Identify the correct hardware required to import images from film, print and digital cameras.
(b) Set the software controls correctly to achieve the required file size.
(c) Import the chosen images into a digital environment.
(d) Save the imported images into an appropriate file type.

Outcome 2

Process/manipulate images within a given software package.

Performance Criteria

(a) Adjust resolution and size correctly to achieve appropriate final output.
(b) Carry out appropriate adjustments of colour balance, contrast and brightness as required.
(c) Use correct technology to remove blemishes or marks from the image.
(d) Combine at least two images to create a new image.
(e) Save the images in an appropriate file format.

Outcome 3

Produce a series of digitally enhanced or manipulated images.

Performance Criteria

(a) Select appropriate camera equipment and hardware to produce a series of digitally enhanced or manipulated images.
(b) Use selected equipment and hardware to produce images and import them into the digital environment.
(c) Correctly process and manipulate the images.
(d) Save the digitally enhanced or manipulated images in an appropriate file format.

National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Photography: Digital Imaging (SCQF level 6)

Outcome 4

Collate and present final images in an appropriate format.

Performance Criteria

(a) Select final images for presentation.
(b) Identify the hardware on which images will be produced.
(c) Select media to be used.
(d) Set up appropriate resolution to suit image and selected media.
(e) Present final images in an appropriate format.

Evidence Requirements for this Unit

Evidence is required to demonstrate that candidates have achieved all Outcomes and Performance Criteria for this Unit.

Product evidence in a folio and/or electronic annotated file is required.

This evidence will be produced under open-book conditions at appropriate points throughout delivery of the Unit.

Candidates will produce a folio and/or electronic file of work which will include:

♦ A minimum of three original images imported into a digital environment:
   – one from film
   – one from print
   – one from digital camera
   Resulting file size set to allow output as photographic quality prints (minimum A5).

♦ A minimum of three processed/manipulated images, with annotations to explain processes used, saved in correct file format.
   Resulting file size set to allow output as photographic quality prints (minimum A5).

♦ A minimum of 10 processed/manipulated images taken by the candidate with annotations to explain processes used and demonstrating correct saving and appropriate file format techniques.
   Resulting file size set to allow output as photographic quality prints (minimum A5).

♦ A presentation of the finished work.
   Prints will be photographic quality and minimum A5. Images saved in a digital workbook will be of a suitable resolution for output as photographic prints (minimum A5).

The National Assessment Bank (NAB) pack provided for this Unit illustrates the standard that should be applied. It contains an assessor checklist. If a centre wishes to design its own assessments for this Unit, they must be of a comparable standard.

National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Photography: Digital Imaging (SCQF level 6)

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 has been designed as an optional Unit of the Photography Course at SCQF level 6 and the National Certificate in Art and Design at SCQF level 6. It may also be taken as a freestanding Unit.

The aim is for candidates to gain a basic understanding of general photographic techniques and image formation with due regard to compositional factors.

This Unit is designed to enable candidates to develop knowledge and understanding of a range of digital techniques and an understanding of the underpinning knowledge behind these techniques. Candidates will also be provided with the opportunity to develop good practice in producing their own original and well planned images.

This Unit is designed to encourage candidates in the application of digital imaging techniques. The intention is to provide an opportunity for candidates to participate in this area of study at a reasonable level for a person with a limited experience of photography. It is recommended that exercises undertaken in the study of this Unit gives adequate opportunity for candidates to explore the subject and to be creative.

The following information gives further clarification regarding the context in which Outcomes and Performance Criteria are to be achieved.

Outcome 1

PC(b)   File size will be dependant on the final image output size and quality required.
PC(d)   File type, eg RAW, TIFF, JPEG, etc will be dependant on image software being used, eg Photoshop, Lightroom, etc. The teacher/lecturer can provide images for this task.

Outcome 2

PC(d)   Original images should be retained as evidence.
        Images should be saved with the layers to allow for assessment, therefore an appropriate file format must be selected.

Outcome 3

For the Evidence Requirement in this Outcome, candidates should save all their work into an appropriate storage device, eg flash drive, USB memory stick, etc.

Outcome 4

Output of candidates final images must meet the standards of a photographic quality image whether it be in print format or electronic format.

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Photography: Digital Imaging (SCQF level 6)

Guidance on learning and teaching approaches for this Unit

Teaching and Learning should be a combination of teacher/lecturer centred investigation and candidate centred learning. Candidates should be encouraged to take a positive attitude towards the quality of their own work throughout this Unit. This emphasis throughout the Unit should be on practical application, creativity and innovation.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

As this Unit reflects the identified need to develop and extend the use of technology to reflect industry expectations the candidate will have the opportunity to develop the Core Skill of *Information and Communication Technology*.

There are opportunities to develop aspects of the Core Skill of *Communication* through participation in group discussion, critiques and analysis of the candidate's own work.

Guidance on approaches to assessment for this Unit

Outcomes 1 and 2

Outcomes 1 and 2 will be product evidence and available for 'on-screen' assessment. Candidates will produce a computer file with all images saved into this environment. The annotated file will contain the original images before any manipulation and the same images after manipulation. The teacher/lecturer may provide images for this task.

Outcome 3

Candidates will produce a series of their own images saved into a different digital file than that used in Outcomes 1 and 2. The series will contain a minimum of 10 images annotated where appropriate.

Outcome 4

Candidates will present in an appropriate manner a set of photographic quality digital images. The final presentation can be a hard copy or an electronic presentation of the images produced in Outcome 3.

Opportunities for the use of 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 e-checklists. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all candidate evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the Evidence Requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. Further advice is available in *SQA Guidelines on Online Assessment for Further Education (AA1641, March 2003), SQA Guidelines on e-assessment for Schools (BD2625, June 2005)*.

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Photography: Digital Imaging (SCQF level 6)

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