

**-SQA-SCOTTISH QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY**

**NATIONAL CERTIFICATE MODULE: UNIT SPECIFICATION**

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

**-Module Number-** 8170116

**-Session-1996-97**

**-Superclass-** KE

**-Title-** ART AND DESIGN: INTRODUCTION TO PHOTOGRAPHY

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**-DESCRIPTION-**

**GENERAL COMPETENCE FOR UNIT:** Research a given brief in photography; complete and present work in photography.

**OUTCOMES**

1. research a given brief in photography;
2. investigate appropriate techniques and materials in photography;
3. produce work in photography;
4. formally present completed work in photography.

**CREDIT VALUE:** 1 NC Credit

**ACCESS STATEMENT:** No prior knowledge or skills are required for this module.

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For further information contact: Committee and Administration Unit, SQA, Hanover House, 24 Douglas Street, Glasgow G2 7NQ.

Additional copies of this unit may be purchased from SQA (Sales and Despatch section). At the time of publication, the cost is £1.50 (minimum order £5.00).

**NATIONAL CERTIFICATE MODULE: UNIT SPECIFICATION****STATEMENT OF STANDARDS****UNIT NUMBER:** 8170116**UNIT TITLE:** ART AND DESIGN: INTRODUCTION TO PHOTOGRAPHY

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

**OUTCOME**

1. RESEARCH A GIVEN BRIEF IN PHOTOGRAPHY

**PERFORMANCE CRITERIA**

- (a) Appropriate research sources are identified clearly.
- (b) Appropriate research materials are gathered.
- (c) The demands of the brief are complied with.

**RANGE STATEMENT**

The range for this outcome is fully expressed within the performance criteria.

**EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS**

The candidate will be given a brief to follow and must show that he/she has followed it correctly. Evidence may be in the form of sketches, drawings, or photographs showing how the brief has been followed.

**OUTCOME**

2. INVESTIGATE APPROPRIATE TECHNIQUES AND MATERIALS IN PHOTOGRAPHY

**PERFORMANCE CRITERIA**

- (a) Appropriate techniques are identified clearly.
- (b) Appropriate materials are identified clearly.
- (c) Appropriate tools and equipment are used correctly.

**RANGE STATEMENT**

Loading and taking film with SLR camera; developing and printing of film.

**EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS**

The candidate will be asked to determine which materials and techniques are best used to complete the items in the range.

Evidence may be in the form of photographs and/or written or oral descriptions of the materials and techniques used.

**OUTCOME**

**3. PRODUCE WORK IN PHOTOGRAPHY**

**PERFORMANCE CRITERIA**

- (a) Appropriate methods and approaches for completing work are identified clearly.
- (b) Techniques and materials are used correctly.
- (c) The work conforms to the demands of the brief.

**RANGE STATEMENT**

The range for this outcome is fully expressed within the performance criteria.

**EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS**

For this outcome the candidate must produce at least one set of photographs which conforms to the given brief referred to in outcome 1. Materials and techniques must be used correctly and in accordance with health and safety regulations.

**OUTCOME**

**4. FORMALLY PRESENT COMPLETED WORK IN PHOTOGRAPHY**

**PERFORMANCE CRITERIA**

- (a) Appropriate methods of presentation are identified clearly.
- (b) Presentation methods and techniques are applied correctly.
- (c) Methods of presentation are appropriate to the demands of the brief.

**RANGE STATEMENT**

The range for this outcome is fully expressed within the performance criteria.

**EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS**

For this outcome the candidate will have to show how his/her photographs can best be displayed for presentation. Evidence will be formal presentation of the photographs in an appropriate way.

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**ASSESSMENT**

In order to achieve this unit, candidates are required to present sufficient evidence that they have met all the performance criteria for each outcome within the range specified. Details of these requirements are given for each outcome. The assessment instruments used should follow the general guidance offered by the SQA assessment model and an integrative approach to assessment is encouraged. (See references at the end of support notes).

Accurate records should be made of the assessment instruments used showing how evidence is generated for each outcome and giving marking schemes and/or checklists, etc. Records of candidates' achievements should be kept. These records will be available for external verification.

**SPECIAL NEEDS**

In certain cases, modified outcomes and range statements can be proposed for certification. See references at end of support notes.

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**NATIONAL CERTIFICATE MODULE: UNIT SPECIFICATION****SUPPORT NOTES**

**UNIT NUMBER:** 8170116

**UNIT TITLE:** ART AND DESIGN: INTRODUCTION TO PHOTOGRAPHY

**SUPPORT NOTES:** This part of the unit specification is offered as guidance. None of the sections of the support notes is mandatory.

The modules "Introduction to Specialist Study" are part of a suite intended to form a coherent whole. At the moment they cover a small number of specialist fine art and design disciplines, but it is hoped that the format will allow for the introduction of other subjects within the same overall framework. As an introduction to specialist study, they should be seen as vehicles for creative experimentation within specific disciplines. They are not intended to mimic the realities of professional practice.

**NOTIONAL DESIGN LENGTH:** SQA allocates a notional design length to a unit on the basis of time estimated for achievement of the stated standards by a candidate whose starting point is as described in the access statement. The notional design length for this unit is 40 hours. The use of notional design length for programme design and timetabling is advisory only.

**PURPOSE** This module is part of a series in specialist studies: interior design, stitched textiles, sculpture, exhibition design, illustration, painting, surface decoration and graphic design.

These modules are essentially diagnostic, and would ideally form part of a foundation programme of study. 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, without undue emphasis being placed on the technical rigours associated with it. To this end, it is recommended that consideration is given to providing creative and imaginative briefs and projects freed, as far as is appropriate, from the constraints of professional practice. Likewise, any assessment of candidate achievement should bear in mind that individuals are being assessed not only in terms of ability, but also in terms of their enthusiasm in approaching a subject for which they may have little aptitude, but which has been offered to them in a spirit of try it and see. On the other hand, the experience of the subject should be a realistic one, it being of little use to pretend that the candidates of, say, Interior Design would not be expected to undertake the technical discipline of producing plans.

SQA publishes summaries of NC units for easy reference, publicity purposes, centre handbooks, etc. The summary statement for this unit is as follows:

This module offers the candidate the opportunity to experience and experiment with an area of specialist study which may be new to them.

Candidates will be encouraged to investigate techniques and materials creatively and produce work in response to a given brief.

**CONTENT/CONTEXT** The following information gives further clarification regarding the context in which the outcomes and performance criteria are to be achieved.

#### Outcome 1

The term 'brief' here covers both the instructions set out in finding the solution to a design problem, and the sort of project which might be set for candidates in a fine art discipline. In any case, it should be imaginative, and allow for individual creativity, and the constraints involved should not necessarily be those of real professional practice.

#### Outcome 2

The investigation of techniques and materials should be approached with the idea that candidates should experience in broad terms the skills and use of media associated with a particular discipline. While it would serve no useful purpose in the context of this module to lay down specific techniques and materials within each area of study which should of necessity be experienced, neither would it be appropriate for candidates to gain the impression that specialist disciplines are alike. Where particular technical demands, and skill in the use of specific materials form an integral part of a specialist area, it would be unwise to avoid this fact when introducing candidates to this area, and some thought should be given in this respect.

Students of photography should be introduced to basic techniques in the taking and processing of film, and the use of an SLR camera, but there should not be too great an emphasis on technical matters. It would be perfectly possible, for example, to introduce candidates to the concept of photography without involving them individually in darkroom techniques.

#### Outcome 3

The term 'work' here covers a single, and not overly ambitious, project, which might reasonably be undertaken by a candidate with no previous experience in that area. While it is essential that candidates should produce work which reflects their experience of the subject area, the finished item or items may take secondary importance, in terms of scale and ambition, to the creative and investigative process which has gone before.

#### Outcome 4

The presentation of completed work should be seen as completing the introduction to specialist study, and may involve mounting work on boards, in a portfolio, or on display

**RECOGNITION** Many SQA NC units are recognised for entry/recruitment purposes. For up-to-date information see the SQA guide 'Recognised Groupings of National Certificate Modules'.

## REFERENCES

1. Guide to unit writing. (A018).
2. For a fuller discussion on assessment issues, please refer to SQA's Guide to Assessment. (B005).
3. Procedures for special needs statements are set out in SQA's guide 'Candidates with Special Needs'. (B006).
4. Information for centres on SQA's operating procedures is contained in SQA's Guide to Procedures. (F009).
5. For details of other SQA publications, please consult SQA's publications list. (X037).

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