

National Unit Specification: general information

UNIT Figure Drawing (Higher)

NUMBER D9GH 12

COURSE

SUMMARY

This unit is designed to give candidates a basic understanding of the human figure, and to develop their skills in depicting human proportion, structure and form. Candidates are asked to produce drawings and colour studies which render the figure accurately in a variety of positions, and to utilise appropriate drawing media.

OUTCOMES

- 1 Produce drawings of the human figure which demonstrate an understanding of proportion and scale.
- 2 Produce drawings of the human figure which demonstrate an understanding of structure and form.
- 3 Produce drawings and studies of the human figure in a variety of poses.

RECOMMENDED ENTRY

Access is at the discretion of the centre.

CREDIT VALUE

1 Credit at Higher (6 SCOTCAT points*) at SCQF level 6.

**SCOTCAT 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 SCOTCAT points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

Administrative Information

Superclass: JB

Publication date: August 2003

Source: Scottish Qualifications Authority

Version: 01

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National Unit Specification: general information (cont)

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CORE SKILLS

Information on the automatic certification of any core skills in this unit is published in *Automatic Certification of Core Skills in National Qualifications* (SQA, publication code BA0906).

National Unit Specification: statement of standards

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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 the Scottish Qualifications Authority.

OUTCOME 1

Produce drawings of the human figure which demonstrate an understanding of proportion and scale.

Performance criteria

- a) Studies should be made from first-hand sources.
- b) The proportions of the figure are depicted accurately.
- c) The scale of the figure is depicted accurately.
- d) A suitable variety of drawing media should be used.

Evidence requirements

Candidates should produce a minimum of 6 preliminary sketches, and 2 finished drawings.

OUTCOME 2

Produce drawings of the human figure which demonstrate an understanding of structure and form.

Performance criteria

- a) Studies should be made from first-hand sources.
- b) The three-dimensional form of the figure is depicted accurately.
- c) The structure of the human anatomy is depicted accurately.
- d) A suitable variety of media and materials should be used.

Evidence requirements

Candidates should produce a minimum of 6 preliminary sketches, and 2 finished drawings.

OUTCOME 3

Produce drawings and studies of the human figure in a variety of poses.

Performance criteria

- a) Studies should be made from first-hand sources.
- b) The figure should be depicted in a standing pose.
- c) The figure should be depicted in a seated pose.
- d) The figure should be depicted in a reclining pose.

Evidence requirements

Candidates should produce a minimum of 6 preliminary sketches, and 2 finished drawings.

National Unit Specification: support notes

UNIT Figure Drawing (Higher)

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

Outcome 1

Drawings should be produced from direct observation of a live model. Linear drawing media might include pencil, pen or crayon, with the emphasis on outline as opposed to tonal qualities or texture. Preliminary sketches may be completed within sketchbooks.

Outcome 2

Drawings should be produced from direct observation of a live model. Emphasis (PC(c)) should be on depicting the underlying structure and form which should include muscle and may include skeletal studies. Candidates should demonstrate the ability to depict three dimensional forms through the use of tone as a medium to convey contrasts in light and shadow on the figure. Tonal media might include crayon, charcoal and ink. Preliminary sketches may be completed within sketchbooks.

Outcome 3

Drawings should be produced from direct observation of a live model. A variety of positions might include standing, sitting, crouching, and reclining. Candidates should demonstrate the ability to depict foreshortening of the figure, and to render accurately the proportions of the figure in a variety of positions. Preliminary sketches may be completed within sketchbooks.

GUIDANCE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING APPROACHES FOR THIS UNIT

Delivery of the unit should be largely studio based using a live model, either draped or undraped. The tutor should set poses for the model which will enable candidates to explore the various elements of proportion, scale, structure and form. Access to a skeleton or model skeleton would be advantageous. A straightforward approach to the use of drawing media should be encouraged; this unit is designed to develop basic figure drawing skills, rather than experimentation with media. Tutors may wish to demonstrate use of media, and to show examples of artists' techniques and styles in figure drawing throughout.

The allocation of candidate's time throughout the unit should be evenly distributed between the outcomes. Candidates may wish to complete preliminary sketches in a sketchbook. Finished drawings should demonstrate concentrated observation over an extended period (more than one hour) of a pose held by the model, either draped or undraped. Finished drawings need not be mounted for presentation.

National Unit Specification: support notes

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GUIDANCE ON APPROACHES TO ASSESSMENT FOR THIS UNIT

Assessment for all outcomes should be undertaken from both preliminary sketches and finished drawings, and should concentrate on achievement of the performance criteria. Assessment should be made of candidate's levels of achievement in rendering accurately proportion, scale, structure and form. The ability to utilise drawing media should also be assessed, although it should be borne in mind that developing skill in the use of drawing media in itself is not the purpose of the unit.

SPECIAL NEEDS

This unit specification is intended to ensure that there are no artificial barriers to learning or assessment. Special needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments or considering special alternative outcomes for units. For information on these, please refer to the SQA document *Guidance on Special Assessment Arrangements* (SQA, publication code AA0645).