

National Unit Specification: general information

UNIT **Art and Design: Design Study (Advanced Higher)**

CODE DV3J 13

COURSE Art and Design: Design (Advanced Higher)

SUMMARY

In this Unit, candidates will develop the ability to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of selected areas of design in historical and contemporary contexts, and develop, explain and communicate personal opinions and judgments. Candidates may study the Unit as part of a general education, for vocational reasons or for personal interest.

This Unit has been designed as an optional Unit of the Advanced Higher *Art and Design: Design* Course, but may also be used as a freestanding Unit.

OUTCOMES

1. Plan a study of an area of Design of personal interest and relevance.
2. Research, investigate and analyse the selected area of Design.

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:

- ◆ Higher Art and Design or its Units.

Administrative Information

Superclass: JA

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National Unit Specification: general information (cont)

UNIT Art and Design Studies: Design Study (Advanced Higher)

CREDIT VALUE

1 credit Advanced Higher (8 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7)*.

**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

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

National Unit Specification: statement of standards

UNIT Art and Design: Design Study (Advanced Higher)

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

Plan a study of an area of Design of personal interest and relevance.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Select and explain the personal relevance of a specific area of Design.
- (b) Explain the content and context of the selected Design area.
- (c) Explain possible approaches to the selected Design area.

OUTCOME 2

Research, investigate and analyse the selected area of Design.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Demonstrate investigation and research by presenting clear, relevant, accurate and extensive factual information about the selected area of study.
- (b) Analyse and critically evaluate the work from the area of study using appropriate vocabulary and coherent argument to communicate personal judgments.
- (c) Demonstrate clear understanding of design practice within the chosen area of study.

National Unit Specification: statement of standards (cont)

UNIT Art and Design: Design Study (Advanced Higher)

EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS UNIT

Evidence is required to demonstrate that candidates have achieved both the Outcomes and all of the Performance Criteria have been met. The candidate will produce work which is collated, organised and presented in a logical way under supervised conditions. Assessment will be carried out at a formal review of the work which must include:

- ◆ a plan explaining the content, context and possible approaches to the study of the chosen area
- ◆ work in the form of notes, cuttings, sketches or recorded information which identifies the chosen area of study within a design context
- ◆ extensive factual information on the selected area of study
- ◆ work demonstrating the analysis and evaluation of the chosen area of design; this must include reasoned, coherent arguments and appropriate vocabulary; the analysis and evaluation can be supported by cuttings, sketches and diagrams
- ◆ integrated illustrated and annotated studies which demonstrate an understanding of design practice.

A completed assessor checklist is required which records the candidate's progress. The assessor must be satisfied that the evidence submitted is the candidate's work. Although group work may be used a learning and teaching approach, any work which contributes to a candidate's assessment evidence must be carried out on an individual basis to ensure authenticity.

The National Assessment Bank item (NAB) for this Unit illustrates the standard and provides exemplification of the type of work suitable for this level. An assessor checklist is included in the NAB. Centres wishing to develop their own assessments should refer to the NAB to ensure a comparable standard.

National Unit Specification: support notes

UNIT Art and Design: Design Study (Advanced 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

The specific content of this unit should be based on the areas of personal interest selected by the candidate, researching and investigating design movements and/or specific designers in relation to design. Movements, disciplines and/or designers which may be selected by candidates for investigation are wide-ranging but examples of movements such as the Arts and Crafts, Art Nouveau, Art Deco, Post Modern, Contemporary Design or disciplines such as Graphic, Textile or Product Design may be considered for study. Any significant designers either historical or contemporary may also be the focus of the study.

GUIDANCE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING APPROACHES FOR THIS UNIT

The candidate should have the opportunity to explore and consider appropriate areas of personal interest allowing them to engage in active research and investigation. This may promote awareness, knowledge and understanding which will allow them to formulate, present and justify personal views and judgments. This could include visiting outside agencies, galleries or exploring the Internet and communicating directly with artists and designers.

Candidates can use a range of approaches to the production of evidence for this Unit such as an integrated, annotated and illustrated study, purely written or word processed study, PowerPoint or audio visual presentation. The study may be presented in a variety of formats such as sketchbook, notebook, presentation sheets, CD or disc.

They could, as appropriate, consider relationships to design through, for example:

- ◆ the study of products, graphics, textiles and so forth
- ◆ social, political or artistic influences
- ◆ movements in historical and contemporary categories such as Art Nouveau, Art Deco, Bauhaus, Contemporary Design
- ◆ the work of significant designers.

When undertaken as a Unit of the Advanced Higher *Art and Design: Design Course*, *Art and Design: Design Study* should be linked directly to the Design Enquiry. Thus, the Course will comprise the single integrated area of study:

- ◆ Design Enquiry with *Art and Design: Design Study*.

Art and Design: Design Study undertaken in conjunction with the Design Enquiry should reflect:

- ◆ the context, area and/or theme selected
- ◆ the nature and purposes of the Enquiry
- ◆ the integration of Art and Design Studies with the Enquiry.

National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

UNIT Art and Design: Design Study (Advanced Higher)

Integration of the Design Study with the Design Enquiry will allow each to inform and support the other. Research undertaken in connection with one Unit may provide a starting point for, or inform, the other.

Whether this Unit is delivered alone or as part of the Course it is important that candidates engage with investigation and interpretation of a personal response to a particular area, aspect or chosen subject.

The extent and depth of a candidate's interest and involvement in the chosen area or theme should lead to work beyond the centre. It should be particularly valuable for the candidate to develop and maintain a personal research file. Information should be collected in visual and other forms. A file of roughs, notes, jottings, etc. should reflect the candidate's interests, ideas and developing thinking.

Personal research files or similar will be accepted for assessment.

GUIDANCE ON APPROACHES TO ASSESSMENT FOR THIS UNIT

Candidates should be aware of assessment requirements and arrangements. Formative assessment in the form of candidate/tutor reviews may be used to assist candidates in their work. Teachers/lecturers may find it most useful to use the checklist to record candidates' progress throughout the Unit rather than leaving this until the end of the Unit.

Teachers/lecturers should assist candidates to prepare for assessment by advising and guiding them in the selection of work and how to present it logically and coherently. Candidates must be given autonomy in making the final selection and presenting their work for assessment, and should feel confident in doing so.

The selection of material for assessment and review between the candidate and assessor should be conducted at an appropriate time, which is likely to be towards the end of the Unit.

CANDIDATES WITH ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS

This Unit Specification is intended to ensure that there are no artificial barriers to learning or assessment. The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments or considering alternative Outcomes for Units. For information on these, please refer to the SQA document *Guidance on Assessment Arrangements for Candidates with Disabilities and/or Additional Support Needs (SQA, September 2004)*.