



National Unit Specification: general information

UNIT Principles of Conservation in the Built Heritage (SCQF level 6)

CODE F2FW 12

SUMMARY

This Unit is suitable for candidates with limited experience in the construction and heritage industries who wish to gain knowledge and understanding of the principles of conservation.

This Unit has been designed for candidates who wish to work in the industrial field of conservation masonry. Candidates will develop knowledge and understanding of the principles of conservation in the built heritage as detailed in current guidance and conservation charters. They will also demonstrate the ability to devise a basic conservation strategy for a building. Knowledge and skills will be transferable within different working environments. Candidates who complete this Unit may then go to work on a site or conservation project or a similar working environment.

OUTCOMES

- 1 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the principles of conservation.
- 2 Inspect an historic building to identify the extent of repairs required.
- 3 Develop a conservation repair strategy for a specific historic building.

RECOMMENDED ENTRY

Entry is at the discretion of the centre.

CREDIT VALUE

0.5 credit at Higher (3 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.*

Administrative Information

Superclass: TG

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National Unit Specification: general information (cont)

UNIT Principles of Conservation in the Built Heritage (SCQF level 6)

CORE SKILLS

There are opportunities to develop aspects of the Core Skills of Communication and Problem Solving in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

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

Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the principles of conservation.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Describe early and current conservation movements correctly.
- (b) Describe current legislation and guidance relevant to the repair of historic buildings.
- (c) Describe the process for inspecting these buildings correctly.
- (d) Explain the main elements to be considered when developing a repair strategy for these buildings.
- (e) Describe different approaches that could be taken to repair these buildings.

OUTCOME 2

Inspect an historic building to identify the extent of repairs required.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Identify the historic importance of a specific building by appraising the whole structure
- (b) Identify the repairs required by inspecting the current condition of the building.

OUTCOME 3

Develop a conservation repair strategy for the historic building.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Record all areas of the building which require repair.
- (b) Identify the appropriate types of repairs for damaged and decayed parts of the building.
- (c) Identify the appropriate methods to be used for each repair.

National Unit Specification: statement of standards (cont)

UNIT Principles of Conservation in the Built Heritage (SCQF level 6)

EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS UNIT

Evidence is required to demonstrate that the candidates have achieved all Outcomes and Performance Criteria.

Written and/or recorded oral evidence is required to demonstrate that candidates have achieved Outcome 1 and all its Performance Criteria. This evidence should be produced under open-book, controlled, supervised conditions at an appropriate point in the Unit once candidates have acquired the relevant knowledge. Candidates will be given access to all necessary charters. In relation to Performance Criteria 1e) they will describe **two** of the approaches that could be taken to the repair of historic buildings from those listed below:

- 1 Do nothing approach.
- 2 Conservation as found.
- 3 Comprehensive conservation repair.
- 4 Restoration of lost elements/finishes.
- 5 Replacement/renewal.

Product evidence is required to demonstrate that candidates have achieved Outcomes 2 and 3. This evidence will be in the form of a completed repair strategy that has been developed by the candidate based on a case study of a real or simulated historic building. The repair strategy will be developed by candidates on their own at appropriate points through out the Unit once they have developed the necessary knowledge and skills. Centres should ensure that the final repair strategy is the candidate's own work. Candidates should be given a clear brief that will enable them to achieve both Outcomes and all related Performance Criteria. The repair strategy should cover:

- ◆ identification of the building's historic importance. Elements to be covered are: age; the information that exists about its history; scheduled/listed status; architectural style; the construction materials and finishes historically intended and those now applied.
- ◆ identification of the repairs required. This must involve the appraisal of one elevation of the building to determine the extent of stonemasonry repairs required. It must also involve appraisal of the whole building to determine: roof condition/drainage; ground conditions; geography; level of exposure; condition of masonry including type of masonry and erosion; settlement/movement; type of mortar; surface finishes; alterations; coatings.
- ◆ a record of the areas to be repaired and the types and method of repair for each area. Candidates must consider and select appropriate options for repair in the light of all the previous taught elements from historic significance and condition of building to conservation guidance documents and charters.

National Unit Specification: support notes

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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 20 hours.

GUIDANCE ON THE CONTENT AND CONTEXT FOR THIS UNIT

This Unit has been developed as a mandatory Unit in the National Progression Award in Conservation of Masonry at SCQF level 6 and can also be delivered as a freestanding Unit.

Candidates successfully completing this Unit will understand the principles of conservation as detailed in current guidance and conservation charters and be able to demonstrate a basic appraisal process for devising a masonry conservation repair strategy.

The Unit is suitable for candidates from the construction and related service industries and trades. The skills are transferable within different working environments but the Unit is aimed at candidates whose normal place of work would be a site, a conservation project or a similar working environment.

Suggested content which should be covered in learning and teaching for candidates is as follows:

- 1 Planning legislation.
- 2 Listed Building designation/cartilage.
- 3 Conservation Areas.
- 4 Scheduled Monuments.
- 5 Building Standards.
- 6 Conservation Charters.

The following health and safety regulations, Acts, approved codes of practice and any amendments or updates made by statutory bodies apply to all Outcomes in this Unit:

- ◆ Health & Safety at Work Act 1974
- ◆ The Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations 1992 (as amended)
- ◆ The Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 (as amended)
- ◆ The Construction (Design & Management) Regulations 2007
- ◆ The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 (as amended)
- ◆ The Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992 (as amended)

GUIDANCE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING APPROACHES FOR THIS UNIT

The understanding, depth of knowledge and skills required for this Unit may be achieved more effectively if in addition to oral and/or written instructions and photographic material, the delivery of taught elements is assisted by external conservation specialists giving oral and photographic presentations. The methods and order of delivery are at the discretion of each centre. However, it is anticipated that delivery of this Unit will be mainly classroom based. This can be further enhanced by the arrangement of site visits to local individual buildings/streetscapes to illustrate examples (sites need not be construction sites — completed projects or buildings in need of repair would also be suitable).

National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

UNIT Principles of Conservation in the Built Heritage (SCQF level 6)

Centres should ensure that appropriate research materials are available for candidates undertaking this Unit.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CORE SKILL DEVELOPMENT

Candidates have to understand complex information relating to conservation issues, selecting and summarising key information relevant to purpose. They could be encouraged to conduct extended research using a range of sources, and to formally evaluate data for currency, balance and relevance to their own situation. Evidence of knowledge and understanding of the principles of conservation is assessed in the Unit, and may be provided in writing or orally. Communicating accurate, structured information in the terminology of the working environment should involve taking account of purpose and the needs of those receiving the information.

Development of a conservation strategy will allow candidates to apply theory to a practical task and naturally include elements of Problem Solving, particularly the analytical thinking required for effective planning and organising. Research and site surveys will demand the consideration of a complex range of factors affecting historic sites, such as, for example, the limitations imposed by listed status, the condition of the building and type of masonry, site, and drainage and ground conditions. The ability to formulate an effective and safe repair strategy which takes all issue into account is an essential competence. Formative work for the Unit could include site visits with the opportunity to discuss, analyse and evaluate conservation issues and to use appropriate technical terms in a practical context.

Such an approach could significantly enhance aspects of the Core Skills of Communication and Problem Solving, which would be particularly beneficial to candidates with no industrial experience.

GUIDANCE ON APPROACHES TO ASSESSMENT FOR THIS UNIT

It is recommended that candidates be assessed on an Outcome by Outcome basis as this reflects how the work would progress in a real working environment. However centres may chose to assess a combination of all Outcomes on a single assessment occasion.

In this Unit an appropriate instrument of assessment would be written and/or oral open-book supervised test where candidates can demonstrate their knowledge of the principles of conservation for Outcome 1.

Product evidence in the form of a conservation strategy for an historic building could be produced using a case study accompanied by a clear brief. Candidates could then complete the case study on their own at appropriate points.

Centres could initiate interviews with the candidate to ensure that the final conservation strategy presented by the candidates is his or her own.

National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

UNIT Principles of Conservation in the Built Heritage (SCQF level 6)

CANDIDATES WITH DISABILITIES AND/OR ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS

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. Further advice can be found in the SQA document *Guidance on Assessment Arrangements for Candidates with Disabilities and/or Additional Support Needs* (www.sqa.org.uk).