



National Unit Specification: general information

UNIT Art and Design: Printmaking Applied Skills (SCQF level 6)

CODE F5C8 12

SUMMARY

This Unit will enable the candidate to further develop and extend their knowledge and understanding of applied printmaking skills and develop an understanding and awareness of the design process. The candidate will be able to experiment with the creative potential of different methods of printmaking and develop awareness of related visual and compositional elements.

This Unit is suitable for candidates who:

- ◆ have some previous experience of printmaking
- ◆ wish to further extend their applied printmaking skills

OUTCOMES

- 1 Plan a printmaking project for a given brief.
- 2 Produce a range of experimental prints in response to the brief.
- 3 Produce a final print(s).

RECOMMENDED ENTRY

While entry is at the discretion of the centre, candidates would normally be expected to have completed a general programme of art and design Units.

CREDIT VALUE

1 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.*

Administrative Information

Superclass: JB

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National Unit Specification: general information (cont)

UNIT Art and Design: Printmaking Applied Skills (SCQF level 6)

CORE SKILLS

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

This Unit provides opportunities for candidates to develop aspects of the following Core Skills:

- ◆ Communication (SCQF level 5)
- ◆ Problem Solving (SCQF level 6)

These opportunities are highlighted in the Support Notes of this Unit specification.

National Unit Specification: statement of standards

UNIT Art and Design: Printmaking Applied Skills (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

Plan a printmaking project for a given brief.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Identify the requirements of the given brief.
- (b) Produce a project plan for the given brief.
- (c) Produce and collate visual research in response to the given brief.
- (d) Produce a range of initial ideas/concepts in response to the given brief.

OUTCOME 2

Produce a range of experimental prints in response to the brief.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Demonstrate effective use of selected techniques, media and materials.
- (b) Demonstrate creative use of composition and visual elements.
- (c) Demonstrate the progressive development and refinement of selected idea/concept(s) and media handling skills in response to the brief.

OUTCOME 3

Produce a final print(s).

Performance Criteria

- (a) Select a refined idea or concept.
- (b) Demonstrate competent application of media, materials and techniques.
- (c) Produce effectively registered final print(s).

National Unit Specification: statement of standards (cont)

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EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS UNIT

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

Written and/or oral recorded evidence and product evidence should be produced to demonstrate that the candidate has achieved all of the Outcomes and Performance Criteria.

This folio of work will include:

- ◆ an outline plan for a printmaking project in response to a given brief, which demonstrates awareness of the requirements of the brief. The candidate should identify the theme and provide an indication of the intended use of printmaking technique(s), equipment and materials.
- ◆ collated annotated visual research that demonstrates a creative and individual response to the selected area of printmaking and requirements of the brief.
- ◆ a range (minimum of three) of annotated initial ideas/concepts produced in response to the brief.
- ◆ a range of annotated experimental prints (minimum of three) produced in response to the brief. The annotated comment will make reference to the use of techniques, printmaking media, materials, composition and visual elements.
- ◆ one or more final print(s) produced in response to the given brief. Prints should be derived from an image(s) originated by the candidate in response to the brief.

The folio of work may be presented in a sketchbook, workbook or display board format.

The evidence for assessment will be produced on an ongoing basis in open-book conditions throughout delivery of the Unit.

National Unit Specification: support notes

UNIT Art and Design: Printmaking Applied Skills (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 is an optional Unit in the National Certificate in Art and Design Group Award, but it is also available as a free-standing Unit.

If this Unit is being delivered as part of a programme of art and design based Units, then it is recommended that centres consider an integrated delivery approach with other Units in the award.

The Unit is designed to enable the candidate to further extend applied printmaking skills in a selected area of printmaking.

Outcome 1

The candidate is required to produce a plan for a printmaking project in response to a given brief. There should be opportunities for group discussion and practical exercises in producing the project plan and collated visual research for the specific brief.

Outcome 2

This Outcome has a strong experimental and developmental focus. The candidate is required to explore the creative potential of selected printmaking technique(s) through personal experimentation and evaluation of the use of media, materials, composition, colour and other visual elements to develop and refine initial ideas and concepts in response to the brief.

Practical exercises in planning and preparation for printing could include exploration of positive and negative shapes, linear and tonal form, balance of colour, and other compositional elements.

Outcome 3

The candidate is required to produce one or more final print(s) that demonstrate selection and refinement of elements of their experimental work and fulfil the requirements of the brief. There could be opportunities for the candidate to take responsibility for carrying out relevant printmaking activities under non-directive supervision.

Centres should observe all current health and safety legislation relating to the safe use of chemicals and materials at all times. It is recommended that the candidate is fully aware of all requirements and observes safe working practices at all times.

National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

UNIT Art and Design: Printmaking Applied Skills (SCQF level 6)

GUIDANCE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING APPROACHES FOR THIS UNIT

This Unit is designed to enable the candidate to further extend applied printmaking skills. The candidate will be able to explore the materials, media and effects of a selected printmaking technique in order to develop and refine a selected idea/concept and produce one or more finished prints that meet the requirements of the brief.

The candidate could be given comprehensive notes detailing relevant printmaking processes, equipment and materials, safety regulations and safe working practices. All of this information should be reinforced in class discussions and practical demonstrations by the teacher/lecturer.

Research and planning could include exploration of positive and negative shapes, linear and tonal form, balance of colour, composition and other visual elements. The teacher/lecturer could show a range of examples of initial ideas/concepts in response to a specific brief with demonstrations/workshops on mind-mapping and thumbnail sketches as a means of generating ideas/concepts.

A brief should be devised for the activity. The completed brief should define a specific fine art and/or design application but must not dictate or limit the scope of experimentation. The candidate should have access to resources and opportunities for independent and supported research and time for independent personal research. Resources for research, such as, periodicals, books, and the Internet, could be made available. During the delivery of the Unit, the teacher/lecturer could arrange trips to local galleries and/or studios/workshops and/or visits to or from creative professionals to make candidates aware of the design/commissioning brief process and provide examples of commissioned or commercial artwork. It would be useful to show good examples of collated visual research.

Learning approaches should be activity based with the teacher/lecturer first demonstrating methods for the printmaking techniques before the candidate works individually on their own experimental ideas. It is important that the candidate is encouraged to experiment with the selected technique(s), media and materials to explore composition and visual elements and develop and refine initial ideas and concepts in response to the brief. There should be demonstrations and practical exercises relevant to the selected printmaking area, in planning and preparation of plates or screens, basic registration techniques, safe use of tools and equipment and suitable inks and paper for selected technique(s). Practical demonstrations and exercises in mounting and presentation of work could also be beneficial. Keeping a journal at every stage of this Unit, either in a sketchbook, notebook or electronically, would help the candidate to annotate descriptions of techniques and processes used in the development of the experimental prints and to evaluate the process.

Examples of Printmaking Techniques that could be used include:

- ◆ Monoprinting techniques, Monotype Printing, Etching, Screen Printing and Relief Printing
Techniques eg lino-cuts, woodcuts, relief card printing, collographs

Health and safety considerations should be taken into account at all times with the candidate observing all relevant current health and safety guidelines.

National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

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OPPORTUNITIES FOR CORE SKILL DEVELOPMENT

Candidates may have opportunities to develop aspects of the Core Skill of *Communication* through teacher/lecturer led group discussions on an ongoing basis.

Candidates may have opportunities to develop aspects of the Core Skill of *Problem Solving* through planning and preparing of the final prints.

GUIDANCE ON APPROACHES TO ASSESSMENT FOR THIS UNIT

A suitable instrument of assessment for this Unit would be a practical exercise(s).

Product evidence is required for all Outcomes of this Unit. During this Unit the candidate will be producing annotated experimental prints and a finished print(s) using selected methods and can be assessed on given Performance Criteria at any appropriate points. Assessment can be recorded by the use of an observational checklist. The ongoing critical evaluation of work and learning could be facilitated by teacher/lecturer led group discussion with recorded candidate participation. The candidate should have the opportunity to present an individual oral evaluation.

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 communications 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)*.

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).