



National Unit specification: general information

Unit title: Jewellery: Casting (SCQF Level 6)

Unit code: H1KJ 12

Superclass: JH

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Summary

This Unit will enable candidates to acquire skills and knowledge in casting. Learners will produce design visuals and a range of wax models in response to a given brief, and develop these into the production of a piece of cast jewellery.

This Unit is particularly suitable for those candidates wishing to embark upon a career in jewellery design and/or manufacture.

Outcomes

- 1 Investigate wax modelling techniques and produce samples in wax.
- 2 Produce development work in response to a given brief.
- 3 Produce a finished piece of jewellery in response to a given brief.

Recommended entry

While entry is at the discretion of the centre, it would be beneficial if candidates had experience in Art and Design.

Credit points and Level

2 National Unit credits at SCQF Level 6: (12 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.*

General information (cont)

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Core Skills

Achievement of this Unit gives automatic certification of the following Core Skills component:

Complete Core Skill None

Core Skill component Critical Thinking at SCQF level 4

There are also opportunities to develop aspects of Core Skills which are highlighted in the Support Notes of this Unit specification.

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 SQA.

Outcome 1

Investigate wax modelling techniques and produce samples in wax.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Investigate wax modelling techniques, tools and methods.
- (b) Select appropriate tools and waxes to produce samples for casting.
- (c) Produce wax models suitable for casting.
- (d) Demonstrate competence in the use of selected tools and waxes.

Outcome 2

Produce development work in response to a given brief.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Identify the requirements of the brief.
- (b) Develop ideas and samples in 2D and 3D.
- (c) Select ideas suitable for development.
- (d) Develop final design for a cast jewellery piece.
- (e) Produce technical notes detailing materials, techniques and equipment.

Outcome 3

Produce a finished piece of jewellery in response to a given brief.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Produce wax models for final design.
- (b) Use correct investment and preparation techniques.
- (c) Identify weight and shrinkage factors.
- (d) Produce a finished piece of jewellery.
- (e) Produce technical notes detailing materials, techniques and equipment.

National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

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Evidence Requirements for this Unit

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

Product evidence and written and/or oral evidence will be produced to demonstrate that candidates have achieved all of the Outcomes and Performance Criteria. Learners will demonstrate the ability to follow a given brief and select and use appropriate materials, techniques and working methods in the production of a finished piece of cast jewellery.

Learners will produce a folio of work that includes:

- ◆ A series of experimental wax models exploring the possibilities of the medium and an understanding of the constraints of the lost wax process
- ◆ A series of visual ideas and wax models showing development from roughs, thumbnail sketches, and models, to finished designs. The designs should show an understanding of the brief and be suitable for casting
- ◆ A piece of cast jewellery appropriately finished
- ◆ Number of wax model samples — five
- ◆ Number of A4 pages of visual ideas sketches and designs — eight

The evidence for this Unit must be produced under open-book conditions throughout delivery of the Unit, with progress monitored by lecturers on an ongoing basis.

Assessors will use an assessor observation checklist to record candidates' safe use of working practices during the Unit.

The folio of work may be presented in a sketchbook, workbook or display board format and all assessment evidence must be retained along with a copy of the brief.

It is recommended that all Outcomes are assessed holistically, however each Outcome can be assessed individually at the centre's discretion.

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 80 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

The purpose of the Unit is to equip candidates with the knowledge and practical experience of using wax modelling and casting techniques, materials and tools. The Unit is designed to enable candidates to apply the knowledge and skill gained to design and produce finished pieces of decorative jewellery in response to a given brief. The finished work should demonstrate craftsmanship; effective selection, experimentation and use of materials and techniques; the application of correct finishing and safe working practices.

This Unit has been aligned to specific elements of the National Occupational Standards for Jewellery Manufacture, Silversmithing and Allied Trades, also the National Occupational Standards for Craft, both created by Creative and Cultural Skills in collaboration with industry representatives and support candidates in progression towards the following potential job roles:

- ◆ Self employed jeweller/designer working directly for clients
- ◆ Employed jeweller/designer working within in the retail sector
- ◆ Freelance jewellery designer providing services to the retail sector
- ◆ Bench jeweller based in a manufacturing environment
- ◆ Bench jeweller based in a repairing/servicing environment
- ◆ Specialist jeweller in areas such as CAD, casting, setting, etc

Guidance on learning and teaching approaches for this Unit

Tutors should issue a design brief providing guidance and inspiration and should explain the correct procedure of a jewellery workshop.

Source material suitable for generating visual ideas should be discussed. Tutors can demonstrate approaches to the production of visual ideas when working from source material.

Learners should be made aware of the materials, tools, procedures and working methods suitable for designing and creating wax models and cast jewellery items.

Tutors can demonstrate the use of different waxes and techniques, for modeling and carving as this would support candidates' understanding of the Unit requirements. Learners should be made aware of the sympathetic relationship and use of the visual elements, in particular form, shape and volume. This can be developed from analytical drawing of source material.

Learners will be expected to work through the design process, developing knowledge, ideas and skills gained from practical exercises. The skills and knowledge gained should be applied to the production of finished pieces of decorative jewellery.

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

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Learners should also be encouraged to investigate and discuss the working methods and approaches of relevant professional artists and/or designers. Visits to Museums, Galleries and Exhibitions could be arranged on order that the candidate may be made aware of the wide range of styles and techniques used in the craft of jewellery design.

Learners should work individually with guidance from Tutors.

Guidance on approaches to assessment for this Unit

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

Learners should be aware of all assessment requirements and arrangements.

Continuous assessment in the form of candidate/teacher/lecturer reviews may be used to assist candidates in the progression of their work.

Although assessment may be ongoing Tutors should assist candidates to prepare for the final assessment by advising and guiding them in the selection of the final design idea for production.

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 Communication 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)*.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

In this Unit candidates will develop aspects of Core Skills at SCQF level 6 through activities designed to develop the candidates understanding and practice of casting.

Development of Core Skills elements will take place through learning and teaching activities as well as through practical activities which candidates will be involved in planning and delivering and reflection of such activities.

- ◆ *Information and Communication Technology (ICT)* — could be developed through researching casting techniques and tools using website and other electronic sources.
- ◆ *Communication* — candidates will be expected to take technical notes detailing materials techniques and equipment.
- ◆ *Numeracy* — candidates will develop this through using measurements.
- ◆ *Problem Solving* — candidates will interpret the brief and tasks required of them.
- ◆ *Working with Others* — candidates will share resources. They could use brainstorming, work together as a group and in pairs.

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

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This Unit has the Critical Thinking component of Problem Solving embedded in it. This means that when candidates achieve the Unit, their Core Skills profile will also be updated to show they have achieved Critical Thinking at SCQF level 4.

Disabled candidates and/or those with additional support needs

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering whether any reasonable adjustments may be required. Further advice can be found on our website www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements

History of changes to Unit

Version	Description of change	Date
02	Core Skills Component Critical Thinking at SCQF level 4 embedded.	10/10/2012

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