

## National Unit Specification: General Information

**UNIT** Photography: An Introduction (Intermediate 2)

**NUMBER** D952 11

### COURSE

### SUMMARY

This unit will be suitable for candidates with little or no previous photographic experience. It gives an introduction to basic principles of photography, including photographic processing. Candidates who achieve this unit should be confident to load and operate a basic 35mm Single Lens Reflex camera and to process and make enlargements from a Black and White film.

### OUTCOMES

- 1 Operate camera mechanisms.
- 2 Process monochrome film.
- 3 Make a contact print.
- 4 Make enlargements.

### RECOMMENDED ENTRY

Candidates enrolling for this unit do not need any prior knowledge of photography, although most will likely have used a simple snapshot camera at some time.

### CREDIT VALUE

1 Credit at Intermediate 2.

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## Administrative Information

**Superclass:** KE

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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, 1999).

The achievement of this unit may contribute to the development of core skills, but the assessment arrangement for the unit do not guarantee that candidates will produce sufficient evidence of core skill achievement. This means that there is not automatic certification of core skills for this unit.

## **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**

Operate camera mechanisms.

#### **Performance Criteria**

- a) Film should be correctly loaded into camera.
- b) Focus, shutter and aperture controls and film speed control, where present should be correctly set.
- c) A variety of pictures should be taken.
- d) The film should be correctly rewound and unloaded from the camera.

#### **Note on range for the outcome**

The range is fully expressed within the performance criteria.

#### **Evidence Requirements**

Evidence of achievement in this outcome can be provided by the performance of practical tasks relating to the performance criteria. Observation checklists should be used to record oral evidence of understanding and satisfying performance in practical tasks.

### **OUTCOME 2**

Process monochrome film.

#### **Performance Criteria**

- a) Film should be correctly loaded into developing tank.
- b) Film should be developed and fixed appropriately according to the film and chemistry instructions.
- c) Processed film should be washed, dried and stored appropriately.
- d) Materials and equipment should be used in a safe manner.

#### **Note on range for the outcome**

The range is fully expressed within the performance criteria.

#### **Evidence Requirements**

Evidence of achievement in this outcome can be provided by the performance of practical tasks relating to the performance criteria. Observation checklists should be used to record oral evidence of understanding and satisfactory performance in practical tasks.

## **National unit specification: statement of standards (cont)**

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### **OUTCOME 3**

Make a contact print.

#### **Performance Criteria**

- a) A suitable overall exposure time should be found by making a test strip.
- b) The strips of negatives should be placed in contact with the printing paper, and the paper given the appropriate exposure.
- c) The exposed print should be processed, washed and dried.
- d) Safe working practices should be observed.

#### **Note on range for the outcome**

The range is fully expressed within the Performance Criteria.

#### **Evidence Requirements**

Evidence of achievement in this outcome can be provided by the performance of practical tasks relating to the performance criteria. Observation checklists should be used to record oral evidence of understanding and satisfactory performance in practical tasks.

### **OUTCOME 4**

Make enlargements.

#### **Performance Criteria**

- a) Selected negative should be correctly placed in the enlarger and the enlarger head adjusted to the appropriate position.
- b) The image should be accurately focussed at the desired size.
- c) Correct exposure should be calculated by appropriate means.
- d) Correctly exposed enlargements should be produced and processed.
- e) Materials and equipment should be used safely.

#### **Note on range for the outcome**

The range is fully expressed within the Performance Criteria.

#### **Evidence Requirements**

Evidence of achievement in this outcome can be provided by the performance of practical tasks relating to the performance criteria.

Observation checklists could be used to record satisfactory performance in practical tasks. The candidate can be asked to submit a correctly processed set of negatives along with a contact sheet and a series of enlargements, which he/she has produced.

## **National unit specification: support notes**

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This part of the unit specification is offered as guidance. None of the sections of the support notes is mandatory.

### **GUIDANCE ON CONTENT AND CONTEXT**

This unit does not call for any prior knowledge of photography, although most candidates will probably have some experience of at least taking ‘holiday snaps’.

The aim is to introduce basic principles of photography, taking the candidate from loading the film through to producing a finished enlargement.

Use of monochrome (Black and White) materials is specified in Outcomes 2, 3 and 4 for ease of processing.

Safe working practices should be complied with at all times.

### **GUIDANCE ON TEACHING AND LEARNING APPROACHES**

Each task can be explained and demonstrated, followed by supervised participation by the candidate.

Technical terms can be presented in context throughout the unit.

Candidates can be given well-defined briefs for practical tasks. They should be encouraged to communicate and to appraise their work at each stage, in conjunction with the tutor. Safety aspects should be stressed at each stage.

It may be beneficial to develop the ‘visual awareness’ of candidates by examining and appraising published photographs in sources such as newspapers, magazines, books, image library catalogues.

Suitable exemplar material could be available for examination.

### **GUIDANCE ON APPROACHES TO ASSESSMENT**

Normally the most coherent approach to generating evidence for assessment for all the outcomes will be for the candidate to take a black and white film through each stage from loading the camera to producing finished enlargements from their own negatives.

However, it could be possible for a candidate to achieve Outcome 1 by using colour film, (negative or transparency) commercially processed, and then to be given an exposed Black and White film to process and print for Outcomes 2, 3 and 4.

Evidence of satisfactory performance could be recorded on ‘observation checklists’, for each task, and processed negatives, contact sheet and enlargements could be presented.

## **National unit specification: support notes (cont)**

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### **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 alternative outcomes for units. For information on these, please refer to the SQA document *Guidance on Special Assessment and Certification Arrangements* (SQA, 1998).