



Access 3 Art and Design — draft Course rationale and summary

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Course rationale

Background

All new and revised National Courses reflect Curriculum for Excellence values, purposes and principles. They offer flexibility, provide more time for learning, more focus on skills and applying learning, and scope for personalisation and choice.

In this Course, and its component Units, there will be an emphasis on skills development and the application of those skills. Assessment approaches will be proportionate, fit for purpose and will promote best practice, enabling learners to achieve the highest standards they can.

This Course provides learners with opportunities to continue to acquire and develop the attributes and capabilities of the four capacities as well as skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work.

All Courses provide opportunities for learners to develop breadth, challenge and application, but the focus and balance of the assessment will be appropriate for the subject area.

Relationship between the Course and Curriculum for Excellence values, purposes and principles

The Course is practical and experiential and allows learners to develop their knowledge of art and design practice, and to use a variety of basic art and design materials and techniques in both expressive and design contexts. It provides opportunities for learners to apply their creative skills to produce pieces of work, and to recognise creativity and skill in the work of others. Learners will also be encouraged to demonstrate skills and confidence in their work and to enjoy the arts, through their own work and that of others.

Learning in the Course will include active involvement in creative activities. Learners will carry out tasks which require a creative response, and will develop awareness of the arts as they experiment with the creative use of art and design-based materials, techniques and/or technologies.

The Course provides scope for personalisation and choice by providing sufficient flexibility to enable learners to achieve in different ways. It allows learners to broaden and deepen their skills base and to widen their horizons regarding a range of vocations and careers. It provides opportunities to further acquire and develop the attributes and capabilities of the four capacities, including: creativity and adaptability; enthusiasm and a willingness to learn; perseverance and resilience; and responsibility, reliability and confidence.

Learners are encouraged to be creative and to express themselves in different ways. Learning through art and design helps learners to develop an appreciation of artistic and cultural values, identities and ideas.

Purpose and aims of the Course

The Course provides opportunities for learners to develop their appreciation of a variety of art and design work, and to explore and express personal thoughts and ideas through creating imaginative art and design work.

Learners will develop simple visual problem solving skills and be encouraged to explore the creative use of technologies when developing and producing art and design work.

As learners develop their practical skills, they will learn about how artists and designers have used materials and techniques when creating and developing their work. Learners will reach and express simple personal opinions on a variety of art and design practice, and will also be encouraged to self-reflect on their learning while developing their creative ideas.

The aims of the Course are to enable learners to:

- ◆ communicate thoughts, meaning and ideas through imaginative expressive art and design work
- ◆ demonstrate skills in using a variety of familiar art and design, materials, techniques and/or technologies
- ◆ demonstrate a basic knowledge and appreciation of art and design practice
- ◆ work imaginatively and develop their individual creativity
- ◆ self-reflect on their own work and the work of others
- ◆ use simple problem solving skills in the creative process
- ◆ develop an appreciation of the influences on artists and designers and the work that they produce

The Course provides opportunities for vertical and lateral progression to National Courses, and to other SQA qualifications in art and design and other related fields.

Information about typical learners who might do the Course

This Course is a broad-based qualification. It is suitable for learners with a general interest in art and design, and for those wanting to progress onto higher levels of study. This qualification will allow learners to consolidate and reinforce skills developed through the experiences and outcomes for art and design and in other expressive arts subjects¹.

The qualification is learner-centred and includes practical and experiential learning opportunities. The learning experiences in the Course are flexible and adaptable, with opportunities for personalisation and choice in both expressive and design contexts. This makes the qualification highly flexible, as it can be contextualised to suit a diverse range of learners' needs and aspirations.

On completing the Course, learners will be able to, with some support, work in collaboration with others as part of a creative team and/or, on occasion, work independently when creating practical art and design work.

Course activities also provide opportunities to help learners build self-confidence, while developing transferable skills in creative decision making and communication. This Course provides skills that are complementary for learners in other areas of study in the expressive arts and in the technologies.

¹ Expressive arts:

<http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/learningteachingandassessment/curriculumareas/expressivearts/eandos/index.asp>

Course summary

Course title: Access 3 Art and Design

SCQF level 3 (18 credit points)

Course outline

Mandatory Units

Expressive with Critical Activity (Access 3) (9 SCQF credit points)

Design with Critical Activity (Access 3) (9 SCQF credit points)

Course structure and conditions of award

The Course has an integrated approach to learning, and includes a mix of practical learning and appreciation of art and design practice.

Learners will develop a range of basic creative practical skills, using materials, techniques and equipment expressively and imaginatively when developing their ideas. Where appropriate, learners will be encouraged to use technologies creatively when developing their ideas and art and design work. They will use simple visual problem solving skills when producing their expressive and design work, and will learn to appreciate how artists and designers use materials and techniques in their work. Learners will also integrate their knowledge of artists and designers in the work that they produce.

Each of the component Units of the Course is designed to provide progression to the corresponding Units at National 4.

Units are statements of standards for assessment and not programmes of learning and teaching. They can be delivered in a variety of ways.

Expressive with Critical Activity (Access 3)

This Unit helps learners to develop their thoughts and ideas visually. They will produce drawings, studies and expressive art work, using a basic range of familiar materials, equipment and techniques. Learners will be encouraged to reflect on how art materials and techniques have been used imaginatively by others, developing their awareness of the influences on artists and their work. Learners will be encouraged to use materials, techniques and/or technologies creatively to communicate thoughts, meanings and ideas when developing their ideas and expressive artwork in 2D and/or 3D.

Design with Critical Activity (Access 3)

This Unit helps learners to develop creative design ideas for a straightforward design task. Learners will develop their creativity, and simple problem solving skills, as they identify simple design choices and reach decisions on how they want to develop their design ideas in 2D and/or 3D. They will be encouraged to

successful learner, confident individual, responsible citizen, effective contributor

reflect on how design materials and techniques have been used imaginatively by others, developing their awareness of the influences on designers and their work. Learners will also be encouraged to explore the possibilities of using technologies creatively when developing their ideas.

To achieve the Access 3 Art and Design Course, learners must pass all of the required Units. The required Units are shown in the Course outline section.

Access 3 Courses are not graded.

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Assessment

All Units are internally assessed against the requirements shown in Unit specifications.

They will be assessed pass/fail within centres.

SQA will provide rigorous external quality assurance, including external verification, to ensure assessment judgments are consistent and meet national standards.

Exemplification of possible assessment approaches for these Units will be provided in the *National Assessment Resource*.

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