



Advanced Higher Art and Design (Expressive) — 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 development of creativity is the main focus of this practical and experiential Course. In this Course, learners will engage in a sustained, intensive and personally selected expressive enquiry. They will investigate and explore the creative potential of their chosen expressive theme or stimulus and will experiment with using materials, techniques and/or technology to communicate their ideas in their expressive art work.

The Course provides opportunities for personalisation and choice in selecting a context for self-directed learning. It allows learners to broaden and extend their creativity and critical thinking skills and to work independently.

Throughout their learning, they will express themselves in imaginative and expressive ways. During the Course, learners will develop a variety of original ideas for expressive art. They will demonstrate critical understanding of art practice and personal creativity when responding to their expressive context and by sustaining their creative vision and the expressive development of their theme or stimulus.

The Course also provides opportunities to continue developing the attributes and capabilities of the four capacities. Learners will develop perseverance, independence and resilience as they draw on their critical understanding of art practice when developing and refining their expressive ideas and artwork. They will reach informed creative decisions and manage and direct their learning. They will become more creative, self-assured and adept at expressing and communicating their ideas through their work.

Purpose and aims of the Course

The Course provides opportunities for learners to develop their creativity, visual awareness and aesthetic understanding while exploring how to communicate their personal thoughts, ideas and opinions in expressive artwork. Learners will apply their understanding of art practice and aesthetics through a sustained expressive enquiry. They will demonstrate personal autonomy and creative decision making when negotiating the context of their work and realising their creative ideas.

The aims of the Course are to enable learners to:

- ◆ communicate personal thoughts, feelings and ideas through their creative use of art materials, techniques, composition and/or technology
- ◆ develop critical thinking skills, reaching informed judgements about their own work and the work of other artists

- ◆ plan, develop, produce and present sustained lines of visual enquiry and development
- ◆ develop personal autonomy, creativity, independent thinking and evaluative skills

Learners will develop their ideas and expressive work by personally responding to their selected expressive context. They will select stimuli for their expressive activity and will use this to inspire their own development work and expressive ideas. The skills that learners gain by successfully completing the Course will be valuable for learning, life and work.

At this level, learners will be working with greater independence. They will apply their critical thinking skills when reflecting on their own creative options and choices. They will apply aesthetic discrimination and creative insight when reviewing and refining their work.

Information about typical learners who might do the Course

This Course is suitable for all learners with an interest in developing and extending their applied art skills and critical understanding of art practice. It would be suitable for those progressing from the Higher Art and Design Course or it may be studied as part of a general education, for vocational reasons or for personal interest.

The qualification is learner-centred. In this Course, learners will develop personal autonomy and independence when engaging in self-directed practical and experiential learning. The Course is flexible and adaptable, with opportunities for personalisation and choice in determining suitably challenging and stimulating contexts for learning. This makes the qualification highly accessible, as it can be adapted to suit a diverse range of learners' interests and aspirations.

The Course also provides opportunities for learners to build self-confidence, to enhance many generic and transferable skills in literacy, planning and organising, and communication.

Depending on the scope of the creative enquiry, this Course would provide opportunities for progression to a variety of other qualifications or careers in the visual arts, design or other related fields including:

- ◆ degrees in Sculpture and Environmental Art, Painting and Printmaking or Fine Art and Photography
- ◆ HND Art and Design or HND Contemporary Art Practice

Course summary

Course title: Advanced Higher Art and Design (Expressive)

SCQF level 7 (32 SCQF credit points)

Course outline

Mandatory Units

The Course comprises the following mandatory Units:

Art and Design (Expressive):

Expressive Studies (Advanced Higher)

8 SCQF credit points

Art and Design (Expressive):

Expressive Enquiry (Advanced Higher)

16 SCQF credit points

Course assessment

8 SCQF credit points

This Course includes eight SCQF credit points to allow additional time for preparation for Course assessment. The Course assessment covers the added value of the Course. Further information on the Course assessment is provided in the Assessment section.

Course structure and conditions of award

Course structure

The Course has an integrated, personal enquiry-based approach to learning. The Units allow learners to respond creatively and to investigate and apply their critical understanding of art and art practice when producing their expressive art work.

During this Course, learners will demonstrate their ability to sustain, develop and realise creative lines of visual enquiry. They will select a context for learning and produce a range of expressive art work which has been developed and influenced by in-depth investigation and critical analysis of art and art practice.

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

Art and Design (Expressive): Expressive Studies (Advanced Higher)

In this Unit, learners will investigate the working practices and creative approaches of others. Their investigative research will inform the development of their own creative work. They will critically analyse artists' work and practice, evaluating the impact of external factors on their creative work. They will communicate informed supported personal views, opinions and judgements on the artists' work.

Art and Design (Expressive): Expressive Enquiry (Advanced Higher)

This Unit helps learners to plan, develop and produce a range of related development lines of creative enquiry and expressive art work. Learners will use their understanding of art practice to inform and influence their own creative approaches. Learners will working imaginatively to resolve any creative issues or challenges and will experiment with and explore how materials, techniques, composition and/or technology can be used expressively to communicate and realise their ideas in 2D and/or 3D form.

Conditions of award

To gain the award of the Course, the learner must pass all of the Units as well as the Course assessment. The required Units are shown in the Course outline section. Course assessment will provide the basis for grading attainment in the Course award.

Assessment

Information about assessment for the Course is included in the *Course Assessment Specification*, which provides full details including advice on how a learner's overall attainment for the Course will be determined.

Unit assessment

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

They can be assessed on a Unit-by-Unit basis or by combined assessment.

They will be assessed on a pass/fail basis 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 is provided in the *National Assessment Resource*.

Course assessment

Courses from National 4 to Advanced Higher include assessment of added value. At National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher, the added value will be assessed in the Course assessment. The added value for the Course must address the key purposes and aims of the Course as defined in the Course Rationale. It will do this by addressing one or more of breadth, challenge or application.

In the Advanced Higher Art and Design (Expressive) Course, added value will focus on:

- ◆ breadth
- ◆ application

The learner will: produce a portfolio of practical art work supporting contextual research and evaluation.