



## Art and Design (National 5)

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### Draft National Course Specification

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Please refer to the note of changes at the end of this Course Specification for details of changes from previous version (where applicable).

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## Course outline

<b>Course title:</b>	Art and Design (National 5)
<b>SCQF:</b>	level 5 (24 SCQF credit points)
<b>Course code:</b>	to be advised

### Mandatory Units

**Expressive with Critical Activity (National 5)** **9 SCQF credit points**

**Design with Critical Activity (National 5)** **9 SCQF credit points**

**Course assessment** **6 SCQF credit points**

This Course includes six SCQF credit points for 40 additional programmed hours to allow 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.

### Recommended entry

Entry to this Course is at the discretion of the centre. However, learners would normally be expected to have attained the skills and knowledge required by one or more of the following or by equivalent qualifications and/or experience:

- ◆ Art and Design (National 4) Course or relevant component Units
- ◆ Design and Manufacture (National 4) Course or relevant component Units
- ◆ Graphic Communication (National 4) Course or relevant component Units

In terms of prior learning and experience, relevant experiences and outcomes may also provide an appropriate basis for doing this Course. Further information on relevant experiences and outcomes will be given in the *Course Support Notes*.

## **Progression**

This Course or its components may provide progression to:

- ◆ other SQA qualifications in the expressive arts, fashion and textiles and technologies
- ◆ further study, employment and/or training

Further details are provided in the Rationale section.

## **Equality and inclusion**

This Course Specification has been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to learning or assessment. The individual needs of learners should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment methods or considering alternative evidence. For further information please refer to the *Course Support Notes* and the *Course Assessment Specification*.

## **Rationale**

All new and revised National Courses reflect the 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 and fit for purpose and they 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. Learners will develop their knowledge of art and design practice and practical media handling skills in both expressive and design contexts. In the Course, learners are encouraged to exercise imagination and creativity.

It provides scope for personalisation and choice.

The Course 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, flexibility and adaptability; enthusiasm and a willingness to learn; perseverance, independence and resilience; responsibility and reliability; and confidence and enterprise.

This Course encourages learners to be creative and to express themselves in different ways. Learning through art and design helps learners to develop an appreciation of aesthetic and cultural values, identities and ideas.

Learners will develop important skills, attitudes and attributes. Learning in the Course will include active involvement in creative activities and the creative use of media, materials, techniques and/or technologies.

## **Purpose and aims of the Course**

The Course provides opportunities for learners to be inspired and challenged by exploring how they can visually represent their personal thoughts and ideas. Learners will develop their appreciation of art and design work and create original expressive and design ideas. The skills that learners gain by successfully completing the Course will be valuable for learning, life and work.

Learners will explore and develop their thoughts and ideas before exploring how they can use art and design media, equipment and materials creatively and expressively. They will develop their problem-solving skills and will 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 investigate how artists and designers create and develop their ideas. Developing their appreciation of art and design practice helps learners to develop their critical thinking skills. Reflective skills are also developed through the study of art and design practice. This will help learners when developing and refining their creative ideas.

The aims of the Course are to enable learners to:

- ◆ communicate a range of personal thoughts, feelings and ideas using art and design media, materials, techniques and/or technologies
- ◆ demonstrate knowledge, understanding and appreciation of a range of art and design practice
- ◆ work imaginatively and develop individual creativity developing a range of skills in problem solving, critical thinking and reflective practice
- ◆ understand the social and cultural influences on a range of artists and designers and their work

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

## **Information about typical learners who might do the Course**

This Course is suitable for all learners with an interest in art and design. It is suitable for learners with a general interest in the subject, and for those wanting to progress onto higher levels of study. This qualification will allow learners to consolidate and further extend their art and design skills developed through the experiences and outcomes.

The qualification is largely 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 accessible, as it can be contextualised to suit a diverse range of learners' needs and aspirations.

On completing the Course, learners will be able to plan, produce and present creative art and design work; develop and refine expressive compositions and design proposals; and solve design problems and evaluate design proposals. They will also be able to reflect on and evaluate their own work and the work of others; communicate personal thoughts, feelings and ideas; and appreciate and understand the social and cultural influences on art and design.

Learners will be able to use a range of 2D and/or 3D media, materials, techniques and/or technologies; and work independently and/or in collaboration with others as part of a creative team.

Course activities also provide opportunities to build self-confidence, to enhance generic and transferable skills in literacy, researching, ICT, planning and organising, working independently and in collaboration with others, critical thinking and decision making, communication, as well as self- and peer-evaluation.

## **Course structure and conditions of award**

### **Course structure**

The Course has an integrated approach to learning, and includes a mix of practical learning and knowledge and understanding.

Learners will develop their creative practical skills, using materials and equipment when developing their ideas. Where appropriate, learners will be encouraged to use technologies creatively when developing their ideas and their finished art and design work. They will develop a range of problem-solving skills in the context of their expressive and design work, and learn how to appreciate the work of artists and designers, developing their understanding of the social and cultural factors influencing art and design.

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

The Course consists of two mandatory Units and the Course assessment.

Both Units are designed to provide progression to the corresponding Units at Higher.

#### **Expressive with Critical Activity (National 5)**

This Unit helps learners to develop their personal thoughts and ideas in visual form. They will experiment with and develop a range of media handling skills, using equipment and materials expressively in 2D and/or 3D media handling skills. Learners will also be encouraged to explore how technologies can be creatively used when developing their ideas. They will develop an understanding and appreciation of artists' working practices. They will also develop knowledge of the social and cultural influences on art work.

#### **Design with Critical Activity (National 5)**

This Unit helps learners to plan, research and develop creative design proposals. This will help develop their creativity, problem-solving and critical thinking skills as they consider design opportunities, issues and constraints. They will experiment with and develop a range of 2D and/or 3D media handling skills, using equipment and materials to develop their design proposals. Learners will also be encouraged to explore the possibilities of using technologies creatively when researching and developing their ideas. They will develop an understanding and appreciation of designers' working practices. They will also develop knowledge of the social and cultural influences on design work.

### **Conditions of award**

To gain the award of the Course, the learner must pass all 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.

## Skills and knowledge

Full skills and knowledge for the Course will be given in the *Course Assessment Specification*. A broad overview of the mandatory subject skills, knowledge and understanding that will be assessed in the Course includes:

- ◆ responding to a range of visual stimuli showing visual understanding of the subject matter
- ◆ producing investigative visual research for a straightforward expressive and design activity
- ◆ using a range of art and design media, materials and techniques creatively and expressively
- ◆ developing and refining a range of original ideas for art and design work in a less familiar context
- ◆ understanding the influence of social and cultural factors on art and design practice
- ◆ analysing how a range of media, materials and techniques are used by artists and designers for visual impact and creative effect
- ◆ using a range of problem solving, planning and evaluation skills within the creative process

## Assessment

Information about assessment standards for the Course will be included in the *Course Assessment Specification*, which will provide 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 will be assessed pass/fail within centres. SQA will provide rigorous external quality assurance, including external verification, to ensure assessment judgements are consistent and meet national standards.

The assessment of the Units in this Course will be as follows:

#### **Expressive with Critical Activity (National 5)**

In this Unit, evidence will be required to show that the learner can produce a range of creative investigative visual research and expressive development work in 2D and/or 3D formats using an expressive theme in a familiar context. Knowledge and understanding of expressive artists and art practice will also be assessed.

#### **Design Activity (National 5)**

In this Unit, evidence will be required to show that the learner can produce a range of creative visual investigative research and development ideas for a straightforward design brief in a familiar context. Knowledge and understanding of designers and design practice will also be assessed.

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

### Course assessment

Courses from National 4 to Advanced Higher include assessment of [added value](#)<sup>1</sup>. 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 and application.

In this Course, added value will focus on challenge and application.

Learners will draw on, extend and apply the skills they have learned during the Course. This will be assessed through a project and a [question paper](#)<sup>2</sup>.

Learners will draw on, extend and apply the skills they have learned during the Course. In the project, learners will produce finished pieces of expressive art and

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<sup>1</sup> Definitions can be found here: [www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45528.html](http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/45528.html)

<sup>2</sup> See link above for definition.

*successful learner, confident individual, responsible citizen, effective contributor*

design work(s). The project will be sufficiently open and flexible to allow for personalisation and choice and will focus on both the process and product of learning.

The question paper adds value by requiring integration and application of knowledge and skills from across the Units.

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## Development of skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work

*(Note: The information given below reflects the initial thinking on significant opportunities for development of skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work. These may be subject to change as the development process progresses.)*

It is expected that learners will also develop broad, generic skills through this Course. The skills that are likely to be appropriate for this Course are based on SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work* and drawn from the main skills areas listed below. These must be built into the Course where there are appropriate opportunities.

### **1 Literacy**

1.3 Listening and talking

### **3 Health and wellbeing**

3.1 Personal learning

### **5 Thinking skills**

5.1 Remembering

5.2 Understanding

5.3 Applying

5.4 Analysing

5.5 Creating

Amplification of these is given in SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work*. The level of these skills will be appropriate to the level of the Course. Further information on building in skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work for the Course is given in the *Course Support Notes*.

## Administrative information

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**Published:** April 2011 (version 1.0)

**Superclass:** to be advised

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## History of changes to National Course Specification

Course details	Version	Description of change	Authorised by	Date

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Note: You are advised to check SQA's website ([www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk)) to ensure you are using the most up-to-date version of the Course Specification.