

SQA Advanced Unit specification: general information

Unit title: Sculpture: An Introduction

Unit code: HT6D 47

Superclass: JB

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Unit purpose

The Unit is designed to give candidates an understanding of sculptural practice and introduce them to the expressive possibilities. It achieves this by introducing candidates to a variety of sculptural elements and tasking them with the research, development and execution of a given brief. The Unit is primarily intended for those candidates who require an understanding of the principles, concepts and methodologies of the production of sculpture.

On completion of the Unit the candidate should be able to:

- 1 Research a variety of expressive sculptural elements.
- 2 Develop concepts for an expressive sculpture to a given brief.
- 3 Produce an expressive sculptural artwork to a given brief.

Recommended prior knowledge and skills

Access to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre. It would be beneficial if the candidate had practical research skills.

Credit points and level

1 SQA Credit at SCQF level 7 (8 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7*)

**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 National 1 to Doctorates.*

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Core Skills

There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of *Problem Solving*, *Communication* and *Working with Others* at SCQF level 6 in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

Context for delivery

If this Unit is delivered as part of a Group Award, it is recommended that it should be taught and assessed within the subject area of the Group Award to which it contributes.

Assessment

Evidence for assessment will be via formative, continuous observation of knowledge and understanding of practical and theoretical skills. Final summative assessment will be of a process portfolio of practical/course work and presentation to peer group and/or lecturer.

SQA Advanced Unit specification: statement of standards

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The sections of the Unit stating the Outcomes, Knowledge and/or Skills, and Evidence Requirements are mandatory.

Where evidence for Outcomes is assessed on a sample basis, the whole of the content listed in the Knowledge and/or Skills section must be taught and available for assessment. Candidates should not know in advance the items on which they will be assessed and different items should be sampled on each assessment occasion.

Outcome 1

Research a variety of expressive sculptural elements.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Research methods
- ◆ Sculptural techniques
- ◆ Historical and contemporary context
- ◆ Expressive qualities

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ generate research using a variety of sources
- ◆ provide examples of a range of sculpture by a variety of artists
- ◆ explain the processes, methods and materials used in production of artwork

Evidence should be presented as sketchbook/notebook or equivalent such as a blog, which includes annotated visual examples.

Assessment Guidelines

It is recommended that candidates collect a range of examples of sculptural practice and practitioners with emphasis placed on modern and contemporary sculpture. This work could be linked thematically to the practical work that will follow in Outcomes 2 and 3. This Outcome can be assessed independently or holistically with Outcomes 2 and 3.

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Outcome 2

Develop concepts for an expressive sculpture to given brief.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Interpretation
- ◆ Developing ideas
- ◆ Visual developmental
- ◆ Materials
- ◆ Form, mass, structure

Evidence Requirements

Candidates are required to produce sketchbook evidence which demonstrates analytical and interpretive skills when responding to a given brief.

Candidates will need evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ produce a sketchbook demonstrating development of ideas and concepts
- ◆ make a selection of 2D/3D work to demonstrate the development of the chosen concept.

Assessment Guidelines

Assessment for this Outcome should be formative during the timescale of the Outcome. Lecturers should monitor individual candidate progress, using discussion and direct observation. The lecturer will identify, through dialogue and observation evidence of the candidate's ability to analyse and interpret a given brief, produce a visual response and visual development.

A summative process portfolio assessment will be carried out for all Outcomes at the end of the Unit.

The developmental process should be informed by research undertaken in Outcome 1. Initial visual responses should demonstrate expressive and lateral responses to the given brief.

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Outcome 3

Produce an expressive sculptural artwork to a given brief.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Expressive sculptural techniques
- ◆ Spatial awareness
- ◆ Use of tools
- ◆ Material choice and processes
- ◆ Time management

Evidence Requirements

Candidates are required to produce a finished sculptural solution which demonstrates analytical and interpretive skills in response to the given brief.

Candidates will need evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ produce expressive sculptural artwork which clearly meets the given brief
- ◆ present final sculpture and all supporting material to the class group and/or lecturer articulating the ideas, process, choice of materials and methodology employed

Assessment Guidelines

Assessment for this Outcome would be formative during the timescale of the Outcome. Lecturers should monitor individual candidate progress using discussion and direct observation.

Consideration should be given to the whole creative process and level of understanding rather than focusing solely on the quality of the finish.

The assessment of this Outcome can be combined with Outcomes 1 and 2 as part of a single summative process portfolio assessment for this Unit. This could be conducted in a single assessment event lasting three hours as a group crit. Where oral assessment is inhibitive a piece of critical written work should be requested. It would be possible to break this assessment down into three separate assessment events which assess each Outcome individually. The final sculpture produced should demonstrate an understanding of form, mass, structure and space and how they relate to the concept. The selection of materials and tools should be appropriate and sympathetic to the concept. Candidates may demonstrate their ability to evaluate the sculpture produced in relation to the choice of materials and the methodology employed in the development and production. Sculptures may also be evaluated in the context of the peer group and professional examples.

SQA Advanced 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 40 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

This Unit has been developed as part of a Group Award but can also be delivered as a stand alone Unit. If delivered within the Group Award Computer Arts and Design, holistic assessment approaches should be adopted where practicable within the framework. Useful background information can be found in textbooks relating to sculpture and its practitioners both historical and contemporary. Additional information may be available on the internet although any online resources should be vetted for accuracy and appropriateness prior to recommendation to candidates.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

This Unit is practical in nature although the candidates should acquire theoretical understanding of the principles of expressive sculpture. It is fundamental to the delivery of this Unit that the lecturer is aware of the principles of sculpture and the potential for expression therein. The delivery of the Unit should reflect the workflow and processes of a professional sculptor. The given brief should be seen as a means to stimulate and challenge the candidate to think both laterally and expressively. Material and technical options should be explored in a variety of ways with an emphasis on non-traditional approaches. Candidates must adhere to agreed timescales for completion of assessment work.

Although candidates should possess an understanding of the principles of sculptural practice the candidate's ability to be investigative, expansive, exploratory, expressive and thorough are more important than the production of highly finished sculptural Outcomes.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

Candidates will be required to produce a finished sculptural solution which demonstrates analytical and interpretive skills in response to a given brief. Guided by research findings they should analyse and seek solutions to a range of theoretical and practical problems and issues as they identify and work towards specific objectives. Identifying and considering the variables, including all available resources, and analysing the relative significance of each before identifying and justifying an appropriate creative approach will provide opportunities to develop elements of planning, critical thinking and general problem solving skills to an advanced level. Analysing and evaluating the potential impact of proposed strategies will be a critical aspect of underpinning knowledge and understanding, and candidates should identify appropriate evaluative methods to measure achievement.

Although communication skills are not formally assessed candidates will be expected to analyse, produce and present written, graphic and oral materials from a range of sources to professional standards, and to express essential ideas, information clearly. If candidates report findings orally they should:

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- ◆ collate, organise and structure accurate information effectively
- ◆ signpost key points
- ◆ select and produce support materials for their impact
- ◆ use appropriate non-verbal communication techniques
- ◆ respond to any questions in a way that progresses communication

There are practical opportunities to foster skills in co-operative working as candidates discuss and make interim presentations of proposed solutions to their peer group, where they may:

- ◆ orally analyse the task and its component elements
- ◆ negotiate the nature and scope of goals, roles and responsibilities taking account of all resources including strengths and weaknesses of individuals
- ◆ negotiate rules for effective management of the group and task
- ◆ demonstrate the use working methods consistent with available resources
- ◆ demonstrate and explain methodology to others
- ◆ review and evaluate their own performance

Open learning

This Unit could be delivered by distance learning. However, it would require planning by the centre to ensure the sufficiency and authenticity of candidate evidence. Consideration should be given to learning methodology and planning and resources required for ongoing candidate support, assessment and quality assurance. A combination of new and traditional authentication tools may have to be devised for assessment and re-assessment purposes.

Equality and inclusion

This unit 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.

Further advice can be found on our website www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements.

History of changes to Unit

Version	Description of change	Date

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SQA acknowledges the valuable contribution that Scotland's colleges have made to the development of SQA Advanced Qualifications.

FURTHER INFORMATION: Call SQA's Customer Contact Centre on 44 (0) 141 500 5030 or 0345 279 1000. Alternatively, complete our [Centre Feedback Form](#).

General information for candidates

Unit title: Sculpture: An Introduction

This Unit is designed to give you experience of sculptural practice and introduces you to the expressive possibilities of sculpture. It will allow you to work through the creative process from start to finish. You will be encouraged to work creatively throughout.

This Unit is split into three areas and concentrates on the following:

- ◆ research of expressive sculptural elements and processes
- ◆ developing concepts for an expressive sculpture
- ◆ production of an expressive sculptural artwork

Outcome 1: Using a variety of research techniques you will increase your knowledge and understanding of sculpture and associated practices and practitioners. Your research should include annotated visual examples of sculpture and be kept in the form of a sketchbook/notebook or equivalent.

Outcome 2 relates to the development of your ideas in relation to a given brief. Here you should consider a range of creative possibilities. Materials should be used appropriately and your ideas / creative concepts should be visually analysed and recorded.

Outcome 3 relates to the manufacture and presentation of your ideas. This should demonstrate a clear link between your research and development. You should be able to demonstrate the appropriate use of materials, personal lines of enquiry and considered presentation of your work to a group of your peers and lecturers.

In order to complete this Unit successfully you will be required to achieve all three Outcomes.