



Higher National Unit specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Photography: Photojournalism

Unit code: DW8A 35

Unit purpose: The Unit is designed to enable the candidate to research, produce, present and evaluate a series of photojournalistic assignments within given deadlines. The candidate will research and evaluate historical and/or contemporary examples of photojournalism. The candidate will evaluate professional practices involved in newspaper and magazine publishing.

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

- 1 Research and evaluate historical and/or contemporary examples of photojournalism.
- 2 Produce photojournalistic assignments to given briefs within given deadlines.
- 3 Present and evaluate all photojournalistic assignments.

Credit points and level: 2 HN credits at SCQF level 8: (16 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 8*).

**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 Access 1 to Doctorates.*

Recommended prior knowledge and skills: Access to this Unit is at the discretion of centres. However, candidates should have a good knowledge of camera/lighting skills. They should also have strong visual communication skills. The candidate should have good organisational and interpersonal skills. Suitable preparatory Units would be:

D955 12 *Photography — Camera Techniques*
D16V 12 *Photo Reportage*

Core Skills: There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Communication, Information Technology and Problem Solving 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: This Unit could be assessed holistically by a portfolio of evidence generated by the photojournalism briefs. Much of the evidence should arise naturally out of the briefs but may include reflective statements made by the candidate on his/her experience related to the work produced and previous research.

General information for centres (cont)

Outcome 1 should be assessed by the production of an annotated and illustrated workbook. There should be a minimum of 10 examples of photojournalism illustrated in the workbook from different publications. This should include editorial, news, and sport examples.

For Outcome 2 the candidate will be expected to generate personal visual responses to given briefs, all of which must be produced within the given deadlines. The images produced must be captioned. This outcome represents 70–75% of the Unit.

For Outcome 3 the candidate will present and evaluate the finished work for Outcome 2. There would be a minimum of ten assignments in total. Assignments will vary in quantity of images and time allowed.

Work produced outwith controlled conditions must be subject to authentication by the tutor.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards

Unit title: Photography: Photojournalism

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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 and evaluate historical and/or contemporary examples of photojournalism

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Styles
- ◆ Composition
- ◆ Context
- ◆ Evaluative communication

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by showing that they can produce an annotated evaluative workbook.

The workbook must contain:

- ◆ a minimum of 10 examples of photojournalism from different sources.
- ◆ an evaluation of the selected imagery

Assessment guidelines

The assessment would require the candidate to produce an annotated workbook. The workbook could show examples of historical and/or contemporary photojournalism. The workbook should include an evaluation of photojournalistic images. There should be a minimum of ten illustrated examples of photojournalism.

Evaluation should include comments on:

- ◆ visual effectiveness
- ◆ composition
- ◆ context
- ◆ content

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Photography: Photojournalism

Outcome 2

Produce photojournalistic assignments to given briefs within given deadlines

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Photojournalism
- ◆ Logistical Planning
- ◆ Equipment
- ◆ Exposure calculation and control
- ◆ Interpersonal skills
- ◆ Composition

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by showing that they can produce:

A minimum of 8 assignments, the following points must be achieved across the series.

- ◆ creativity in connection with the brief
- ◆ images must be consistent with the brief
- ◆ deadlines must be met
- ◆ images must be captioned

Assessment guidelines

The assessment would require the candidate to complete a series of photojournalistic assignments within given deadlines. The number of given assignments would be a minimum of 10. The assignments could vary in duration and content. The final images produced should be technically and aesthetically competent and show a creative interpretation of the assignment.

Captioning must include:

- ◆ name
- ◆ time
- ◆ location
- ◆ details
- ◆ contact information
- ◆ copyright
- ◆ moral right asserted

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Photography: Photojournalism

Outcome 3

Present and evaluate all photojournalistic assignments

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Presentation media
- ◆ Evaluative skills
- ◆ Presentation skills

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and or skills by showing they can:

- ◆ choose a medium and present images produced for Outcome 2

Assessment guidelines

The candidate's evaluations for Outcome 3 should make reference to the research carried out in the production of the workbook for Outcome 1. The workbook should contain examples of historical and/or contemporary photojournalistic images. It should also contain the candidates evaluation of the body of the work produced for this unit in terms of composition, visual impact, evaluative communication.

Candidates should be encouraged to be creative in producing their imagery while giving full consideration of the briefs.

Work produced out-with controlled conditions must be subject to authentication by the tutor.

Administrative Information

Unit code:	DW8A 35
Unit title:	Photography: Photojournalism
Superclass category:	KD
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Version:	02 (April 2009)

History of Changes:

Version	Description of change	Date
02	Reduction from 10 to 8 assignments required to evidence Outcome 2.	22/4/09

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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Photography: Photojournalism

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 80 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

This Unit is intended for candidates who are taking a qualification in photography at Higher National level. It may also be taken by candidates in relevant employment wishing to develop and/or enhance their skills.

In this Unit candidates will undertake assignments individually. The focus for Outcome 1 should be on primary sources of research (eg exhibitions, newspapers and photojournalists, internet, magazines, books etc). The research should be collated in the form of an annotated workbook.

Each example of photojournalism collated should include evaluative statements about intended purpose, interpretation, style and technique.

There could also be guest lecturers from personnel involved in the publishing profession and visits to newspapers.

For Outcome 2 a series of photojournalist assignments will be given to the candidate. Each assignment will have a specific deadline. Assignments and deadlines will vary in duration and content. Assignments should be suitable for daily newspapers, weekly or monthly magazines.

For Outcome 3 Candidates should present their own images either in physical or electronic form which could include a presentation with class and tutors present.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

The Unit is a core part of the HNC/D Photography. It is important that the assignments are achievable in the given deadlines. The latest examples of current photojournalism should be used to illustrate current industry practice. Candidates should be given the opportunity to gather research information and they should be encouraged to make use of relevant websites and other resources. While it would be useful to encourage guest speakers to have some input to the delivery of this Unit, it is appreciated that visits of this kind are often difficult to coordinate and integrate. However, input from current practitioners is encouraged wherever possible.

A candidate-centred approach should be adopted at all times. The main emphasis of the unit lies in Outcome 2 and approximately 70–75% of the time should be allocated to this area. Candidates will require guidance from the centre to ensure they adopt a suitable approach for each assignment. Many of the skills achieved in this Unit will be transferable to other photography units, and skills achieved in other Units will apply to photojournalism (eg documentary, portraiture, social).

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Photography: Photojournalism

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

Support in developing an effective search strategy for accessing and evaluating paper based and electronic sources of historical and contemporary photojournalism will be of value. The need to have efficient systems of recording, coding and storing outline information for ease of reference should be emphasised. Candidates should be encouraged to develop skills in computerised record keeping and be made aware of the importance of saving materials and performing back ups.

All elements of the Core Skill of Problem Solving, namely Planning and Organising, Critical Thinking, and Reviewing and Evaluating could be developed and enhanced as candidates undertake the Unit. Candidates need to produce photojournalism assignments to given briefs and work to deadlines. Formative work in which they identify and consider the variables in situations, including all available resources, and analyse the significance of each before identifying and applying an appropriate approach to the brief. Generating captioned visual responses within the given deadlines will provide opportunities to develop creative problem solving skills to an advanced level. Evaluation which examines designs and their potential and actual impact will be on-going and formally assessed.

The production and discussion of initial drafts for the illustrated workbook is a useful way to ensure the development of skills in presentation and collation of relevant materials. Although communication skills are not formally assessed candidates should be expected to produce and present written and graphic work to a professional standard, and to communicate essential ideas and concepts effectively. Terminology and spelling used in annotation should be technically accurate, and the availability of suitable software to support effective professional presentation could further assist the development of skills in the use of technology.

Open learning

If this Unit is delivered by open learning methods, additional resources will be required for candidate support, assessment and quality assurance.

Disabled candidates and/or those with additional support needs

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering whether any reasonable adjustments may be required. Further advice can be found on our website

www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements

General information for candidates

Unit title: Photography: Photojournalism

This Unit is designed to enable you to research, produce, and evaluate a series of photojournalistic assignments. The assignments should be produced to given deadlines. The deadlines will vary in duration according to the brief.

- 1 You will research and evaluate different examples of photojournalism. The research should be collated in an annotated workbook and this will include illustrations and written evaluation of photojournalism. The research can include exhibitions, personnel from the publishing industry, books, internet, magazines, newspapers etc. Illustrated examples should be evaluated with consideration of composition, viewpoint, lighting and visual communication
- 2 You will complete a minimum of 8 assignments. With the produced assignments it is essential that the deadlines are met for each assignment. Each assignment will be assessed with regard to technical competence and should show a creative interpretation of the brief.
- 3 In Outcome 3 you will present and evaluate the work produced for the assignments. You must finish each assignment on time and the finished image must be appropriately captioned — (who, what, when, where, why). Each image should be produced to a standard expected by the newspaper industry. Each assignment will vary in number of images required and time allowed — this would try to reflect working practice in newspaper and magazine publishing.