

## Higher National Unit Specification

### General information for centres

**Unit title:** Furniture Manufacture

**Unit code:** FOXH 34

**Unit purpose:** This Unit is designed to develop the candidate's understanding of various manufacturing models currently operating within the furniture industry. This Unit will also provide a context for design in manufacture.

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

- 1 Research a model of furniture manufacture.
- 2 Evaluate design issues within the context of furniture manufacture.
- 3 Develop a design brief for a chosen model of manufacture.

**Credit points and level:** 1 HN 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 Access 1 to Doctorates.*

**Recommended prior knowledge and skills:** Access to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre.

**Core Skills:** There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Communication, Problem Solving, Working with Others and IT at SCQF level 5 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:** Candidates will be asked to demonstrate knowledge of a manufacturing context through the development of a case study of a current manufacturer. Through evaluation the candidate should identify design issues which influence the work produced by their chosen company, and develop a design brief which reflects this approach.

## **Higher National 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 model of furniture manufacture

#### **Knowledge and/or skills**

- ◆ Industry models
- ◆ Product of manufacture
- ◆ Scale of production
- ◆ Manufacturing processes
- ◆ Materials and construction
- ◆ Research skills

#### **Evidence Requirements**

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and skills by showing that they can undertake a research project. The research project will be based on a current furniture manufacturer. Evidence will include details of the:

- ◆ industry model being investigated
- ◆ products manufactured
- ◆ scale of production
- ◆ manufacturing processes used
- ◆ construction methods in use
- ◆ materials in use

The information should be referenced, organised and compiled into a research file.

#### **Assessment guidelines**

This Outcome could be assessed with Outcome 2, where the candidate could be asked to present a case study informed by research compiled through this investigation. This would enable candidates to work independently or in small groups (at the discretion of the centre) in identifying potential case studies within a specific sector of the industry.

## **Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)**

**Unit title:** Furniture Manufacture

### **Outcome 2**

Evaluate design issues within the context of furniture manufacture

#### **Knowledge and/or skills**

- ◆ Influence of external factors
- ◆ Company values
- ◆ Approach to use of materials
- ◆ Approach to manufacturing processes
- ◆ Target market
- ◆ Market value

#### **Evidence Requirements**

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and skills by showing that they can evaluate and summarise, in detail, design issues which influence furniture production within a current manufacturing context. This evaluation will include reference to:

- ◆ influencing factor, technological, economic or ecological.
- ◆ values held by a company
- ◆ approach to use of materials
- ◆ approach to manufacturing processes
- ◆ target market of a specific company
- ◆ market value of a product

The evaluation should be supported by annotated images, drawings or photographs.

#### **Assessment guidelines**

There is an opportunity for this Outcome to be assessed with Outcome 1 as an integrated learning activity. The candidates could produce an evaluation of their chosen case study in the form of a graphic presentation. Candidates could give an oral presentation to the class group, supported by presentation boards using annotated images, drawings and photographs and supported by written evidence.

## **Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)**

**Unit title:** Furniture Manufacture

### **Outcome 3**

Develop a design brief for a chosen model of manufacture

#### **Knowledge and/or skills**

- ◆ Design brief
- ◆ Design specification.
- ◆ Manufacturing context
- ◆ Presentation skills

#### **Evidence Requirements**

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by showing that they can develop a design brief.

Using research generated in Outcomes 1 and 2 candidates will demonstrate knowledge of their chosen manufacturing context through the development of a design brief and design specification, which will specify:

- ◆ influencing factors: technological, economic or ecological
- ◆ scale of production
- ◆ manufacturing processes used
- ◆ construction methods in use
- ◆ materials in use
- ◆ target market
- ◆ market value
- ◆ visual/aesthetic influences

#### **Assessment guidelines**

Material for this Outcome could be linked to evidence collected for Outcomes 1 and 2.

Candidates could develop a design brief, which could form the basis for a design specification, detailing all design issues in a manufacturing context and could demonstrate relevant links to their individual case study.

In order to achieve this Unit, candidates could present sufficient evidence in the form of a written/oral assignment. If an oral presentation is chosen, then a minimum of 5-10 minutes should be appropriate and could cover all aspects outlined above) as well as a conclusion, in the form of a design brief.

## Administrative Information

**Unit code:** F0XH 34  
**Unit title:** Furniture Manufacture  
**Superclass category:** WK  
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### History of Changes:

Version	Description of change	Date

**Source:** SQA

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## **Higher National Unit specification: support notes**

### **Unit title:** Furniture Manufacture

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 is an optional within the Group Award of HNC/D Furniture.

This Unit is intended to develop the candidate's knowledge of furniture manufacture across the industry and to develop the candidate's personal interest in a specific area within the industry. A series of lectures on manufacturing models should encompass one-off production through to mass manufacture.

#### **Outcome 1**

Research and exemplar reference material of manufacturing models should be based on design issues, both historical and current. A broad definition of manufacturing context should be covered to allow the candidate to select an area of personal interest within the industry.

#### **Outcome 2**

Candidates should be encouraged, through discussion, to evaluate and define various models of manufacture to develop their understanding of design issues and their context.

#### **Outcome 3**

Through the refinement of research, the candidates will demonstrate knowledge of their chosen subject through the development of a design brief. Candidates could be introduced to a PDS (Product Design Specification) and be encouraged to develop their own design specification based on manufacturing criteria, as listed in the Evidence Requirements for this Outcome.

### **Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit**

Centres are encouraged, when appropriate, to integrate delivery/assessment of this Unit with other Units in the Group Award to which it contributes. The development of a design brief in this Unit could form the basis of a design project, and could be delivered alongside a Unit which offers the candidate an opportunity to design.

## **Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)**

### **Unit title:** Furniture Manufacture

#### **Outcome 1**

This Outcome could be assessed with Outcome 2. Exemplar and reference material should be available on current manufacturing models. This will help to direct candidates in the selection of an area for further research. Candidates should be encouraged to explore an individual case study of current practice and to generate a detailed research file.

#### **Outcome 2**

This Outcome could be assessed with Outcome 1. Through presentation and discussion of various models of furniture manufacture, candidates should go on to evaluate and present a summary of their individual case study. Assessment of this Outcome could be on the presentation of this information and should be aided with research material generated in Outcome 1.

#### **Outcome 3**

Candidates will develop a design brief, which should demonstrate relevant links to their individual case study, and should define design issues in a manufacturing context.

#### ***Opportunities for developing Core Skills***

Communication skills are not formally assessed, although candidates should be expected to produce and present written and oral reports accurately and coherently. The availability of suitable software packages to support accuracy and professional presentation could also assist the development of skills in the use of IT.

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 identify and consider all available resources in the analysis of influential factors and their significance, in developing an understanding of the context of manufacture. This activity presents an opportunity to introduce group work towards all elements of the Core Skill of Working with Others. Candidates would be encouraged to work in groups for some aspects of their research. However the writing up of their findings should be done independently and the items researched as part of a team should be able to be allocated to individuals.

#### **Open learning**

This Unit could be delivered through distance learning, particularly through the use of a Virtual Learning Environment. However, it would require planning by the centre to ensure the sufficiency and authenticity on candidate evidence.

For further information and advice, please refer to the SQA guide *Assessment and Quality Assurance for Open and Distance Learning* [www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk).

## **Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)**

**Unit title:** Furniture Manufacture

### **Candidates with disabilities and/or additional support needs**

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments or considering alternative Outcomes for Units. For information on these, please refer to the SQA document *Guidance on Alternative Assessment Arrangements for Candidates with Disabilities and/or Additional Support Needs*, which is available on SQA's website: **[www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk)**.



## **General information for candidates**

### **Unit title:** Furniture Manufacture

This Unit will develop your understanding of various manufacturing models, currently operating within the furniture industry, allowing you to develop a personal interest in a specific area within the industry.

In Outcome 1 you are required to research a current furniture manufacturer. You will investigate products manufactured, manufacturing process, materials used and methods of construction. .

In Outcome 2 you will evaluate and define various models of manufacture to develop an understanding of design issues.

In Outcome 3 you are required to develop a design brief. This document should form the basis for a design specification detailing all design issues in a manufacturing context.

This Unit may be delivered alongside a design Unit within the Award HNC/D Furniture and provide a manufacturing context for a design project.