

## Higher National Unit Specification

### General information for centres

**Unit title:** Fashion Forecasting: Research and Development

**Unit code:** F18C 34

**Unit purpose:** This Unit is designed to introduce candidates to methods of forecasting fashion trends. Candidates will learn how to research information and develop that information to forecast future fashions. The Unit is suitable for those studying clothing or fashion or those working in the clothing or fashion industry.

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

- 1 Research seasonal trends and influences.
- 2 Develop an individual forecasting theme.
- 3 Analyse research and present colour palettes, fabrics and garment silhouettes.

**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:** While access is at the discretion of the centre, candidates would benefit from having communication skills at SCQF level 6, skills in fashion design and garment manufacture at SCQF level 5/6 and IT skills at level SCQF level 4.

**Core Skills:** There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of IT at SCQF level 5 and Communications 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:** Holistic assessment should be encouraged in this Unit with candidates adopting an investigative approach to research. A mood board backed with a portfolio of written and visual evidence showing that they can research and extract relevant information, develop forecasting themes and present colour fabric and silhouettes.

## **Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards**

**Unit title:** Fashion Forecasting: Research and Development

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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 seasonal trends and influences

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

- ◆ Source information on current seasonal trends
- ◆ Factors influencing fashion
- ◆ Selection techniques

#### **Evidence Requirements**

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and skills by showing that they can: use a minimum of three different sources of information to produce evidence including visuals which clearly identifies factors influencing fashion. Evidence should include three different trends incorporating:

- ◆ colour
- ◆ fabric
- ◆ styling details
- ◆ garment silhouettes
- ◆ accessories

for a given season.

This assessment is open-book unsupervised. All research sources should be accurately identified.

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

**Unit title:** Fashion Forecasting: Research and Development

### **Outcome 2**

Develop an individual forecasting theme

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

- ◆ Sources of information
- ◆ Editing and processing techniques
- ◆ Target markets
- ◆ Fashion theme
- ◆ Presentation techniques

#### **Evidence Requirements**

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by showing that they can: extract, edit and process relevant sources of information including visual information to demonstrate that they can correctly:

- ◆ identify fashion themes
- ◆ recognise different target markets
- ◆ present visual concepts and relevant information in a logical way in response to a brief for a given target market and a given theme

The evidence should provide a comprehensive thematic forecast which includes visual evidence and written or oral information on:

- ◆ concepts for theme
- ◆ key seasonal fabrics
- ◆ fabric information and trends
- ◆ silhouettes
- ◆ colours
- ◆ style details

This is an open-book unsupervised assessment.

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

**Unit title:** Fashion Forecasting: Research and Development

### **Outcome 3**

Analyse, research and present colour palettes, fabrics and garment silhouettes

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

- ◆ Aesthetic judgement
- ◆ Selection processes
- ◆ Editing processes
- ◆ Presentation techniques
- ◆ Mood boards

#### **Evidence Requirements**

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by showing that they can: present all research to client presentation standard showing a sound understanding of the theme and target market researched. The evidence must demonstrate a high level of aesthetic judgement both in the written and visual presentation.

The evidence should include:

- ◆ presentation of fashion forecasting portfolio in a logical and professional manner
- ◆ a mood board which summarises the key seasonal information in a way suitable for a client presentation

This is an open-book unsupervised assessment.

#### **Assessment guidelines**

Candidates could be given a brief to research information about season trends for a given target group and a specific theme. All three Outcomes could be assessed a portfolio of evidence which includes:

##### **◆ A report**

This report should detail the information gathered by the candidate on the theme and should cover the following headings:

- Concept
- Silhouettes
- Customer or target market
- Colour
- Fabric
- Style details

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

**Unit title:** Fashion Forecasting: Research and Development

◆ **A visual booklet**

This booklet should show that the candidate can select and display visual information taken from a variety of sources and present them in a logical, coherent and aesthetically pleasing way.

Within the booklet the candidate will present the information gathered for the theme covering the following headings:

- 3 colour palettes
- Key seasonal fabrics
- Key silhouettes
- Styling details
- Accessories

◆ **A mood board (A1 or A2 size)**

The mood board should show one of the developed colour palettes and the visuals relating to it. The candidate should use the mood board to present a summary of the total look.

## Administrative Information

**Unit code:** F18C 34

**Unit title:** Fashion Forecasting: Research and Development

**Superclass category:** JK

**Original date of publication:** April 2007

**Version:** 01

### History of Changes:

Version	Description of change	Date

**Source:** SQA

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

### **Unit title:** Fashion Forecasting: Research and Development

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 part of the HNC/HND Fashion: Design and Production with Retail where it is a core Unit.

The Unit is intended to introduce candidates to the concept, influence and importance of fashion forecasting and research and will enable candidates to develop their communication and presentation skills. Candidates should be encouraged to gather research from a wide variety of sources including fashion and trend magazines, websites, books and relevant exhibitions and trade fairs.

The candidate will learn how to edit, process and present their research as a visual and written portfolio of fashion trends, detailing colour palettes, seasonal fabrics and key silhouettes.

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

Tutors should ensure that candidates have access to relevant publications and the internet. A relevant brief will be set by tutors relating to current seasonal trends.

Outcomes 1, 2 and 3 will be assessed using one instrument of assessment which will cover all knowledge and skills and Evidence Requirements.

For assessment the candidates will present a portfolio of evidence which could include:

- ◆ a report, the equivalent of approximately 2,000 words
- ◆ a portfolio of visuals which will clarify and expand the information given in the report
- ◆ a mood board which will encompass the overall look of the candidate's theme

This Unit would mainly be taught in a classroom environment, ideally with access to the internet. Candidates should be encouraged to utilise any library facilities available to further their research. Gallery visits or field trips may be incorporated where appropriate.

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

IT skills will be developed in the delivery of this Unit. Candidates will be expected to research information on the internet and extract information edit and analyse the information. Information for the report and portfolio should be word processed and candidates would be expected to include visual information which could be produced using digital images and sizing them appropriately.

Communication skills will be developed as candidates are expected to extract relevant information from a variety of sources, summarise and apply this information to meet a given brief. Information should be compiled in a logical order into a report which addresses the main areas required.

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

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### **Open learning**

It may be possible to undertake this Unit on an open learning basis. Candidates would be set an initial design brief, but would be required to make arrangements for work to be evaluated and monitored. This may mean attendance at college for feedback sessions. Authenticity of candidate evidence could be checked through oral questioning.

### **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. Further advice can be found in the SQA document *Guidance on Assessment Arrangements for Candidates with Disabilities and/or Additional Support Needs* ([www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk)).



## **General information for candidates**

### **Unit title:** Fashion Forecasting: Research and Development

This Unit is intended to introduce you to the concept and importance of fashion forecasting and research in relation to the fashion industry.

You will be given themes to research and develop. This will be done through the use of trend and forecasting magazines, books, media and the relevant Internet sites. You will be encouraged to gather information from as wide a range of sources as possible. This may involve trips to exhibitions, promotions, fashion shows for example which offer the opportunity for relevant research.

You will be encouraged to make notes throughout the project and to develop your communication skills. You will learn how to edit and process visual and written information and present it in relation to current fashion trends. You will also learn how to create mood boards to show how you have developed your ideas.

During the course of this Unit you will develop skills in both IT and Communications.