

Higher National Unit Specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Fashion: Textiles

Unit code: F18V 34

Unit purpose: This Unit is designed to enable the candidate to select and use appropriate fabrics for specific product end use in fashion design and manufacture. Through research and evaluation the candidate will develop their confidence and ability to identify appropriate usage of textiles. This Unit is suitable for those following a course in fashion or textiles or those in employment in the clothing industry.

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

- 1 Investigate factors influencing fashion textile development from 1900.
- 2 Identify factors influencing contemporary fashion textile selection and end use.
- 3 Prepare an overview of fashion trend and consumer trend influences on fashion textiles.

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. No previous knowledge of textiles is required. However, candidates would benefit from having Communication skills at SCQF level 5.

Core Skills: There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Communication, Problem Solving and IT 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 by encouraging a holistic approach to assessment. This will be evidenced by the production of a portfolio to support the Outcomes. It is anticipated that the folio would be broken down into specific parts — an investigation, responses to 10 specific end uses and an overview — with deadlines for monitoring progress.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards

Unit title: Fashion: Textiles

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

Please refer to *Knowledge and/or skills for the Unit* and *Evidence requirements for the Unit* after the Outcomes.

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

Investigate factors influencing fashion textile development from 1900

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Social factors
- ◆ Economic factors
- ◆ Psychological factors
- ◆ Artistic factors

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and skills by showing that they can clearly show the investigation of the factors affecting fashion textile development and use from 1900 to present day. The portfolio of evidence should show an evaluation of visual evidence of significant influences during the following periods:

- ◆ 1900 — 1919: 2 examples
- ◆ 1920 — 1939: 2 examples
- ◆ 1940 — 1959: 2 examples
- ◆ 1960 — 1979: 2 examples
- ◆ 1980 — present: 2 examples

Each example should be related to social factors, economic factors, psychological factors or artistic factors with each factor being evidenced at least twice.

Assessment guidelines

See Assessment Guidelines after Outcome 3

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Fashion: Textiles

Outcome 2

Identify factors influencing contemporary fashion textile selection and end use

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Compositional factors
- ◆ Fabric construction methods
- ◆ Aesthetic factors
- ◆ Comfort factors

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and skills by showing that they can demonstrate an understanding of the application of factors in selecting contemporary fashion fabrics for 10 specific end uses.

Portfolio evidence must contain:

- ◆ Function and suitability of fabric to purpose in terms of end use. This evidence should detail compositional factors and fabric construction methods that contribute to textile selection.
- ◆ Consumer appeal in terms of product development. This evidence should detail aesthetic factors and comfort factors that contribute to textile selection.

Assessment guidelines

See Assessment Guidelines after Outcome 3

Outcome 3

Prepare an overview of fashion trend and consumer trend influences on fashion textiles

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Seasonal fashion fabrics
- ◆ Changing fashion trends
- ◆ Consumer trends

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by showing that they can create a fashion fabric overview for two sequential seasons for the same middle market fashion brand. Selection of fashion fabrics should be justified in terms of their appropriateness to brand image fashion trends, market level, function and suitability to purpose and consumer appeal.

The overview should also include visual evidence of a restricted choice of 10 fabric suggestions, 4 of which are included for consumer popularity rather than just fashion appeal. The selection for each season should comprise 5 fabric suggestions, 2 of which are selected for consumer popularity. The overview should show:

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Fashion: Textiles

- ◆ Fashion textile selection for Spring/Summer season — 5 examples
- ◆ Fashion textile selection for Autumn/Winter season — 5 examples

These should be based on consumer trends and should include visuals and swatches or fabric simulations and descriptions which include technical notes on colour, weight, texture, pattern, handle and suggested end use.

Assessment guidelines

A holistic approach to assessment is envisaged for all Outcomes. The candidates' response for Outcomes 1, 2 and 3 will be the equivalent of approximately 2,000 words in total.

Outcome 1

The candidates could be asked to investigate fabric development from 1900 to the present detailing social, economic, psychological and artistic factors.

This information could be used to inform candidates of changing consumer needs, developments in technology and resulting changing garment styles. Evidence is gathered together into a portfolio which should contain 10 examples with visuals.

Outcome 2

The candidates could be asked to investigate the selection of fabrics for specific end use. End uses for contemporary fashion fabric over a range of clothing.

This information will assist the candidate to explore compositional and construction characteristics of fabrics that lead to consumer uptake. Comfort and aesthetic factors should also relate to consumer appeal and final purpose.

Evidence could be gathered into a portfolio which should contain examples of 3 natural and 3 synthetic fashion fabrics and 3 woven and 3 knitted fashion fabrics with visuals relating to end use.

Outcome 3

The candidates could be asked to investigate predicted fabric trends for 2 seasons as a basis to selecting fabrics for a particular brand. Examples could refer to: colour, textile design, drape, handle, texture and co-ordination.

This information could be used to inform function and suitability to purpose in relation to value. An awareness of fashion trends within the wider market, brand image and the target market should be demonstrated.

Examples could be gathered into a portfolio of evidence which should contain 10 appropriate fabric suggestions.

Administrative Information

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Version	Description of change	Date

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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Fashion: Textiles

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 included as an optional Unit in the framework of the HND in Fashion: Design and Production with Retail. It is recommended that it should be taught and assessed within subject area of the Group Award to which it contributes. This Unit may provide additional underpinning knowledge which could be used for the Design, Technology and Graded Units within the course. However, tutors should bear in mind this is not a mandatory Unit. The content and context should be appropriate to the personal and vocational needs of the candidate.

The tutor will deliver initial background to fashion textile development and selection in relation to end use. The tutors role will then become consultative as candidates progress with their investigation. Periodic monitoring by the tutor should ensure that the candidate seeks assistance where necessary.

The following could be used as starting points for further research:

- ◆ Social factors: Changing class structure; Emancipation of women; War; Religion; Culture; Climate; Peer pressure; Media pressure; Sport; Music; Lifestyle; New Markets.
- ◆ Economic factors: Employment; Disposable income; Price/value; Quality; Credit; Personal/family circumstance; Branding; Licensing.
- ◆ Psychological factors: Consumer needs and wants; Sexual attraction; Personality; Leaders and followers; Comfort/discomfort; Status symbols.
- ◆ Artistic factors: Colour, Pattern, Shape, Handle, Texture; Drape; Art; Fashion trends; Media.

Fashion trend characteristics to consider should include: theme, originality, colour, weight, texture, pattern, handle, embellishment, suggested end use.

Consumer characteristics to consider; price, target market, brand image, popularity. Ethical influences on consumer acceptance could also be considered and include: Fur trade, organic and environmentally friendly fabrics, recycled fleece fabric, the effects of overseas production.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

Outcome 1

The tutor will deliver background information on the development and use of fashion textiles from a fashion history perspective covering 1900 to the present.

The lecturer's role will then become largely consultative as the candidate progresses with their investigation independently. The influence of factors for each time period will differ and the candidate must evaluate the balance of how fashion fabrics developed as a response to these influences. The candidate will compile a portfolio of evidence that should include a minimum of 2 examples from each time period, making 10 examples in all. Each factor should be evidenced at least twice in the Outcome with examples taken from the lists above.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Fashion: Textiles

Outcome 2

Tutors will provide information on fashion fabric function and suitability. The focus of this Outcome will be on fabric composition and construction in terms of product end use. This could be complemented with video evidence of textile manufacturing techniques where appropriate. Tutors should explain the effects of climatic and seasonal changes, different market levels and technological advances on the selection of fashion textiles for different garments intended for different purposes.

The tutor will lead group discussions from the consumer perspective to research consumer appeal and identify requirements in terms of aesthetics and comfort. Tutors should explain the contribution of colour and textile design to high fashion brand development using strong examples (eg Chanel, Courreges, Burberry, Paul Smith, Versace, Armani etc). Group discussions could identify these influences on mass-market ranges aimed at the high street. Tutors should explain the need for Fads and Classics in response to desirability and change and then identify how fashion textiles contribute to this. Fashion retail visits could further develop these findings.

Written and visual portfolio evidence will investigate and evaluate function and suitability to purpose and consumer appeal of fashion fabrics in relation to product development and end use.

Outcome 3

Tutors will demonstrate how to select and suggest fabrics from a predicted fashion fabric forecast for one season for a specific retail brand.

Candidates will then independently research two sequential seasons and make a restricted choice of 5 fabrics per season for a middle market fashion brand. The selection of 2 of these fabrics should be based on consumer trends. The portfolio evidence will be a written justification in support of the candidates choices and visual evidence in the form of fabric swatches and / or fabric simulations with a description of product end use clearly expressed for each one.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

Communication skills will be developed in the research, planning and writing of the portfolio evidence in all 3 Outcomes. The candidates must read, analyse and select appropriate information and structure responses following a logical sequence placing emphasis on the most important points.

Problem solving skills are used in the investigation of fashion textile history in Outcome 1 where candidates identify which factors contribute to the development of a variety of fashion fabrics through different time periods. In the second Outcome, candidates must identify, interpret and apply different factors to the general selection process of contemporary fashion textiles. These skills are further developed in Outcome 3 where candidates focus the selection process to 2 different situations and a variety of product end uses.

IT skills will be developed by obtaining information through internet research and word processing for all 3 Outcomes. There is an opportunity to incorporate desktop publishing skills in the fabric forecasts for the third Outcome. CAD or Photoshop might be used to include visuals.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Fashion: Textiles

Open learning

This Unit may be delivered by open or distance learning. It is important that the candidate is supported in gathering of evidence for all 3 Outcomes. Advances in IT should allow a system of monitoring to take place and sustained contact with the tutor in terms of submission. Authentication of candidate evidence could also be done through oral questioning of work submitted.

For the second and third Outcomes it is important to have some face-to-face contact at key points in the development of the portfolio. Tutorials would be arranged to explain and demonstrate the links between the influencing factors and textile selection. Candidates would require face-to-face interaction for monitoring purposes and to ensure that they seek appropriate assistance where required. The presentation of the fashion fabric overviews in Outcome 3 and tutor support in between the tutorials and workshops could be managed through ICT and the use of scanners and video conferencing.

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).

General information for candidates

Unit title: Fashion: Textiles

This Unit has been devised to enable you to select and use appropriate fashion fabrics for garments in a fashion collection. It is intended to foster the enjoyment of textiles and develop an understanding of the changing influences and factors that push fashion fabrics forward.

The purpose of this Unit is to develop a creative and logical approach to fashion textile selection, to reflect on the importance of fashion textile history and understand how this relates to a contemporary fashion brand. You will learn how to use the correct terms used in the fashion industry regarding fabric development and selection. give scope to provide evidence in your final presentation.

Outcomes are designed to develop personal and vocational skills. Your tutor will be a facilitator and guide you with specific routes for research. You are expected to take a high degree of responsibility in the investigation and compilation of a portfolio of evidence. The enjoyment of fashion textiles is key to developing skills in garment design, fashion buying and fashion merchandising. Understanding how fabrics behave and reasons for their selection in specific circumstances helps to develop exciting collections and build design confidence in creativity and originality. Your tutor will guide you with lectures, video evidence, visits to exhibitions and fashion retail outlets. Guidance will be given on how to structure and present your work.

You will develop the Core Skills of Communication, Problem Solving and IT as you work through this Unit.