

Higher National Unit Specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Mixed Media Production

Unit code: F1D4 35

Unit purpose: This Unit is designed to allow candidates to apply their skills and knowledge in the creative use of mixed media. Candidates will develop selected concepts for a mixed media brief and produce original artwork which they will present and evaluate.

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

- 1 Develop selected concepts for mixed media artwork.
- 2 Produce artwork using mixed media.
- 3 Present and evaluate completed mixed media artwork.

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 the centre. Candidates should have an understanding of the design process having completed HN Units in mixed media development or have similar qualifications or experience.

Core Skills: There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Problem Solving and Communication 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 is assessed by:

Outcome 1 is assessed by the development of concepts for mixed media artwork. The evidence may be presented in a folio/sketchbook or similar.

Outcome 2 is assessed by the production of mixed media artwork.

Outcome 3 is assessed by the presentation and evaluation of the completed mixed media artwork.

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

Develop selected concepts for mixed media artwork

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Working to a brief
- ◆ Processes of experimentation
- ◆ Development of selected concepts
- ◆ Materials, styles and techniques
- ◆ Responding to the brief
- ◆ Final production methods

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can, with reference to a given brief:

- ◆ develop a range of selected concepts for mixed media artwork
- ◆ explore and combine a range of mixed media materials, styles and techniques
- ◆ consider production methods for the final artwork

Evidence should be presented as a folio of concept development work for mixed media artwork in any suitable format.

Assessment guidelines

Work may be produced in a variety of formats. Emphasis should be placed on the experimentation and exploration of ideas through the application of mixed media techniques.

It is recommended that candidates annotate their work throughout the development process. Where the candidate has not sufficient annotation, oral questioning by the tutor should be used to support ideas.

Assessment could take a holistic view of all three Outcomes to allow continuity of ideas, development, completion and evaluation and presentation of final artworks.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Mixed Media Production

Outcome 2

Produce artwork using mixed media

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Selection of supports or grounds
- ◆ Combination of media, techniques and materials
- ◆ Sequence of working procedures
- ◆ Safe working practices
- ◆ Time management
- ◆ Critical analysis

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can, in producing mixed media artwork from selected concepts:

- ◆ effectively use a combination of media, styles and techniques
- ◆ demonstrate good studio practice and time management
- ◆ critically analyse their work at various stages of production

Evidence should be presented in any suitable format that shows creative handling and use of mixed media and materials.

Assessment guidelines

Consideration should be given to the scale and complexity of the final artwork. If, for example, the work is simplistic in technique, candidates could be asked to produce alternative finished pieces or a greater number of developed concepts.

Critical analysis, could be through an ongoing discussion between the tutor and the candidate, or could be a written analysis in the form of annotations.

Assessment could take a holistic view of all three Outcomes to allow continuity of ideas, development, completion and evaluation and presentation of final artwork.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Mixed Media Production

Outcome 3

Present and evaluate completed mixed media artwork

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Visual presentation techniques
- ◆ Oral presentation techniques
- ◆ Evaluation methods Critical analysis
- ◆ Context of mixed media in contemporary art practice

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ explain the selection of a concept which is suitable to the requirements of the brief
- ◆ explain the inspiration and context for their artwork
- ◆ identify the techniques and methods used in their artwork
- ◆ evaluate the positive and negative features of the completed artwork
- ◆ place their completed mixed media artwork within the context of contemporary art practice

Evidence for this Outcome should be a presentation of candidates' finished artwork with accompanying evaluative commentary.

Assessment guidelines

Presentation could be to the candidate's tutor, peers or other audience, or could be in the form of a group critique.

Evidence of analysis and critical evaluation could also be presented as a short written critique or as annotations to the presentation of the solution.

Assessment could take a holistic view of all three Outcomes to allow continuity of ideas, development, completion and evaluation and presentation of final artwork.

Administrative Information

Unit code:	F1D4 35
Unit title:	Mixed Media Production
Superclass category:	JB
Original date of publication:	August 2007
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History of Changes:

Version	Description of change	Date
02	Clarification of Assessment Guidelines in Outcome 2, evidence requirements in Outcome 3 and minor changes to Support Notes.	14/12/10

Source: SQA

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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Mixed Media Production

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 to enable candidates to produce imaginative and inventive artworks using mixed media.

The aim of the Unit is to enable candidates to develop concepts for a mixed media artwork from a brief. A final piece of artwork is then produced using selected mixed media techniques and materials. Candidates then present and evaluate their finished mixed media artwork.

In **Outcome 1** candidates should produce a range of possible solutions in response to the brief. These options should be considered and explored using appropriate mixed media. At this stage candidates should be starting to develop an idea of the form that they wish their final artwork to take. They should consider which materials and techniques they will use and what supports or grounds they would use for the completed artwork.

In **Outcome 2** artwork created could be two dimensional and/or three dimensional and could include a variety of elements such as drawing, printmaking, painting, construction, subtractive or additive sculptural techniques, illustration, digital and time-based media, photography, assemblage, dyeing, textile manipulation and stitching. Candidates should be encouraged to develop original approaches to mixed media use and to develop original techniques.

In **Outcome 3** candidates should present their work in a format most suitable for the media/subject chosen. Presentation could take place either formally or informally. An evaluation of the final artworks should be undertaken to justify ideas and chosen mixed media.

A strong element of self-directed learning should be encouraged. Candidates should develop self-motivation, research and analytical skills keeping a workbook/sketchbook of influences, stimuli, processes and production ideas for final artworks.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

This Unit has been developed as part of the HN Contemporary Art Practice groups awards.

Candidates could draw on sources of inspiration researched and investigated in other mixed media Units. They should be encouraged to look at and discuss a wide range of examples of mixed media artwork produced by other artists. Sources of inspiration could be suggested and candidates directed to find examples of personal interest to them.

Candidates should have access to both traditional library and online learning resources, the use of which should be supported by tutor direction and group discussion, encouraging independent visual thinking.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Mixed Media Production

As this Unit focuses upon production to a completed standard, emphasis should be placed upon meeting levels of finish and presentation without losing creative and conceptual content.

For **Outcome 1** preliminary drawings and ideas would be presented as sketches, three dimensional maquettes or models. Annotations should make critical reference to the style, use of materials and media.

Experimentation in a range of media should be retained in a workbook, folio or sketchbook and larger experimental pieces should also be presented for assessment.

A group discussion considering all pieces presented is suggested as a form of critical reflection. This could allow candidates to develop confidence in stating their creative aims and in justifying their creative decisions. Analysis could also be in the form of annotations or through discussion with the tutor. A checklist could be used to ensure that a consistent range of analysis is achieved.

For **Outcome 2** candidates should produce artwork emphasising the successful exploration of ideas through mixed media.

For **Outcome 3** presentation of completed artwork could be conducted as a group critique where the candidates present their artwork to their tutor, peer group or other audience.

Evidence of analysis and critical evaluation could also be presented as a short written critique or as annotations to the artwork. Evidence of evaluation could be recorded, either digitally or with a checklist.

Evaluation should allow candidates to critically reflect on the success of finished artwork. Candidates should be able to use suitable terminology to clearly justify their creative decisions and to reflect on possible amendments that could improve the finished concept.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

All elements of the Core Skill of Problem Solving should be naturally developed and enhanced as candidates undertake the practical work in a creative process from its inception through production to presentation. Interpreting the brief will involve research, analysis and consideration of factors which could influence Outcomes. Constructive discussion could support approaches to planning and organising, with advice on safe working requirements and techniques for time management. Researching and assessing the relative significance of issues will include selecting and sourcing of materials, accessing essential equipment and deciding on sequence as well as creative techniques. Applying skills to produce an effective product, working within constraints of time and budget will develop skills in critical and creative thinking. Review and reflection on all aspects of the process will be an aspect of the presentation of work, reinforcing analytical approaches to working practice. The identification of criteria to measure achievement in the interpretation of the brief could be an aspect of class discussion.

Although oral and writing skills are not formally assessed candidates would be expected to express themselves effectively, using appropriate media and accurate terminology. Centre designed checklists for self assessment may be helpful to enhance communication skills development. Oral work should demonstrate the use of effective verbal and non-verbal techniques, including the ability to present materials professionally and provide confident, in depth responses to detailed questions from others.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Mixed Media Production

Open learning

This Unit would be suited to open and distance learning. However, it would require planning by the centres to ensure sufficiency and authenticity of candidate evidence.

For further information and advice please refer to the SQA document *Assessment and Quality Assurance for Open and Distance Learning* which is available on SQA's website: www.sqa.org.uk.

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: Mixed Media Production

This Unit is designed to allow you to develop the skills and knowledge required to produce creative finished artwork using mixed media. It will encourage you to explore and develop your creative skills in mixed media in an innovative way and to apply your skills of critical analysis and evaluation.

In **Outcome 1** you will:

- ◆ Successfully interpret a given brief
- ◆ Develop a range of selected concepts for mixed media artwork
- ◆ Explore and combine a range of mixed media materials, styles and techniques
- ◆ Consider the production methods of your finished artwork

In **Outcome 2** you will:

- ◆ Select and combine a range of media, styles and techniques
- ◆ Produce a finished mixed media artwork
- ◆ Demonstrate good studio practice and time management
- ◆ Critically analyse your work at various stages of production

In **Outcome 3** you will:

- ◆ Present your completed mixed media artwork
- ◆ Explain your selection of a concept which is suitable to the requirements of the brief
- ◆ Evaluate the positive and negative features of your completed artwork