

Higher National Unit specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Art and Design: Group Work

Unit code: F1GX 35

Unit purpose: This Unit is designed to allow candidates to develop a knowledge of the value of group work dynamics, facilitation and processes, and apply these to develop concepts to fulfil the requirements of an art or design brief.

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

- 1 Understand group work dynamics and effectiveness within an art and design context.
- 2 Participate effectively and develop ideas through direct involvement within a group.
- 3 Analyse the creative process and evaluate group progress.

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 knowledge of the design process, having completed HN Units in Art and Design at SCQF level 7 or have similar qualifications or experience.

Core Skills: There are opportunities to develop the Core Skill of Working with Others 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 an instrument of assessment devised by the lecturer that covers the different stages of group work and the candidate's contribution, self reflection, applied guidance and learning should be documented and presented as a report or log book. Alternatively candidates can be assessed by oral discussion.

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

Understand group work dynamics and effectiveness within an art and design context

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Creative group dynamics
- ◆ Concepts and ideas
- ◆ Group interaction
- ◆ Interpersonal skills
- ◆ Roles within the group
- ◆ Effectiveness of feedback

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ show an understanding of group dynamics
- ◆ describe the role of group involvement in enhancing interpersonal skills
- ◆ identify roles played within a group
- ◆ describe the importance of interaction and feedback
- ◆ outline group management skills

Evidence should be presented as a report or responses to questioning that demonstrates understanding of group work.

Assessment Guidelines

The assessment of Outcome 1 could take place as individual candidate assessments or as a group activity, undertaken in supervised conditions. An instrument of assessment that covers the candidate's ability to meet the evidence requirements could be devised and used.

Candidates should be given all the necessary information to enable them to source relevant information, produce a report of 500 words minimum or written/oral responses to a questionnaire of approx 20 questions to assess the candidates understanding and the value of group work activity.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Art and Design: Group Work

Outcome 2

Participate effectively and develop ideas through direct involvement within a group

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Generating thoughts and opinions
- ◆ Developing ideas
- ◆ Visual disclosure
- ◆ Recording creative process
- ◆ Inclusion
- ◆ Leadership
- ◆ Managing emotions
- ◆ Managing confrontation
- ◆ Active participation
- ◆ Negotiation
- ◆ Contribution and feedback

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ develop ideas from group discussion
- ◆ understand the factors affecting working relationships within their group environment
- ◆ demonstrate their personal and oral skills for effective contribution and feedback
- ◆ support the needs of participants
- ◆ engage with and apply knowledge gained from initial research
- ◆ manage group maintenance and culture

Evidence should be presented as written evidence in the form of a diary/log/minutes or as oral evidence. Group activity should be digitally recorded for assessment.

Assessment Guidelines

The assessment of Outcome 2 could take place as individual candidate assessments or as a group activity, undertaken in supervised conditions and including observation of member's participation by the lecturer.

A report or written oral responses, which can take the form of personal diary or minutes, can be used for evaluative evidence of the individual within the group activity.

The group work carried out can be in the form of active participation and interpersonal facilitation towards fulfilling the requirements of the candidates own or a group brief.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Art and Design: Group Work

Outcome 3

Analyse the creative process and evaluate group progress

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Critical evaluation
- ◆ Reflective practise
- ◆ Summarising
- ◆ Progress
- ◆ Effective analysis
- ◆ Monitoring maturity

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ develop ideas from the group meetings
- ◆ outline the selection and application of those ideas to the given brief
- ◆ keep and present a sketchbook /workbook /diary/log of their personal view of the group experience
- ◆ critically reflect on their own participation within the group
- ◆ critically reflect another's own participation within the group

Evidence should be presented as a sketchbook/log/diary that details the candidate's individual involvement in and gives an indication of the Outcome of participation in the group activity, particularly with regard to working towards the demands of the given design brief. Evidence could also be presented as a digitally recorded log or diary or as an oral presentation.

Assessment Guidelines

The candidate should produce a personal self-evaluation of their own experience in receiving and contributing to giving feedback to group peers.

This should include critical evaluation of the effective working relationships, progress gained, visual processes applied and their co-ordination of tasks generated from the group meetings.

The evidence should demonstrate the candidate's skills at monitoring the stages of the creative process and the insights gained through feedback given from group members that contributed to fulfilling requirements of the brief.

Administrative Information

Unit code: FIGX 35

Unit title: Art and Design: Group Work

Superclass category: JA

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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Art and Design: Group Work

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 designed to allow candidates to develop an understanding of the value of group work dynamics, facilitation and processes, and apply these to develop concepts to fulfil the requirements of an art or design brief.

Candidates could work to individual briefs or to a brief for a group project. The focus of the Unit is not upon the quality of the final Outcome in terms of meeting the requirements of the brief or of producing a final creative solution. It is on the development of group working skills and knowledge within the chosen art and design context of the candidate or group of candidates. The Unit could be integrated with a project-based Unit, which would allow the realisation of the concepts discussed and developed as part of the group work undertaken here.

Outcome 1 should take the form of lectures outlining the various professional design disciplines that actively use group work dynamics within the workplace. It should demonstrate through discussion or a mini assignment (that could include role play) their effectiveness at allowing the collective development of visuals, ideas, thoughts, possibilities and the debate of the ideas generated towards fulfilling specified criteria of a brief.

The focus of the group work as a tool for applying the ideas generated towards progressing and realising potential solution forming of briefs should be stressed. The dynamics of the individuals within the group and tensions that could arise which can be damaging to the individuals and or to the group as a whole need to be addressed at the initial stages. The sensitivity of the individual towards discussion of their personal artwork and the importance of the feedback gained must be considered before active participation is carried out.

The power, impact and value of effective feedback and ownership of the member's participation, engagement, comments and contribution of the group culture should be contextualised.

In **Outcome 2** working in a group gives an opportunity for individual members to have an insight into each others progress through monitoring, engaging and verbally assisting with the differing stages of the decision making process carried out by the group.

The facilitation of the group work should be closely monitored by the tutor to ensure that power is equally managed and there is no control through active or non-participative behaviour, or dominance by individuals over other group members.

The art work in progress and the development of this towards the fulfilment of the brief should be the main focus of the discussions and feedback generated. A common visual language should be used for discussing visual material.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Art and Design: Group Work

Personal development of the individual as an active member towards supporting others as well as giving and receiving feedback towards their own work should be evident through their performance within the group.

If this Unit is used for a group that are working on one joint project, the dynamics of the group as a whole should be closely monitored by the delivery lecturer and the participants so that the group meetings are of value towards fulfilling the brief.

The group work carried out can be towards active participation and interpersonal facilitation towards fulfilling the requirements of the candidates own or the groups brief.

For **Outcome 3** the analysis of group progress and the roles played within the dynamics of the group should include objective critical evaluation that summarises the individuals' or group's collective reflective analysis of their own and the group's progress.

Where effective analysis was carried out though not applied this should also be outlined and clear reasons given for the lack of response. Candidate's selection and application of the feedback gained, or influences generated from the group meetings should also be clearly documented.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

This Unit has been developed as part of the HND 3D Design Award. It is recommended that it should be taught and assessed within the subject area of the Group Award to which it contributes.

Opportunities may be taken to link or integrate with other aspects of the course and a thematic approach adopted for both delivery and assessment.

This Unit is intended to be delivered so that the individual gains an understanding of the benefits of obtaining direct feedback from other members of a group. It is only within a group, where all members are contributing in and engaging with the directive of the individual's needs that the feedback gained can be of value to all members involved.

The knowledge gained should detail the different stages of the group work from Outcome 1, where all the necessary background information is given to help them understand group work dynamics and effectiveness within art and design, to applied learning within their own group's activities in Outcome two.

Monitoring the maturity of the individual as a member of the group, their behaviour, contribution and consideration towards others work as well as their own is a large part of the ongoing creative process as an active member within a group.

Candidates' selection and creative development through the application of any valuable feedback should be visually evident. The visual possibilities developed throughout the decision making process and on the solutions formed should reflect some of the feedback gained.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Art and Design: Group Work

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

The Unit involves the study of group work theory where candidates examine and consolidate underpinning knowledge on all the factors affecting working relationships within a group environment. Candidates undertake a number of complex tasks with others, developing ideas on Art and Design related issues and projects in group discussion, using the opportunity to apply knowledge gained. They should be made aware of techniques to provide and seek information from others as required, anticipate the needs of others and provide support accordingly. Supportive working might include offering encouragement, sharing resources, modifying behaviour to meet the needs of different situations, and dealing with disagreement sensitively.

Each candidate could select criteria for identifying their own strengths and weaknesses, and gather information on their own contribution to the task; they should be able to make an overall assessment of how they acted to improve overall group performance and from this suggest a strategy for enhancing their future contribution to effective group working. Each participant should be able to:

- ◆ analyse the task and identify the elements comprising the task
- ◆ negotiate the nature and scope of goals, roles and responsibilities taking account of all resources including strengths and weaknesses of individuals
- ◆ negotiate rules for effective management of the group
- ◆ use working methods consistent with available resources
- ◆ demonstrate and explain to others
- ◆ fulfil their own roles and responsibilities
- ◆ review and evaluate their own contribution with justification, supporting conclusions with evidence

Open learning

This Unit could be delivered by open learning through a virtual conferencing environment, although it is not recommended. It would require detailed planning by the centre 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: Art and Design: Group Work

This Unit will allow you to understand, experience and apply the benefits gained from working in a group environment. You will use this knowledge to help you fulfil a brief for creative concept.

For **Outcome 1** you will show that you understand group dynamics and the role of group involvement in enhancing interpersonal skills. You will be able to describe the importance of interaction and feedback in a group. The creative work to be generated and the development of ideas and concepts towards the fulfilment of the brief will be the main focus of the discussions within the group.

For **Outcome 2** you will take part in group discussions that are designed to help all of the group develop creative ideas that meet the needs of a brief.

You will participate effectively and develop ideas through direct involvement within a group and develop ideas from group discussion. You will develop an understanding of the factors affecting working relationships within the group environment and give effective contributions and feedback.

For **Outcome 3** you will analyse the creative process and evaluate the group progress towards achieving a potential creative solution. You will gain ideas from group and be able to outline the selection and application of those ideas to the brief.

You will keep and present a sketchbook /workbook /diary/log of your personal view of the group experience and critically reflect on your participation and the participation of others within the group.