

## Higher National Unit specification

### General information for centres

**Unit title:** Grading for the Fashion Industry

**Unit code:** F1PS 34

**Unit purpose:** This Unit is designed to enable the candidate to produce graded patterns for garments. It is suitable for those studying clothing manufacture or fashion or those in employment in the clothing industry.

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

- 1 Analyse sizing surveys and charts to establish their relationship to the human form.
- 2 Calculate grading increments for garments.
- 3 Produce graded patterns for garments.

**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 to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, candidates would benefit from having skills in the area of pattern drafting and development at SCQF level 5 or work experience in this area.

**Core Skills:** There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Problem Solving and Numeracy 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:** Assessment will take the form of the production of a set of grading increments to apply for the production of a five sized master grade to meet a given specification.

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

**Unit title:** Grading for the Fashion Industry

**Unit code:** F1PS 34

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**

Analyse sizing surveys and charts to establish their relationship to the human form

#### **Knowledge and/or Skills**

- ◆ Completion of size charts
- ◆ Use of size charts
- ◆ Use of sizing surveys

### **Outcome 2**

Calculate grading increments for garments

#### **Knowledge and/or Skills**

- ◆ Height and girth variations
- ◆ Grading increments
- ◆ Problems with grading increments
- ◆ Garments specifications

### **Outcome 3**

Produce graded patterns for garments

#### **Knowledge and/or Skills**

- ◆ Grading methods
- ◆ Use of specialist grading equipment

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

**Unit title:** Grading for the Fashion Industry

### **EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE UNIT**

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and Skills by showing that they can: analyse size charts and specifications taking into account sizing surveys, to produce an accurate master draft grade of five sizes for a minimum of one garment.

The evidence should be produced under open-book controlled conditions. Candidate performance should be recorded on an observation schedule.

### **ASSESSMENT GUIDELINES FOR THE UNIT**

All three Outcomes could be assessed together as one practical assessment. The candidate could be given relevant sizing information and garment specifications detailing the requirements for grading.

The candidate could be given the information in the form of a case study and could be asked to analyse the data and calculate a set of grading increments which they will then apply to five sized master grade using appropriate grading techniques.

## Administrative Information

**Unit code:** F1PS 34  
**Unit title:** Grading for the Fashion Industry  
**Superclass category:** WH  
**Original date of publication:** June 2007  
**Version:** 01

### History of changes:

Version	Description of change	Date

**Source:** SQA

© Scottish Qualifications Authority 2007

This publication may be reproduced in whole or in part for educational purposes provided that no profit is derived from reproduction and that, if reproduced in part, the source is acknowledged.

SQA acknowledges the valuable contribution that Scotland's colleges have made to the development of Higher National qualifications.

Additional copies of this Unit specification can be purchased from the Scottish Qualifications Authority. Please contact the Customer Contact Centre for further details, telephone 0845 279 1000.

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

### **Unit title:** Grading for the Fashion Industry

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 will be a mandatory subject in the HND Fashion Technology and Manufacture with Design Group Award. The styles chosen for the purpose of grading will be linked to styles incorporated into the pattern cutting and development Units from the same award.

The subject of pattern grading is a very complex and specialist technique and it takes many years of training and experience before anyone becomes proficient in being able to complete the whole grading process of producing accurate graded patterns. In this Unit the candidate will gain a basic knowledge of the grading process and carry out simple grading functions to produce basic graded patterns for given styles.

To further their understanding of the grading process many excellent books are available on the subject which will provide the candidate with more detailed and in depth analysis of grading. For example:

*Grading For The Fashion Industry* ISBN 0 09 152621 3

*Computer Aided Pattern design and Product Development* ISBN 1 4051 0283 7

Grading methods taught should include draft grade and track grade.

The use of specialist grading equipment such as parallel rules, dividers, grade n rule should be taught.

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

To provide the candidate with the basic knowledge and skills to complete the grading process for a given range of garment styles, a series of practical class exercises should be provided for the candidate. These exercises can be set up in such a way as to resemble the methods used by many companies in the industry today. These exercises will involve the candidates working with given data on sizing surveys and looking at the link to the construction of size charts used within the industry.

Using these size charts, exercises in the calculation of grading increments for a range of men's and women's garments can be carried out which will enable the candidate to complete the grading of these styles using an appropriate grading method.

To supplement these exercises and provide the candidate with a reference library candidate teaching packs can be produced which will enable the candidate to develop a better understanding of the stages involved in the grading process.

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

### **Unit title:** Grading for the Fashion Industry

To assess fully the candidates understanding of the grading process the final assessment event should be structured in the same way as the class exercises where the candidate works from a given specification sheet to produce graded patterns for a given style. The use of candidate checklists can be used throughout the duration of the Unit to monitor the candidates build up of skills and knowledge.

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

In this Unit candidates will develop their Problem Solving skills. They will have to show analytical skills and the skills of critical thinking. They will have to show how they can analyse, develop and evaluate what they have produced.

Candidates will develop their Numeracy skills in this Unit. Candidates will have to interpret charts and given statistical information and they will have to measure, using specialist measuring equipment. Candidates will have to calculate appropriate sizing and draft out graded patterns accurately and to scale.

### **Open learning**

The work content for this Unit has been designed to ensure that the candidate receives a firm foundation in the basic principles for the technique of grading. To ensure that these principles are fully understood continual demonstration and dialogue with the lecturer is essential. Because of this method of teaching this Unit would not be suitable for open learning.

The practical nature of the final assessment would also have to be completed within the centre under the supervision of a relevant staff member.

### **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:** Grading for the Fashion Industry

In this Unit you will learn the basic principles of grading for producing patterns for various garment styles. This means you will learn how to read and analyse size surveys and understand how size charts are calculated.

From these size charts you will be able to calculate grading increments which in turn will enable you to produce graded patterns for a given range of garments. At all times throughout this Unit you will be using tools, equipment and terminology used in the fashion industry related to the specialism of grading.

Your assessment will take the form of a case study where you will be given a set of specifications to produce a five sized master grade.

As you study this Unit you will develop your Core Skills of Problem Solving skills and Numeracy.