

## Higher National Unit specification

### General information for centres

**Unit title:** Contemporary Art Practice: Ceramics Production

**Unit code:** F1R7 35

**Unit purpose:** This Unit is designed to give candidates the opportunity to build on previous experience in the development of ceramic concepts. It will enable candidates to research, develop, produce and present contemporary ceramic based artwork.

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

- 1 Develop proposals for artwork that make use of ceramic.
- 2 Produce ceramic artwork.
- 3 Evaluate and present ceramic based 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 creative process having completed HN Units in Contemporary Art Practice or have similar qualifications or experience.

**Core Skills:** There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Problem Solving (Planning and Organising and Critical Thinking components), IT and Oral/Written Communication in this Unit at SCQF level 5/6, 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:** A holistic approach to assessment is encouraged for this Unit although each Outcome may be assessed separately. Final summative assessment will be of a portfolio of practical work.

Outcome 1 is assessed by project-based research evidence.

Outcome 2 is assessed by the production of a ceramic-based artwork.

Outcome 3 is assessed by the evaluation and presentation of the completed 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 proposals for artwork that make use of ceramic

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

- ◆ Research skills
- ◆ Creative process
- ◆ Production processes
- ◆ Planning and organising
- ◆ Critical thinking
- ◆ Safe and considerate working practice

#### **Evidence Requirements**

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

- ◆ identify concepts for development
- ◆ research and gather suitable reference material
- ◆ identify constraints, limitations and opportunities
- ◆ demonstrate understanding of processes and techniques
- ◆ develop proposals for artwork
- ◆ manage time

Evidence should be presented in a form that contains referenced, annotated visual material or as an oral presentation/commentary with accompanying visual material.

#### **Assessment Guidelines**

Research and investigation could be focused on the development of concepts that the candidate has previously generated.

This Outcome could be assessed on its own or as part of a holistic assessment for the whole Unit.

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

**Unit title:** Contemporary Art Practice: Ceramics Production

### **Outcome 2**

Produce ceramic artwork

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

- ◆ Materials and methods
- ◆ Developmental processes
- ◆ Production processes
- ◆ Safe and considerate working practice

#### **Evidence Requirements**

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

- ◆ produce ceramic artwork that demonstrates a developed understanding of contemporary practice.
- ◆ select appropriate media, materials, tools and equipment
- ◆ demonstrate effective time management
- ◆ use safe and considerate working practices

Evidence should be presented as ceramic artwork. Compliance with safe working practices should be recorded on an observational checklist.

#### **Assessment Guidelines**

Tutors could monitor individual candidate progress, using discussion and direct observation. The lecturer could identify, through dialogue and observation evidence of the candidate's ability to produce artwork

This Outcome could be assessed on its own or as part of a holistic assessment for the whole Unit.

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

**Unit title:** Contemporary Art Practice: Ceramics Production

### **Outcome 3**

Evaluate and present ceramic based artwork

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

- ◆ Contemporary ceramic artwork
- ◆ Analysis and evaluation
- ◆ Critical reflection
- ◆ Justification of ideas
- ◆ Presentation skills

#### **Evidence Requirements**

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can, in relation to the production of their own ceramic artwork:

- ◆ critically reflect on the visual and conceptual coherence of the artwork
- ◆ justify and evaluate creative solutions in terms of the exploration and selection of creative concepts, interpretation of the chosen theme, use of materials and techniques.
- ◆ reflect on the creative process
- ◆ evaluate the artwork
- ◆ present their evaluation to the tutor, peer group or other audience

Evidence should be in the form of a visual presentation to the tutor, peers or other audience, with oral/written commentary.

#### **Assessment Guidelines**

Candidates could be given the opportunity to justify and evaluate their work by making a presentation to their class tutor and/or peer group, or another audience if appropriate.

Assessment for this Outcome would be formative during the timescale of the Outcome. Lecturers should monitor individual candidate progress using discussion and direct observation.

This Outcome could be assessed on its own or as part of a holistic assessment for the whole Unit.

## Administrative Information

**Unit code:** F1R7 35

**Unit title:** Contemporary Art Practice: Ceramics Production

**Superclass category:** JR

**Original date of publication:** May 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:** Contemporary Art Practice: Ceramics 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 designed to give candidates the opportunity to build on previous experience in the development of concepts. It will allow them to explore the use of ceramic and to develop and produce contemporary ceramic artwork.

This Unit is intended to involve candidates in the design and production of ceramic artworks

The Unit will allow candidates to develop their use of material and method in a creative manner. It would be beneficial for the candidate to possess good and creative and practical skills and have previous experience of handling ceramic material and using it as an expressive medium.

Useful background information for this Unit can be found in museums, galleries, and libraries and online. Online resources should be vetted for accuracy and appropriateness prior to recommendation to candidates.

Candidates should produce and evaluate a ceramic artwork. Although it is important that the candidates work independently to determine the range and scope of their proposals, individual or group tutorials could promote the use of reflective questioning approaches and assist in the development process. It could also help to ensure that candidates are working to the required standard.

The artwork produced should reflect a refining of the handling of the media but also maintain immediacy. Evaluation should allow candidates to critically reflect on creative process and artwork.

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

This Unit has been developed as part of the HND Contemporary Art Practice Group Award. It is recommended that it should be delivered 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 should be delivered in a suitable workshop/studio environment.

A holistic approach to assessment is encouraged, although each Outcome may be assessed separately.

Tutors should ensure that proposals produced in Outcome 1 provide the necessary range and scope to allow candidates to meet all the Evidence Requirements of the Unit.

Evaluation should allow candidates to critically reflect on the success of the artwork. Candidates should show an ability to critically reflect upon their concepts and be able to express sound reasons for rejecting some ideas and continuing to develop others.

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

**Unit title:** Contemporary Art Practice: Ceramics Production

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

The Core Skills of Problem Solving, IT and Communication could be developed or further enhanced as candidates undertake this Unit and apply theoretical knowledge to a complex practical task. Candidates could be supported in the use of recognised research techniques to encourage detailed analysis of the working practices and approaches used by artists and/or designers. This would also involve a high level of analytical and communication skills. The process of identifying potential areas for development and maximisation of the potential of selected materials will involve candidates in high levels of critical thinking. The evaluative processes involved in the development of the experimental samples and the analysis of the working practices and design inspiration will be fundamental in the successful presentation of assessment evidence.

### **Open learning**

The practical nature of parts of this Unit would make it difficult to deliver via open learning, although parts could be delivered by distance learning. It would require a considerable degree of planning by the centre to ensure the 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](http://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](http://www.sqa.org.uk)).

## **General information for candidates**

### **Unit title:** Contemporary Art Practice: Ceramics Production

This Unit will allow you to build on previous experience in the development of concepts and to develop, produce, present and evaluate your contemporary ceramic-based artwork.

In Outcome 1 you will produce concepts for ceramic artwork. You will include timescales for production and will be asked to identify relevant issues, and consider processes and techniques for developing preliminary ideas.

For Outcome 2 you will produce a piece of ceramic artwork. The artwork presented should be produced using appropriate technique/s and production processes.

For Outcome 3 you will, through a presentation to the tutor, peer group or other audience, critically reflect upon the artwork, and justify and evaluate your creative solutions. You will also reflect on the creative process and evaluate your artwork.

At all times you will be expected to use safe and considerate work practices and to consider health and safety requirements.