

Higher National Unit specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Public Art: Project

Unit code: F1TB 35

Unit purpose: This Unit is designed to enable candidates to develop artwork for a specific site in response to a brief. It should give candidates the opportunity to work from a live/simulated brief.

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

- 1 Research a brief for a public artwork
- 2 Develop concepts from brief
- 3 Produce, present and evaluate artwork

Credit points and level: 1 HN credit at SCQF level 8: (8 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 design process having completed HN Units in Art and Design or have similar qualifications or experience.

Core Skills: There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Problem Solving, Information Technology 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: It is recommended that all Outcomes be assessed by one assessment event. However each Outcome may be assessed separately if this is considered appropriate.

Outcome 1: sketchbook/notebook or similar evidence that contains all findings or an oral/digital presentation with supporting visuals.

Outcome 2: sketchbook/notebook or similar which should contain all findings, or as an oral/digital presentation with supporting visuals.

Outcome 3: Evidence could be in the form of a digital presentation with commentary or an annotated folio.

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

Research a brief for a public artwork

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Analyse key elements of the brief
- ◆ Research methods
- ◆ Analysis of site
- ◆ Historical/contemporary use of site
- ◆ Cultural, social and political influences
- ◆ Health and safety considerations

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ Identify the requirements of the brief
- ◆ Analyse the requirements of the identified site
- ◆ Generate research using a variety of sources
- ◆ Find examples of artist's work which relate to the project
- ◆ Consider historical, environmental and/or contemporary issues
- ◆ Produce visual information
- ◆ Show consideration of health and safety requirements
- ◆ Analyse visual material

Evidence should be presented in any suitable format such as sketchbook/notebook or similar evidence that contains all findings, or a presentation with supporting visuals.

Assessment guidelines

This Outcome could be assessed on its own or as part of a holistic assessment for the whole Unit. A summative assessment could be carried out for all Outcomes at the end of the Unit.

A checklist could be used to ensure the analysis of the brief covers key elements.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Public Art: Project

Outcome 2

Develop concepts from brief

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Problem solving
- ◆ Conceptual exploration and development
- ◆ Materials and techniques
- ◆ Development of visual ideas
- ◆ Health and safety considerations
- ◆ Analysis and critical reflection

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ Explore ideas and processes
- ◆ Establish a working method for developing a range concepts
- ◆ Select and develop conceptual ideas
- ◆ Analyse a range of design concepts
- ◆ Develop ideas and concepts
- ◆ Show consideration of health and safety factors
- ◆ Critically analyse and select material for further development

Evidence should be presented as a sketchbook/notebook or similar which should contain all findings, or as a presentation with visuals and commentary.

The work produced should evolve from the initial research and demonstrate an expressive response to the brief.

Assessment guidelines

This Outcome could be assessed on its own or as part of a holistic assessment for the whole Unit. A summative assessment should be carried out for all Outcomes at the end of the Unit.

Outcome 3

Produce, present and evaluate artwork

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Problem solving
- ◆ Processes and materials
- ◆ Safe work practices
- ◆ Presentation techniques
- ◆ Evaluation

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Public Art: Project

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ Select and use materials, media and techniques to produce an artwork which meets the requirement of the brief
- ◆ Demonstrate safe, tidy and considerate approaches to studio work practices
- ◆ Analyse and evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the solution

Evidence could be presented in any suitable format.

Assessment guidelines

Evidence could be in the form of a digital presentation with commentary or an annotated folio, for example.

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

Administrative Information

Unit code: F1TB 35
Unit title: Public Art: Project
Superclass category: JA
Original date of publication: August 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: Public Art: Project

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 gives the candidates an opportunity to produce artwork in response to a Public Art brief. Candidates will develop skills in research developing conceptual ideas and identifying potential solutions.

This may be a live or a simulated project but it should try to reflect current art practice. At this stage the emphasis should be placed on the candidate's creativity and response to their research rather than over emphasis on external bodies, costing and possible installation.

In **Outcome 1** candidates will analyse the brief, research the site, identify historical use of the site/area and consider the current use of the site. Analysis should be visual as well as factual and include references to identified problems and benefits that are specific to the site and its normal use.

In **Outcome 2** candidates should demonstrate a developed understanding of the design process, and produce a range of ideas/concepts appropriate to the site. They should then analyse concepts, consider and experiment with materials and processes and critically evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of their ideas with specific reference to the site.

This body of work could be in two or three dimensions and may be presented in a format that is appropriate to the concepts being explored.

In **Outcome 3** candidates should present a visual solution, along with an analysis of the effectiveness of the solution. Strengths and weaknesses of the final solution should be identified.

Because of the nature and scale of artworks created for public spaces, candidates may not be expected to produce full-scale completed pieces. Well-finished scale models or maquettes of three-dimensional solutions could be produced and, similarly, scaled-down versions of two-dimensional works could also be submitted. These could be accompanied by a representation of the artwork in situ, either as a digital collage or an 'artist's' impression. Although the production of full-scale artwork is not required for final assessment, candidates could produce full-scale finished pieces.

Evidence should be presented to the tutor, peers or other audience as a visual presentation with evaluative oral/written commentary.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

This Unit has been developed as part of the HND Art and Design Group 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.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Public Art: Project

The Unit has been developed to allow candidates to produce artwork to a brief. The brief could be live or simulated and should relate to a specific environment. The emphasis is placed upon the candidate's creative response to their research in producing conceptual ideas to a solution.

Outcome 1

Candidates will analyse and research a brief. Candidates should carry out research using a variety of resources and annotate and/or comment on visual research material. Analysis of the site could be carried out photographically and supported by written or recorded commentary, for example. As well as the physical properties of the site, its use, both current and historical should be considered. Research should be focused and well organised and show a considered selection process. Initial visual exploration should relate to the research material and show considerations of the requirements of the brief.

Outcome 2

Candidates should develop and explore concepts based on initial ideas developed as a response to the brief. Critical reflection should take place to identify the most appropriate concepts. Working through the design process, candidates should consider a range of materials. Candidates should be exploring a wide range of media at this stage and be working in two and/or three dimensions, with traditional or innovative/experimental materials, with digital/performance/sound media, for example. Candidates would be expected to consider potential final use of materials and their suitability for use on the identified site. Considerations should always include health and safety implications of materials and structures, as well as installation requirements.

Concept development could be in any visual form, but must be accompanied by critical evaluation and reflection that shows considerations of the appropriateness of concepts in relation to the opportunities and constraints of the site.

Outcome 3

Candidates should produce and present a solution to the brief. The final design may be presented in a form that simulates the proposed work, if the scale or complexity of the proposed artwork is such that it would be impractical to produce a final full-scale solution.

Evaluation should allow candidates to critically reflect on the success of the final solution within the context of the given brief and also to review the effectiveness of their planning process. 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.

The final proposal could be presented to tutor or peers. Evidence of evaluation could be recorded by appropriate means such as video or checklist.

A holistic approach to assessment is strongly recommended.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Public Art: Project

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

All elements of the Core Skill of Problem Solving will be naturally developed and enhanced to a sophisticated level as candidates produce a public artwork to a live or simulated brief. In order to develop concepts they have to critically examine the brief, research the site and its historical use and consider the current use of the site. Access to on line current information will be useful. Analysis will be evidenced and include references to identified problems and benefits specific to the site and its normal use. Planning and organising will mean taking into account appropriate resources, timescales and budgets. Awareness of health and safety issues will be fundamental to the production of the finished scale models and/or art works. From start to completion of the design and production process candidates should be encouraged to review and refine creative solutions suitable for a specific location and situation.

The final visual presentation will provide opportunities to encourage the use of software packages to support written and oral communication skills. As candidates identify strengths and weaknesses in their final solution and evaluate all stages of the process, the use of forms and materials can be digitally illustrated. Information should be presented coherently and effectively and candidates may benefit from centre designed checklists which suggest effective verbal and non-verbal techniques.

Open learning

The practical nature of parts of this Unit would make it difficult to deliver via open learning. Although parts of this Unit 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.

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: Public Art: Project

This Unit will introduce you to the process involved in producing public artwork work to a brief.

This Unit has three Outcomes.

In Outcome 1 you will research a brief for a public artwork. You will:

- ◆ Analyse the aims of the brief
- ◆ Research the site
- ◆ Research the historical use of the site/area
- ◆ Identify health and safety considerations
- ◆ Identify current use of the site
- ◆ Consider the potential of the site
- ◆ Find examples of artist's work which relate to the project

In Outcome 2 you will:

- ◆ Respond to the demands of the brief
- ◆ Produce a range of conceptual ideas
- ◆ Analyse concepts
- ◆ Consider and experiment with materials

In Outcome 3 you are required to:

- ◆ Produce a final solution for a public artwork
- ◆ Produce visual material to support your presentation
- ◆ Deliver a presentation of your proposal
- ◆ Evaluate your work and how it would relate to the site

At all times throughout the Unit you will demonstrate safe, tidy and considerate approaches to work practices.