

Higher National Unit specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Life Painting Portfolio

Unit code: F1W5 35

Unit purpose: This Unit is designed to further develop skills and knowledge of the expressive painting of the human figure.

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

- 1 Produce expressive studies of the human figure from a live model.
- 2 Produce paintings from the human figure in response to a brief/s.

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. It would be beneficial if the candidate had experience of drawing and/or painting the human figure and of the creative process or similar experience. This may be evidenced by the possession of HN Units in art and design (for example: DV98 34 *Life Drawing*) or similar qualifications or experience.

Core Skills: There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Problem Solving 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: Outcome 1 is assessed by expressive studies. Outcome 2 is assessed by a finished painting from the human figure.

Assessment may be linked to other Units if it is incorporated as part of an integrated project. An assessment matrix should be used to ensure that all Knowledge and Skills and all Outcomes are achieved in full.

To ensure the reliability and authenticity of evidence, candidates may be required to produce examples of assessment evidence whilst working under tutor supervision.

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

Produce expressive studies of the human figure from a live model

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Human proportion and anatomy
- ◆ Human form poses/settings
- ◆ Media handling
- ◆ Experimental media techniques
- ◆ Composition
- ◆ Colour
- ◆ Expressive techniques

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ produce developmental drawings and painted sketches of the human form from a live model, which exploit and experiment with painting media
- ◆ produce paintings of the human form that express attitude or emotion and competently represent body structure, articulation and proportion
- ◆ produce paintings that clearly show the candidate's applied understanding of the human form and display the candidate's individual and expressive response, using a variety of painting media and techniques

Evidence should be presented as a minimum of two finished paintings, one of which should be of at least A2 in size. Supporting evidence should be presented as a folio/folder/sketchbook containing all developmental drawings, experimental pieces and sketches.

A proportion of summative assessment evidence for this Outcome should be produced under supervised conditions. This will assist tutors in the authentication of assessment evidence produced when unsupervised.

Assessment Guidelines

This Outcome could be assessed together with Outcome 2.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Life Painting Portfolio

Outcome 2

Produce paintings from the human figure in response to a brief/s

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Interpretation of brief/s
- ◆ Depiction of the human form
- ◆ Media and supports
- ◆ Colour
- ◆ Creative interpretation
- ◆ Compositional techniques

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ produce developmental concepts using painting media to interpret the given brief
- ◆ make creative use of media and techniques to depict the human form
- ◆ use colour and composition to show creative interpretation of the human figure
- ◆ produce paintings that demonstrate applied understanding of the human form and display the candidate's interpretative response to the brief

Evidence should be presented as finished paintings, one of which should be of at least A2 in size. Supporting evidence should be presented as a folio/folder/sketchbook containing all developmental drawings, experimental pieces and sketches.

Assessment Guidelines

This Outcome could be assessed in one holistic assessment with Outcome 1.

Administrative Information

Unit code: F1W5 35
Unit title: Life Painting Portfolio
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Version	Description of change	Date

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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Life Painting Portfolio

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

On completion of this Unit candidates will be able to demonstrate clear understanding of the human form and to use this understanding to produce interpretative and expressive paintings based on observation of the live life model.

In **Outcome 1** candidates will build on the knowledge and skills acquired to produce painted sketches of the clothed and unclothed live model with some accuracy. The aim of this Outcome is to build on candidates' existing life painting and drawing skills to develop increasing competence in the depiction of the human form in a variety of poses, gestures and attitudes. At the same time candidates will develop expressive painting skills through the use of a variety of media, techniques and supports.

In **Outcome 2** candidates will further extend their skills by producing a range of ideas in response to a brief, using a live model where necessary to make the painted sketches in preparation for larger scale paintings.

Candidates should be encouraged to be more interpretive in their depiction of human form sketches will be more expressive and interpretative in nature but will continue to demonstrate candidates' understanding of the human form, but in a more personal way. Candidates should be encouraged to experiment and be innovative.

Tutors may support learning by giving demonstrations of techniques, stimulating discussion of artists' work, offering notes and lectures specifying precise briefs for individual candidates where necessary.

Poses could be chosen by candidates or tutors and should include both studio and informal poses. A variety of models, posed positions, lighting conditions, and backgrounds could be provided. Length of pose should be varied so that candidates have the opportunity to make detailed studies and also to produce quick sketches from short poses.

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. Learning and teaching materials should be accessible and inclusive and where applicable positively promote equality and cultural diversity.

Paintings submitted for assessment may have been created in the studio under the supervision of the tutor, or could be produced unsupervised. If produced unsupervised, tutors must satisfy themselves that the work is the candidates' own, unaided work. For the avoidance of doubt, a candidate can be asked to produce further paintings under tutor supervision.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Life Painting Portfolio

Candidates should produce a minimum of two complete paintings developed from a range of compositional and developmental painted sketches and preliminary drawings sketches for Outcome 1.

In Outcome 2 completed paintings accompanied by all developmental drawings and interpretative painted sketches should be presented for assessment. These should demonstrate the use of a variety of materials and techniques. Candidates should also demonstrate an analytical as well as a creative approach and produce paintings that successfully meet all the requirements of the Outcome.

It is envisaged that each candidate will produce more than the minimum amount of painted sketches/paintings required and that the most successful and/or appropriate pieces will be selected for assessment.

The extent and size of developmental and finished pieces presented for assessment will vary according to candidates' interpretation and work process. As a guide, a sketchbook containing preliminary drawings, plus around ten painted sketches would be expected as developmental evidence for each Outcome.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

Elements of the Core Skill of Problem Solving should be naturally developed and enhanced as candidates undertake the practical work for the Unit. Candidates have to interpret a brief and produce developmental concepts using painting media.

Consideration of a wide range of factors and essential issues at the planning stage will involve a high level of critical and creative thinking. As well as deciding on appropriate interpretations candidates have to consider and select media, methods and techniques which can be applied within timescales and budgets. Applying colour and composition to produce and present a creative interpretation of the human form will involve on going evaluation and adaptation. Candidates will benefit from constructive discussion and review with tutors and/or peers to reinforce reflective analytical and evaluative approaches to problem solving in working practice.

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: Life Painting Portfolio

In this Unit you will develop your knowledge and skills in painting the human figure. You will build on previous knowledge to produce expressive and interpretative paintings. Your paintings will be based on direct observation of the human figure.

For Outcome 1 you will you will make exploratory drawings and painted sketches from live models which will allow you to develop your own responses to the human figure.

In Outcome 2 you will work from given brief/s and be encouraged to make your own unique responses to them. You will produce a selection of paintings and painted sketches that will be analytical, developmental, experimental and interpretive.

Assessment of your selected paintings will probably take place at the end of the Unit. Your tutor will specify the form in which the artwork is to be presented.

The Unit may also provide you with opportunities to develop a number of Core Skills, which could include Problem Solving (Planning and Organising, Critical Thinking), oral/written Communication, and IT skills.