

Higher National Unit specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Design Process and Composition in the Landscape: An Introduction

Unit code: F21M 34

Unit purpose: The aims of this Unit are to allow the candidate to develop an understanding of the principles of landscape design composition and their application in the design process. It is of relevance to candidates wishing to work within the Landscape Management or Garden Design sectors.

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

- 1 Explain the principles of landscape design composition.
- 2 Apply the principles of landscape design composition through the design process.

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: Access to this Unit is at the discretion of the delivering centre, however it may be beneficial (although not essential) for candidates to have completed National Units such as:

D879 11/12	<i>Plant Identification</i>
E9L6 12	<i>Hard Landscaping</i>
D894 11	<i>Soft Landscaping — General Plantings</i>
D895 11	<i>Soft Landscaping — Specialist Plantings</i>
D892 11	<i>Soft Landscaping — Trees and Shrubs</i>

Core Skills: There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Problem Solving and Communication at SCQF level 6 in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

General information for centres (cont)

Context for delivery: This Unit is normally delivered as part of a Group Award, however it may be offered as a free standing Unit for Continued Professional Development. 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. The learning experience of students could be enhanced by teaching the Unit in tandem with other design based Units such as:

F21W 34	<i>Planting Design</i>
F1MM 34	<i>Landscape Graphics</i>
F1J8 34	<i>Garden Design Concepts</i>
F1J7 34	<i>Fundamentals of Landscape Surveying</i>
F1J5 34	<i>Design and Use of Hard Landscape Features</i>
F1J3 34	<i>Constructing Hard Landscape Features</i>

Assessment: Outcomes 1 & 2 are assessed through assignments.

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

Explain the principles of landscape design composition

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Relationships between form and function
- ◆ Spatial and mass relationships
- ◆ Design principles including; scale, colour, texture, shape, rhythm
- ◆ The influence of time on space and aesthetics in landscape design

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ explain the relationship between form and function in terms of its influence on the production of a design
- ◆ explain spatial and mass relationships in terms of their influence on the production of a design
- ◆ explain commonly applied landscape design principles including the use of scale, colour, texture, shape and rhythm
- ◆ explain the influence of time on space and aesthetics in landscape design

Assessment Guidelines

Evidence for this learning Outcome could be generated by an assignment where candidates are asked to critically analyse a garden or landscape design project. The example for analysis could either be a recently built garden or landscape or it may be scrutinised 'Off Plan' by the student. In either case the original client brief should also be made available to the candidate.

This learning Outcome could be presented individually to the students or offered as a group assignment.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Design Process and Composition in the Landscape: An Introduction

Outcome 2

Apply the principles of landscape design composition through the design process

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Landscape design process
- ◆ Client brief process
- ◆ Graphical presentation
- ◆ Verbal and written communication with clients

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ describe the landscape design process of survey, analysis and design solutions
- ◆ translate a client's project requirements into specified objectives
- ◆ produce design solutions appropriate to specified objectives
- ◆ communicate design solutions clearly in a relevant form

Assessment Guidelines

Evidence for this learning Outcome would normally be generated by a portfolio detailing the design composition process.

Administrative Information

Unit code: F21M 34

Unit title: Design Process and Composition in the Landscape: An Introduction

Superclass category: SA

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History of changes:

Version	Description of change	Date

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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Design Process and Composition in the Landscape: An Introduction

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

The aims of this Unit are to develop skills in the landscape design and composition process. Outcome 1 introduces the student to the design principles of; form, function, spatial and mass relationships, scale colour, texture, shape, rhythm, aesthetics and the concept of time and its influence on the designed landscape. Lectures and tutorials can be complemented by visits, for critical assessment by the student, to a wide range of designed landscape including domestic, recreational and industrial sites. Graphical examples of designed landscape and their accompanying client briefs should also be available for assessment by the student.

Outcome 2 applies the knowledge developed in Outcome 1 through the design process. Candidates should be introduced to client brief writing, site survey, and analysis. Candidates should then be involved in a 'real' design project where a client or client representative is available for discussion (brief) and where a meaningful survey can be conducted. The student may be encouraged to compile a portfolio of their design process from survey through analysis to final design solutions. Final plans with design solutions should be presented to the client, client representative or candidate's peers as well as the tutor.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

This Unit may be delivered as a free standing Unit. As part of a Group Award framework there is some scope for integration into the following Units; Fundamentals of Landscape Surveying, Planting Design. Outcome 1 should be delivered and assessed first and should include visits to various gardens and landscapes to augment lectures and tutorials. Outcome 2 will take considerably longer to teach and assess than Outcome 1. For the Outcome 2 assignment it is recommended but not mandatory that the site chosen for the design should be an actual 'real life' situation.

Candidates can be encouraged to develop their analytical and decision making skills throughout this Unit.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Problem Solving and Communication at SCQF level 6 in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

Open learning

It may be possible to deliver this Unit via Open Learning although careful consideration must be paid to ensuring the range of experience of the candidate and the validity of evidence produced.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

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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: Design Process and Composition in the Landscape: An Introduction

This Unit is designed to allow you to develop an understanding of the principles of landscape design composition and their application in the design process. Outcome 1 provides an introduction to the principles of landscape design composition, while Outcome 2 provides the opportunity to apply these principles to a client brief.

On completion of the Unit you should be able to:

- 1 Explain the principles of landscape design composition.
- 2 Apply the principles of landscape design composition through the design process.

You will be assessed in this Unit by an assignment in Outcome 1 to analyse a garden or landscape design project and in Outcome 2 by the production of a portfolio of evidence based on a client brief.