



Higher National Unit specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Technical Theatre: Props for Theatre Production

Unit code: F38B 34

Unit purpose: This Unit is intended for candidates who wish to work as technical practitioners within the theatre. This Unit is designed to give candidates the knowledge and skills required to enable them to design and construct props for a theatre production.

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

- 1 Produce prop-make requirements for a theatre production.
- 2 Design props for a theatre production.
- 3 Source materials and equipment and construct props for a theatre production.

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 will be at the discretion of the centre. However, it would be beneficial if candidates had some knowledge of Technical Theatre. This could be demonstrated by possession of NC Technical Theatre (in development) at SCQF level 6 or equivalent.

Core Skills: There may be opportunities to develop Core Skills of *Communication* and *Problem Solving, Working with Others, IT* and *Numeracy* to 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. This Unit was developed within the framework of the HNC Technical Theatre.

Assessment: This Unit will be assessed by practical assignments. Candidates will produce evidence of knowledge, understanding and practical application of the process undertaken in the identification and development of props-makes for a theatre production.

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 prop-make requirements for a theatre production

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Props-make requirements
- ◆ Consultation skills
- ◆ Budget
- ◆ Timescales
- ◆ Production meeting minutes produced by stage management
- ◆ Production schedule
- ◆ Master props list

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ identify props-make requirements, in consultation with the designer and director, including budget and timescale according to the production schedule
- ◆ interpret production meeting minutes, produced by stage management, outlining the props-make requirements
- ◆ produce a master props list for a theatre production including the props-makes

The above Evidence Requirements should be supported by an observational checklist covering the candidate's attendance and contribution at production meetings.

Assessment Guidelines

This Outcome could be assessed in conjunction with Outcomes 2 and 3. Evidence could be presented in a portfolio which could include production meeting minutes outlining candidate's assigned tasks including props-makes and completed master props list.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

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Outcome 2

Design props for a theatre production

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Interpretation of design briefs
- ◆ Research skills
- ◆ Design sketches
- ◆ Scale drawing

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ interpret a minimum of two different prop design briefs
- ◆ produce research visuals
- ◆ produce a minimum of one design sketch for each prop design brief in colour
- ◆ produce a plan and elevation, in appropriate scale, for each prop-make

Assessment Guidelines

This Outcome could be assessed in conjunction with Outcomes 1 and 3. Evidence could be presented in a portfolio which could include two different design briefs, research visuals, one design sketch for each brief in colour and a plan and elevation to scale for each prop-make.

Outcome 3

Source materials and equipment and construct props for a theatre production

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Materials and equipment for props-make
- ◆ Suppliers of materials and equipment for props-make
- ◆ Prop construction skills
- ◆ Health and Safety

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ identify and list suitable materials and equipment for the construction of the props-make
- ◆ identify and list suppliers of materials/equipment for the props-make
- ◆ construct a minimum of two props (one for each design brief given in Outcome 2) for a theatre production

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Technical Theatre: Props for Theatre Production

- ◆ produce a visual and textual folio of the manufacturing process for a minimum of two props
- ◆ apply safe working practices in the construction of the props

Assessment Guidelines

This Outcome could be assessed in conjunction with Outcomes 1 and 2. Evidence could be presented in a portfolio which could include a list of materials and equipment and suppliers' contact details, completed prop(s) with visuals, text folio of the manufacturing process and list of health and safety procedures applicable to the prop makes. An observation checklist could be used to record the candidate's compliance with health and safety regulations.

Administrative Information

Unit code: F38B 34

Unit title: Technical Theatre: Props for Theatre Production

Superclass category: LE

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Version	Description of change	Date

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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Technical Theatre: Props for Theatre 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 40 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

This Unit is designed to equip candidates with the skills and knowledge involved in the process of prop-making for a theatre production. The Unit will encourage candidates to interpret a text, production meeting minutes, undertake research and produce prop(s)-makes for a theatre production.

Outcome 1 looks at producing prop requirements for a theatre production. Candidates should consult with the director and designer on the requirements and take into consideration the budget, timescale and production schedule of the production.

Outcome 2 looks at the design process for props through the interpretation of design briefs, research and sketches and scale drawings.

Outcome 3 looks at the sourcing of appropriate materials and equipment to construct props for a range of prop-makes. It covers prop construction skills, and the employment of safe working practices during prop construction.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

This Unit is likely to be an optional Unit in the HNC Technical Theatre Group Award. It is intended to provide candidates with the necessary skills to design and construct props within a technical theatre environment.

The Unit is likely to be delivered by lectures covering materials and techniques of prop-making and followed by tutor demonstration and practical exercises. Candidates could then undertake a practical 'mock' exercise.

Outcome 1 could be assessed by a brief that requires candidates to identify prop-makes for a theatre production.

Outcome 2 could be assessed by a brief that requires candidates to design props. This could be based on texts/themes outlined by the tutor. Candidates could produce visual research images, list of appropriate materials/equipment, design sketches, outline of the manufacturing process (text and visuals), plan/elevation to scale or actual size and a list of health and safety considerations.

Outcome 3 is assessed by the sourcing of materials and equipment to construct props for a theatre production. Candidates should construct props ensuring all health and safety regulations are adhered to.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Technical Theatre: Props for Theatre Production

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

Opportunities occur to develop the Core Skills of *Communication (Written and Oral)*, *Problem Solving*, *Working with Others*, *Information Technology* and *Numeracy* in this Unit.

Communication and Working with Others at SCQF level 5 can be developed by the candidate's contribution at production meetings and by working with others in the construction of props.

Problem Solving at SCQF level 5 can be developed throughout Outcomes 1, 2 and 3 where solutions are sought to meet deadlines, work within a budget and the constraints of materials/equipment available.

Information Technology at SCQF level 5 can be developed as elements of evidence could be produced by word processing and may include electronically produced images for Outcome 2.

Numeracy at SCQF level 5 could be demonstrated by the candidate's production of a plan/elevation to scale or actual size of the prop(s) make.

Open learning

This Unit could not easily be delivered by open learning due to the observational nature of much of the assessment in particular the need to discuss requirements with the designer and director during production meetings.

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: Technical Theatre: Props for Theatre Production

This Unit is designed to enable you to understand the processes involved in designing and making of props for a theatre production.

In this Unit you will:

- 1 Learn about the consultation process between the director, designer and props team when producing prop-make requirements for a theatre production.
- 2 Interpret the design briefs for the prop-makes and produce suitable prop designs.
- 3 Source materials and equipment, and construct props within budget and timescale for a theatre production.

You will look at the running of a successful props team within a theatre production.

The content of the Unit will give you an appreciation of the process of constructing props and the difficulties the Props Team may have to overcome.

Assessment for this Unit will be by practical exercises. Evidence will be presented in the form of a portfolio including visuals and text.