



Higher National Unit specification: general information

This Graded Unit has been validated as part of the HNC Oral Health Care: Dental Nursing. Centres are required to develop the assessment instrument in accordance with this validated specification. Centres wishing to use another type of Graded Unit or assessment instrument are required to submit proposals detailing the justification for change for validation.

Graded Unit title: Oral Health Care: Dental Nursing: Graded Unit 1

Graded Unit code: FN3M 34

Type of Graded Unit: Project

Assessment Instrument: Practical Assignment

Publication date: June 2011

Source: Scottish Qualifications Authority

Version: 02

Unit purpose

This Graded Unit is designed to provide evidence that the candidate has achieved the following principal aims of the HNC Oral Health Care: Dental Nursing:

- ◆ to enable candidates to integrate knowledge, theory and practice effectively and to develop skills in providing support to the dental team and oral health care to a range of individuals during different procedures.
- ◆ to develop candidates skills and knowledge whilst in employment/placement within in a dental environment
- ◆ to enable candidates to critically evaluate their practice and to be reflective practitioners
- ◆ to facilitate progression to a higher level of dental nursing education

General information (cont)

Recommended prior knowledge and skills

It is recommended that the candidate should have completed or be in the process of completing the following Units prior to undertaking this Graded Unit:

Unit title	Code	SCQF credit value	SCQF level	SCQF credit points
Dental Radiography	F69A 34	1	7	8
Principles of Infection Control in the Dental Environment	F69B 34	1	7	8
Principles of Oral Health Assessment and Treatment Planning	F69C 34	1	7	8
Scientific Principles in the Management of Plaque Related Diseases	F69D 34	1	7	8
Provide Basic Life Support	DP0F 04	1	7	7
Prepare and Maintain Environments, Instruments and Equipment for Clinical Dental Procedures	F302 04	1	7	25
Ensure Your Own Actions Reduce the Risks to Health and Safety	F300 04	1	6	8

Given the nature of the Units, it may also be possible to draw evidence from the Following:

Unit Title	Code	SCQF credit value	SCQF level	SCQF credit points
Reflect on and Develop Your Practice	DK57 04	1	7	8
Contribute to the Production of Dental Radiographs	F308 04	1	6	8

Credit points and level

1 Higher National Unit credit(s) 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.*

General information (cont)

Core Skills:

The achievement of this Unit gives automatic certification of the following:

Problem Solving @ level 6

There are also opportunities to develop aspects of the Core Skills of Communication, Information and Communication Technology and Working with Others in this Unit.

Assessment

This Graded Unit will be assessed by the use of a practical assignment. The assignment should provide the candidate with the opportunity to produce evidence that demonstrates she/he has met the aims of the Graded Unit that it covers.

Higher National Graded Unit specification: instructions for designing the assessment task and assessing candidates

Graded Unit title: Oral Health Care: Dental Nursing: Graded Unit 1

Conditions of assessment

The candidate should be given a date for completion of the assignment. However, the instructions for the assessment task should be distributed to allow the candidate sufficient time to assimilate the details and carry out the assessment task. During the time between the distribution of the assessment task instructions and the completion date, assessors/lecturers may answer questions; provide clarification, guidance and reasonable assistance. The assessment task should be marked as soon as possible after the completion date. The final grading given should reflect the quality of the candidate's evidence at the time of the completion date.

The evidence for the project is generated over time and involves three distinct stages, where each stage has to be achieved before the next is undertaken. Thus any re-assessment of stages must be undertaken before proceeding to the next stage.

If a candidate fails the project overall or wishes to upgrade, then this must be done using a *substantially different* project, i.e. all stages are undertaken using a new project, assignment, case study, etc. In this case, a candidate's grade will be based on the achievement in the re-assessment, if this results in a higher grade.

Instructions for designing the assessment task

The assessment task is a project. The project undertaken by the candidate must be a complex task which involves:

- ◆ variables which are complex or unfamiliar
- ◆ relationships which need to be clarified
- ◆ a context which may be familiar or unfamiliar to the candidate

The assessment task must require the candidate to:

- ◆ analyse the task and decide on a course of action for undertaking the project
- ◆ plan and organise work and carry it through to completion
- ◆ reflect on what has been done and draw conclusions for the future
- ◆ produce evidence of meeting the aims which this Graded Unit has been designed to cover

Higher National Graded Unit specification: instructions for designing the assessment task and assessing candidates (cont)

Graded Unit title: Oral Health Care: Dental Nursing: Graded Unit 1

Guidance on grading candidates

Candidates who meet the minimum Evidence Requirements will have their achievement graded as C — competent, or A — highly competent or B somewhere between A and C. The grade related criteria to be used to judge candidate performance for this Graded Unit is specified in the following table.

Grade A	Grade C
<p>Is a seamless, coherent piece of work which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ produces evidence for the three essential stages of the Practical Assignment which is consistently of a high quality and clearly inter-related ◆ is highly focused and demonstrates an insightful interpretation of the brief from a balanced, integrative approach ◆ demonstrates an accurate and intelligent interpretation of the project specification and displays a high level of subject knowledge and practical occupational expertise ◆ effectively consolidates and integrates the required knowledge, understanding and skills ◆ states sources of references ◆ demonstrates the ability to work autonomously throughout with minimum support ◆ is submitted within the timescales 	<p>Is a co-ordinated piece of work which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ has sufficient evidence for the three essential stages of the Practical Assignment which is produced to an acceptable standard ◆ demonstrates an acceptable interpretation of the brief ◆ is relevant to the tasks associated with the project specification and displays an adequate level of subject knowledge and practical occupational expertise ◆ consolidates and integrates knowledge and skills but may lack some consistency

The project will be marked out of 100. Assessors/lecturers will mark each stage of the project, taking into account the criteria outlined. The marks will then be aggregated to arrive at an overall mark for the project. Assessors will then assign an overall grade to the candidate for this Graded Unit based on the following grade boundaries.

- A = 70%–100%
- B = 60%–69%
- C = 50%–59%

NOTE — The candidate must achieve all of the minimum evidence specified below for each stage of the project in order to achieve the Graded Unit.

Higher National Graded Unit specification: instructions for designing the assessment task and assessing candidates (cont)

Graded Unit title: Oral Health Care: Dental Nursing: Graded Unit 1

Evidence Requirements

The project consists of three stages: planning; developing; and evaluating. The following table specifies the minimum evidence required to pass each stage.

NOTE — The candidate must achieve **all of the minimum evidence** specified below for each stage of the project in order to pass the Graded Unit.

Project stage	Minimum Evidence Requirements
Stage 1 — Planning 35% of total marks	Produce a plan for a minimum of 3 dental procedures which includes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 identifying relevant procedures 2 a discussion of how to achieve the best outcomes for the patient and the methods to be used, with reasons for this approach 3 a rationale for the selection of the chosen instruments and materials in terms of appropriateness and benefits to the patient 4 identification and assessment of potential risks and evidence of a plan to minimise these, ensuring safe practice throughout the activity 5 clearly defined aims of the project and steps required to reach these 6 realistic timescales which are set and agreed with all relevant parties, for carrying out the chosen procedures and completing this assignment 7 the resources to be used which may include a discussion on how to achieve best practice, with reasons for this approach. This may include any drugs, medicaments or materials used with relevance to medical history
	<p><i>The candidate must achieve all of the minimum evidence specified above in order to pass the Planning stage.</i></p>

Higher National Graded Unit specification: instructions for designing the assessment task and assessing candidates (cont)

Graded Unit title: Oral Health Care: Dental Nursing: Graded Unit 1

Project stage	Minimum Evidence Requirements
Stage 2 — Developing 35% of total marks	<p>Produce a report of the presentation which:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 is based on the final plan prior to the procedures taking place. 2 demonstrates how the candidate ensured that the patient's needs and preferences were respected and considered throughout the procedures. 3 demonstrates ability to manage instruments, materials and resources to carry out and/or assist with the procedures, 4 is verified by a course tutor/workplace supervisor as an authentic record of what actually took place.
	<p><i>The candidate must achieve all of the minimum evidence specified above in order to pass the Developing stage.</i></p>

Project stage	Minimum Evidence Requirements
Stage 3 — Evaluating 30% of total marks	<p>Produce an evaluation of the activity which includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 an objective review of the quality of own work 2 an assessment of strengths and weaknesses of the original plan. 3 a review of the plan and modifications made to inform improvements to own work. 4 an indication of how the integrative nature of the assignment enhanced understanding of learning attained throughout the award encouraging a holistic view of oral health care provision. 5 identification of any problems encountered and skills gained during the process of completing the assignment.
	<p><i>The candidate must achieve all of the minimum evidence specified above in order to pass the Evaluating stage.</i></p>

Higher National Graded Unit specification: instructions for designing the assessment task and assessing candidates (cont)

Graded Unit title: Oral Health Care: Dental Nursing: Graded Unit 1

Support notes

Planning Stage — 35% of total marks.

It is suggested that the plan should be 1,000 to 1500 words (or equivalent)

This stage is worth 35 marks. The candidate must achieve all of the minimum evidence specified in the Evidence Requirements section to pass the planning stage. The planning stage is assessed by short planning document and two individual interviews with the tutor.

Developing Stage — 35% of total marks.

It is suggested that the report should be 1,000 to 1500 words (or equivalent)

This stage is worth 35 marks. The candidate must achieve all of the minimum evidence specified in the Evidence Requirements section to pass the developing stage. Assessment is based on a report of the activity and an observation by the tutor.

Evaluation Stage — 30% of total marks.

It is suggested that the report should be between 750 and 1,000 words (or equivalent)

This stage is worth 30 marks. The candidate must achieve all of the minimum evidence specified in the Evidence Requirements section to pass the planning stage. The evaluation stage is assessed by an evaluation report.

Disabled candidates and/or those with additional support needs

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering whether any reasonable adjustments may be required. Further advice can be found on our website www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements.

History of changes to Unit

Version	Description of change	Date
02	Problem Solving Core Skill embedded.	05/08/11

© Scottish Qualifications Authority 2011

This publication may be reproduced in whole or in part for educational purposes provided that no profit is derived from reproduction and that, if reproduced in part, the source is acknowledged.

Additional copies of this Unit specification can be purchased from the Scottish Qualifications Authority. Please contact the Business Development and Customer Support team, telephone 0303 333 0330.

General information for candidates

Graded Unit title: Oral Health Care: Dental Nursing: Graded Unit 1

Project Brief: Practical Assignment

This assignment relates to planning, developing and evaluating three procedures to ensure a positive patient experience. You should identify the appropriate procedures in discussion with your course tutor and placement/workplace supervisor, which may include:

- ◆ Preventive
- ◆ Radiography
- ◆ Decontamination and Cross Infection Control
- ◆ Oral Health Assessment

The Practical Assignment is not concerned exclusively with practical activity. You should demonstrate interpersonal, organisational, evaluative, reflective and management skills to show your overall insight and understanding of the procedures.

The procedures must be with a real patient but must be observed by the course tutor, placement or workplace supervisor or a previously identified G.D.C. Registrant.

The Project will follow three stages:

- ◆ Planning
- ◆ Developing
- ◆ Evaluating

The planning stage should be assessed using a planning document.

The developing stage should be assessed via observation and a report of the activity.

The evaluating stage should be assessed via an evaluation report.

The tutor's role is as a facilitator and so to gain high marks you must demonstrate a high degree of autonomy in all stages of the assignment.

Stage 1 — Planning

Select three appropriate procedures for your assignment, for example:

- ◆ Prevention — tooth brushing and inter-dental cleaning, diet, fissure sealants, scale and polish, fluoride application
- ◆ Prosthetics — full or partial denture, acrylic or chrome cobalt, immediate denture, implants
- ◆ Restorations — amalgam, including pinned amalgam, composites, crowns, inlays, bridges and veneers
- ◆ Radiography — taking, processing, uses, H & S legislation
- ◆ Oral health assessment and treatment planning -periodontal charts, orthodontic classifications, UK and FDI charts.
- ◆ Decontamination, cycle, equipment, cross infection control, guidelines and legislation

General information for candidates (cont)

Graded Unit title: Oral Health Care: Dental Nursing: Graded Unit 1

The procedures should be of moderate complexity and you should justify the chosen procedures. An explanation should be given how various factors may contribute to the options offered by the clinician and selected by the patient, eg medical conditions, treatment offered privately/NHS, willingness to undertake complex treatment.

- ◆ Apply the appropriate knowledge and skills to prepare for the chosen procedures which are aimed at ensuring a positive experience for the patient.

Stage 2 — Developing

Give an account of the procedures that describes how you applied the knowledge and skills gained from studying the underpinning Units to the treatment carried out, making reference to:

- ◆ your role in relation to the procedures.
- ◆ the structure and function of the oral and dental anatomy
- ◆ the timescales for completion.
- ◆ resources.

Stage 3 — Evaluating

Provide an evaluation and review of the activity, which includes:

- ◆ evaluation of the effectiveness of the original plan.
- ◆ reflection on your own practice throughout all the stages of the project.
- ◆ evaluation of your use of supervision and support systems.