



Higher National Unit specification

General information

Unit title: Garden Design Practice (SCQF level 8)

Unit code: H7B7 35

Superclass: SA

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Version: 01

Unit purpose

This Unit is intended to broaden experience in designing and working with clients. It introduces styles and themes within a garden context and expands the range of garden types.

This Unit is suitable for those wishing to pursue a career in garden design or within the wider horticulture industry.

Outcomes

On successful completion of the Unit the learner will be able to:

- 1 Design a large garden.
- 2 Explain the influence of design styles within a garden setting.
- 3 Analyse how garden design is influenced by garden type.

Credit points and level

2 Higher National Unit credits at SCQF level 8: (16 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 8)

Recommended entry to the Unit

Entry to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, however candidates would benefit from having completed Higher National Unit Garden Design Concepts or equivalent Units.

Higher National Unit specification: General information (cont)

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Core Skills

Opportunities to develop aspects of Core Skills are highlighted in the Support Notes for this Unit specification.

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skill components in this Unit.

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.

Equality and inclusion

This Unit specification has been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to learning or assessment. The individual needs of learners should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment methods or considering alternative evidence.

Further advice can be found on our website www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements.

Higher National Unit specification: Statement of standards

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Acceptable performance in this Unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the Unit specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to SQA.

Outcome 1

Design a large garden.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Site surveys
- ◆ Site analysis
- ◆ Interpreting briefs
- ◆ Planting plans
- ◆ Selecting materials
- ◆ Design solutions
- ◆ Graphic presentation

Outcome 2

Explain the influence of design styles within a garden setting.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Concept of the 'outdoor room'
- ◆ Garden styles

Outcome 3

Analyse how garden design is influenced by garden type.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Environmental influences
- ◆ Social influences
- ◆ Designer approaches

Higher National Unit specification: Statement of standards (cont)

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Evidence Requirements for this Unit

Learners will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or skills across all Outcomes by showing that they can:

For **Outcome 1**:

- ◆ Conduct a site survey.
- ◆ Analyse a site in relation to a given brief.
- ◆ Design an appropriate scheme for a large garden.
- ◆ Present a garden design scheme in an appropriate format.

For **Outcome 2**:

- ◆ Explain the concept of 'the outdoor room'.
- ◆ Explain a range of garden styles appropriate to given situations.

For **Outcome 3**:

- ◆ Analyse a garden type with respect to environmental and social influences.
- ◆ Analyse the design parameters of a given garden type.

Assessment can reflect the teaching approach taken by a particular centre. Outcomes would normally be assessed individually.



Higher National Unit Support Notes

Unit title: Garden Design Practice (SCQF level 8)

Unit Support Notes are offered as guidance and are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 80 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

This Unit aims to give learners additional opportunities for design practice and allow them to explore themes and styling within a garden context.

The content of this Unit can be delivered flexibly to reflect the interests and approaches at a particular centre.

Outcome 1 allows learners the opportunity to design a large garden and explore the different approaches this brings. It builds on the introductory design Unit Garden Design Concepts or equivalent Units. Variations in garden size require different design solutions, disciplines and presentation techniques. Developing skills in tackling large gardens broadens the learner's understanding of the garden design process and client requirements.

Outcome 2 looks at the influences of design within a garden space. The concept of the garden as an outdoor room and its relationship to the built form is explored. Learners will gain an appreciation of gardens and how the elements within gardens have evolved throughout history. Styling and design solutions within gardens will be examined ranging from formal to the informal and through a variety of geometric and organic solutions. The styles of gardens studied may include oriental, minimalist, cottage, Moorish and Italianate and how these styles overlap, interact and influence each other.

Learners will need to be skilled in the deconstruction of these garden styles into their individual elements so that they may be applied in reconstructing a design for a given garden space.

Outcome 3 will look at the influences that come with a type of garden and how these effect the designer's decisions. Learners should be encouraged to explore the physical and social constraints or opportunities that arise from a particular garden type and discuss their approach to designing a given garden scheme.

Higher National Unit Support Notes (cont)

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The types of gardens studied may include:

- ◆ Roof
- ◆ Courtyard
- ◆ Front
- ◆ Back
- ◆ Sensory
- ◆ Family
- ◆ Disabled
- ◆ Community
- ◆ Wildlife
- ◆ Low maintenance

Guidance on approaches to delivery of this Unit

A flexible approach should be taken to the delivery of this Unit, where a mixture of classroom teaching and tutorials could be used to develop the learners knowledge and understanding combined with visits to a range of different styles and types of gardens and the use of visiting speakers to allow the learner to apply the knowledge they have developed to real world situations.

Guidance on approaches to assessment of this Unit

Evidence can be generated using different types of assessment. The following are suggestions only. There may be other methods that would be more suitable to learners.

Centres are reminded that prior verification of centre-devised assessments would help to ensure that the national standard is being met. Where learners experience a range of assessment methods, this helps them to develop different skills that should be transferable to work or further and higher education.

Outcome 1:

This Outcome could be assessed by the production of a package of design drawings, annotated and rendered, which demonstrate the learner understanding and methodology in creating a design for a large garden. The learner should be encouraged to explore different presentation techniques as a means of communicating the large garden design. This package may be supported by written or oral explanation by the learner.

In the context of this Unit a 'large garden' is taken to mean: a garden where there are complex design solutions and where the client brief would be multi-functional. This will provide learners with the scope to demonstrate a wide range of design solutions.

Outcome 2:

This Outcome could be assessed by the submission of a written and/or graphic assignment. A graphic assignment is recommended. Learners will need to demonstrate that they are able to deconstruct an existing garden style into its essential elements and reconstruct these elements to fit a new garden scheme.

Higher National Unit Support Notes (cont)

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Outcome 3:

This Outcome could be assessed by the submission of a written and/or graphic assignment. Learners should be encouraged to explore the many and varied influences that may constrain the construction of a specific garden type.

Opportunities for e-assessment

E-assessment may be appropriate for some assessments in this Unit. By e-assessment we mean assessment which is supported by Information and Communication Technology (ICT), such as e-testing or the use of e-portfolios or social software. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all learner evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the Evidence Requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. The most up-to-date guidance on the use of e-assessment to support SQA's qualifications is available at www.sqa.org.uk/e-assessment.

Opportunities for developing Core and other essential skills

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components in this Unit, however there may be opportunities to develop the Core Skills of *Numeracy* and *Problem Solving* both at SCQF level 6.

History of changes to Unit

Version	Description of change	Date

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General information for learners

Unit title: Garden Design Practice (SCQF level 8)

This section will help you decide whether this is the Unit for you by explaining what the Unit is about, what you should know or be able to do before you start, what you will need to do during the Unit and opportunities for further learning and employment.

This Unit is designed to develop your experience in designing and working with clients. You will have the opportunity to explore styles and themes within a garden context, including the concept of a garden as an 'outdoor room', and develop the knowledge and skills required to apply these concepts to a range of garden types.

On completion of the Unit you will be able to:

- 1 Design a large garden.
- 2 Explain the influence of design styles with a garden setting.
- 3 Analyse how garden design is influenced by garden type.

You are likely to be assessed by a mixture of practical assignments where you will be required to produce garden designs and to demonstrate your understanding of the theory which underpins these designs.