



National 5
Course
Specification



National 5 Design and Manufacture Course Specification (C719 75)

Valid from August 2013

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Please refer to the note of changes at the end of this Course Specification for details of changes from previous version (where applicable).

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Course outline

Course title: National 5 Design and Manufacture

SCQF: level 5 (24 SCQF credit points)

Course code: C719 75

Mandatory Units

H22T 75 Design and Manufacture: Design (National 5) 9 SCQF credit points

H22V 75 Design and Manufacture: Materials and Manufacturing (National 5) 9 SCQF credit points

Course assessment 6 SCQF credit points

This Course includes six SCQF credit points to allow preparation for Course assessment. The Course assessment covers the added value of the Course. Further information on the Course assessment is provided in the Assessment section.

Recommended entry

Entry to this Course is at the discretion of the centre. However, learners would normally be expected to have attained the skills, knowledge and understanding required by one or more of the following or by equivalent qualifications and/or experience:

- ◆ National 4 Design and Manufacture Course or relevant component Units

In terms of prior learning and experience, relevant experiences and outcomes may also provide an appropriate basis for doing this Course.

Other relevant prior learning and experience would be skills in art, design and crafts work. Knowledge and understanding of the properties and uses of materials would also be of value, as would skills in literacy and numeracy.

Progression

This Course or its Units may provide progression to:

- ◆ other SQA qualifications in Design and Manufacture or related areas
- ◆ further study, employment or training

Further details are provided in the Rationale section.

Equality and inclusion

This Course 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. For further information please refer to the *Course Support Notes*.

Rationale

All new and revised National Courses reflect the Curriculum for Excellence values, purposes and principles. They offer flexibility, provide more time for learning, more focus on skills and applying learning, and scope for personalisation and choice.

In this Course, and its component Units, there will be an emphasis on skills development and the application of those skills. Assessment approaches will be proportionate and fit for purpose and they will promote best practice, enabling learners to achieve the highest standards they can.

This Course provides learners with opportunities to continue to acquire and develop the attributes and capabilities of the four capacities as well as skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work.

All Courses provide opportunities for learners to develop breadth, challenge and application, but the focus and balance of the assessment will be appropriate for the subject area.

Relationship between the Course and Curriculum for Excellence values, purposes and principles

The Course introduces learners to the multi-faceted world of product design and manufacturing¹. Creativity is at the heart of this Course and its combination with technology makes it exciting and dynamic.

The Course combines scientific, mathematical and technological rigour with design and manufacturing creativity and innovation. It is at this interface that the Course demonstrates broad options, possibilities and flexibilities in supporting educational growth.

In the Course, learners are encouraged to exercise imagination, creativity and logical thinking. The Course thus provides a broad scope for personalisation and choice.

The Course allows learners to broaden and deepen their skills base and to widen their horizons regarding a range of potential vocations and careers. It will provide opportunities to further acquire and develop further the attributes and capabilities of the four capacities, including: creativity, flexibility and adaptability; enthusiasm and a willingness to learn; perseverance, independence and resilience; responsibility and reliability; and confidence and enterprise.

The Course provides learners with skills that allow them to learn live and work more effectively in our advancing technological society. It allows them to become not just effective contributors but informed and discerning consumers.

¹ In this Course, the words 'manufacture' and 'make' are generally interchangeable. In this document, both words are to be understood to refer to the production of models, prototypes or products in a school workshop context and hence, either bespoke or low-volume crafts work. The exception to this general rule is where the word 'manufacture' definitely refers to large-scale factory or industrial production of multiple units, such as may be understood by the term 'mass production'. In these cases the context will make this clear.

The Course provides progression from experiences and outcomes in expressive arts, mathematics, science and ICT, as well as in craft, design, engineering and graphics.

Purpose and aims of the Course

The Course is broad, providing opportunities for learners to develop practical/design skills, as well as gaining knowledge and understanding of design, and materials and manufacturing processes.

The Course is practical, exploratory and experiential in nature. It combines elements of creativity and designing for aesthetic or visual impact with a requirement to consider a product's function and performance. It helps the learner appreciate the tensions that exist between factors such as aesthetics, function, economics and the environment.

The Course allows learners to consider the various factors that impact on a product's design. It will consider the life cycle of a product from its inception through design, manufacture and use, including its disposal or re-use — a 'cradle-to-cradle' approach to design.

The Course provides learners with opportunities to develop skills that are of general value for learning, life and work: the ability to read drawings and diagrams; the ability to communicate design ideas and practical details; the ability to devise and develop practical solutions to design problems; and the ability to manufacture their design ideas.

The Course allows learners to engage with technologies and to consider the impact that design and manufacturing technologies have on our environment and society. It allows them to consider how technologies have impacted on the world of the designer and on manufacturing.

This Course is of broad general benefit to all learners. It also provides a foundation for those considering further study, or a career, in design, manufacturing, engineering, science, marketing, and related disciplines. The Course provides a complementary practical experience for those studying subjects in the technologies and expressive arts.

The aims of the Course are to enable learners to develop:

- ◆ skills in design and manufacturing models, prototypes and products
- ◆ knowledge and understanding of manufacturing processes and materials
- ◆ an understanding of the impact of design and manufacturing technologies on our environment and society

Information about typical learners who might do the Course

This Course is a broad-based qualification, suitable for learners with a general or specific interest in design and technology generally. It is suitable for learners with an interest in product design and manufacture in particular. It is suitable for those wanting to progress onto higher levels of study in the subject.

The Course is largely learner-centred and includes practical and experiential learning opportunities. The world of design and manufacturing covers a broad spectrum of

experiences. Some products are designed to create an emotional or visual impact; others are more functional in their requirements. These facts allow the Course to be flexible in nature and allow scope for personalisation and choice for each learner.

On completing the Course, learners will be able to: create, develop and communicate design proposals; solve design problems in applied contexts; contribute to the evaluation and improvement of design proposals and manufacturing practicalities; and manufacture models, prototypes and products of their design ideas.

In addition, learners will have developed: knowledge and understanding of a range of materials and manufacturing processes; an appreciation of the factors that impact on the design and manufacture of products; and an understanding of the impact of design and manufacturing technologies on our environment and society.

Course structure and conditions of award

Course structure

On completing the Course, the learners will have developed design skills, as well as skills in making models, prototypes and/or products. Learners will also acquire knowledge and understanding of materials and manufacturing processes.

Units are statements of standards for assessment and not programmes of learning and teaching. They can be delivered in a number of ways.

In addition to the Course assessment, the Course includes two mandatory Units. Both Units are designed to provide progression to the corresponding Units at Higher.

Design and Manufacture: Design (National 5)

This Unit covers the product design process from brief to design proposal. It helps learners develop skills in initiating, developing, articulating and communicating design proposals. It allows them to develop an appreciation of the design/make/test process and the importance of evaluating and resolving design proposals on an ongoing basis. It allows them to develop an appreciation of design concepts and the various factors that influence the design of products.

Design and Manufacture: Materials and Manufacturing (National 5)

This Unit covers the product design process from design proposal to prototype or product. It helps learners to 'close the design loop' by manufacturing their design ideas. It allows learners to develop practical skills that are invaluable in the design/make/test process. It helps them gain an appreciation of the properties and uses of materials as well as a range of manufacturing processes and techniques. It allows them to evaluate, refine and resolve design and manufacturing solutions.

In both Units, learners will gain knowledge and understanding of design and manufacturing technologies and how these impact on our environment and society.

Conditions of award

To gain the award of the Course, the learner must pass all of the Units as well as the Course assessment. The required Units are shown in the Course outline section. Course assessment will provide the basis for grading attainment in the Course award.

Skills, knowledge and understanding

Further information on the assessment of the skills, knowledge and understanding for the Course is given in the *Course Assessment Specification*. A broad overview of the mandatory subject skills, knowledge and understanding that will be assessed in the Course is given in this section. These include:

- ◆ applying knowledge and understanding of research techniques
- ◆ analysing information
- ◆ applying knowledge and understanding of idea generation techniques
- ◆ applying knowledge and understanding of design factors
- ◆ applying knowledge and understanding of graphic techniques
- ◆ applying knowledge and understanding of modelling techniques
- ◆ applying knowledge and understanding of planning techniques
- ◆ applying knowledge and understanding of evaluation techniques
- ◆ applying knowledge and understanding of tools, materials and processes
- ◆ applying knowledge and understanding of manufacturing techniques
- ◆ knowledge and understanding of commercial manufacture
- ◆ knowledge and understanding of the impact of a range of design and manufacturing technologies on our environment and society

Skills, knowledge and understanding to be included in the Course will be appropriate to the SCQF level of the Course. The SCQF level descriptors give further information on characteristics and expected performance at each SCQF level (www.sqa.org.uk/scqf).

Assessment

Information about assessment for the Course is included in the *Course Assessment Specification*, which provides full details including advice on how a learner's overall attainment for the Course will be determined.

Unit assessment

All Units are internally assessed against the requirements shown in the *Unit Specification*.

They can be assessed on an individual Unit basis or by using other approaches which combine the assessment for more than one Unit.

They will be assessed on a pass/fail basis within centres. SQA will provide rigorous external quality assurance, including external verification, to ensure assessment judgments are consistent and meet national standards.

The assessment of the Units in this Course will be as follows:

Design and Manufacture: Design (National 5)

In this Unit, evidence will be provided by the production, evaluation and justification of design proposals, including a specification, in response to a brief. Knowledge and understanding will also be assessed.

Design and Manufacture: Materials and Manufacturing (National 5)

In this Unit, evidence will be provided by the production and evaluation of simple products in response to given instructions with some complex features. Knowledge and understanding will also be assessed.

Course assessment

Courses from National 4 to Advanced Higher include assessment of [added value](#)². At National 5, Higher and Advanced Higher, the added value will be assessed in the Course assessment. The added value for the Course must address the key purposes and aims of the Course as defined in the Course Rationale. It will do this by addressing one or more of breadth, challenge and application.

In the Design and Manufacture (National 5) Course, added value will focus on breadth, challenge and application.

The learner will draw on, extend and apply the skills and knowledge they have developed during the Course. These will be assessed through a combination of an [assignment](#) and a [question paper](#)³.

The Design and Manufacture assignment adds value by introducing challenge and application. Learners will draw on their range of design knowledge and skills, knowledge of materials and manufacturing and apply practical skills, in order to produce an effective overall response to the assignment brief.

² Definitions can be found here: www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/58409.html

³ Definitions can be found here: www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/58409.html

The response to the brief will include a folio, a model, or a prototype, or a completed product. The brief for the project will be sufficiently open and flexible to allow for personalisation and choice.

The question paper introduces breadth to the assessment. It requires depth of understanding and application of knowledge from the Units.

Development of skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work

It is expected that learners will develop broad, generic skills through this Course. The skills that learners are expected to improve on and develop through the Course are based on SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work* and drawn from the main skills areas listed below. These must be built into the Course where there are appropriate opportunities.

2 Numeracy

2.2 Money, time and measurement

4 Employability, enterprise and citizenship

4.4 Enterprise

5 Thinking skills

5.2 Understanding

5.3 Applying

5.4 Analysing and evaluating

Amplification of these is given in SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work*. The level of these skills will be appropriate to the level of the Course. Further information on building in skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work for the Course is given in the *Course Support Notes*.

Administrative information

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History of changes to National Course Specification

| Version | Description of change | Authorised by | Date |
|---------|---|------------------------|------------|
| 1.1 | Minor changes to wording in first paragraph of 'Purpose and aims of Course' section and to the descriptions of both Units in the 'Course structure' section. No changes to skills, knowledge and understanding requirements, but bullets re-worded for clarity. | Qualifications Manager | April 2015 |
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