



National Unit Specification: general information

UNIT Art and Design: Sketchbook Development (SCQF level 6)

CODE F5CM 12

SUMMARY

This Unit is designed to enable the candidate to develop personal ideas and concepts through the use of a sketchbook(s). The candidate will investigate and experiment with the visual elements and use of a variety of materials and media handling techniques.

This Unit is suitable for candidates who:

- ◆ want to develop their ability to investigate and develop personal creative ideas and concepts
- ◆ are completing a portfolio preparation course
- ◆ are undertaking a general programme of Art and Design based Units

OUTCOMES

- 1 Select a theme or topic for an investigation.
- 2 Produce a personal sketchbook of investigative studies.

RECOMMENDED ENTRY

While entry is at the discretion of the centre, candidates would benefit from having previous experience of an art and design course or Units.

CREDIT VALUE

1 credit at Higher level (6 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 6*).

**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.*

Administrative Information

Superclass: JA

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National Unit Specification: general information (cont)

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CORE SKILLS

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

The Unit provides opportunities for candidates to develop aspects of the following Core Skills:

- ◆ Communication (SCQF level 5)
- ◆ Problem Solving (SCQF level 5)

These opportunities are highlighted in the Support Notes of this Unit Specification.

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

Select a theme or topic for an investigation

Performance Criteria

- (a) Identify a theme and sources of inspiration for the investigation.
- (b) Produce and collate source imagery with development potential.

OUTCOME 2

Produce a personal sketchbook of investigative studies.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Select media and materials and produce exploratory studies that demonstrate the effective use of visual elements and media handling techniques.
- (b) Demonstrate creative use of media and techniques.
- (c) Produce a range of studies that show investigation of visual ideas and/or concepts.
- (d) Produce a sketchbook that shows personal development and refinement of visual ideas and/or concepts.

National Unit Specification: statement of standards (cont)

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EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS UNIT

Evidence is required to demonstrate that the candidate has achieved all Outcomes and Performance Criteria.

Product evidence and written and/or oral recorded evidence should be produced to demonstrate that the candidate has achieved all of the Outcomes and Performance Criteria.

The candidate will produce a sketchbook(s) that includes:

- ◆ collated primary and secondary annotated source imagery relating to the theme
- ◆ exploration and development of the visual elements, media, and material handling techniques
- ◆ progressive development of the theme including a minimum of two distinct lines of development, in 2D or 3D context as appropriate

The work may be presented using a conventional sketchbook format (A4-A1 paper based) or by the use of a digital, electronic or display board format.

The candidate will produce the work under open-book conditions, throughout delivery of the Unit.

National Unit Specification: support notes

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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 an optional Unit of the National Certificate in Art and Design, but can also be taken as a free-standing Unit.

The Unit has been designed specifically to meet the needs of non-advanced learners who wish to progress in art and design related studies and who will be required to have evidence of sketchbook work.

The Unit provides opportunities for the practical exploration and development of a personal investigation into chosen topics and themes within an expressive or design context. The Unit can provide opportunities for the candidate to consolidate and apply their learning in and across a range of multidisciplinary contexts.

The content of the Unit should be broad and flexible to allow for the needs of the individual candidate or group of candidates. However, the chosen personal investigation theme or topic must be able to meet all Outcomes and Performance Criteria.

The Unit content should be designed and directed to allow the candidate to undertake a personal creative investigation. It will encourage the candidate to develop and record a personal response to a topic or theme and demonstrate creative use of the visual elements, materials and media handling techniques. Sketchbook content would be expected to reflect original thought and show the continuing critical evaluation of ideas and concepts through the use of annotation or oral comment.

GUIDANCE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING APPROACHES FOR THIS UNIT

The teacher/lecturer could begin by showing exemplar materials and discuss the purpose and function of a sketchbook.

The teacher/lecturer can demonstrate the use of selected media handling techniques and advise candidates on the selection of suitable source material for investigation. The candidate should work independently with ongoing guidance from the teacher/lecturer.

Discussion with individual candidates at regular intervals throughout the delivery of the Unit will ensure that the purpose and focus of the sketchbook remains clear for each candidate. Assessment should be ongoing throughout the delivery of the Unit.

National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

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OPPORTUNITIES FOR CORE SKILL DEVELOPMENT

Candidates will have the opportunity to develop aspects of the Core Skills of *Problem Solving* and *Communication* through participation in tutorial sessions and in the reflective annotation of the sketchbook work. The development of visual lines of enquiry will also involve the development of critical thinking skills and involve the candidates in the planning and organisation of the sketchbook content and thematic focus.

GUIDANCE ON APPROACHES TO ASSESSMENT FOR THIS UNIT

A suitable instrument of assessment for this Unit would be a practical exercise(s).

The Outcomes could be assessed individually using continuous assessment with teacher/lecturers ensuring, that candidates are aware of the ongoing assessment of their work. Class/group critiques promoting reflective practice and self/peer assessment could also be ongoing throughout this Unit and candidates should be aware of all assessment requirements and arrangements.

A variety of appropriate approaches to continuous assessment could be used, for example:

- ◆ reviewing the candidate's experimentation and use of media and techniques through regular feedback
- ◆ ensuring sustained visual awareness of the source material(s) through a process of regular review and evaluative feedback commentary on the developing ideas and concepts

Although the candidate will be largely self-directed during the course of this Unit, it would be advisable to review the candidate's progress at frequent intervals and to carry out regular formative assessment of progress to help to inform future learning. This process is particularly helpful in ensuring that the sketchbook does not deteriorate into a scrapbook that expresses no clear development of ideas or progression in media handling skills.

The teacher/lecturer must be satisfied that the evidence submitted is the work of individual candidates. Although group work may be used as a learning and teaching approach, any work that contributes to a candidate's assessment evidence must be carried out on an individual basis to ensure authenticity.

Opportunities for the use of 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 communications technology (ICT), such as e-testing or the use of e-portfolios or e-checklists. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all candidate evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the Evidence Requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. Further advice is available in *SQA Guidelines on Online Assessment for Further Education (AA1641, March 2003)*, *SQA Guidelines on e-assessment for Schools (BD2625, June 2005)*.

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).