



National Unit Specification: general information

UNIT Multimedia Production for Theatre (SCQF level 6)

CODE F696 12

SUMMARY

This Unit is designed to provide candidates with the practical skills to use Audio Visual (AV) and IT equipment to provide multimedia for performance in a theatrical context. Candidates will have the opportunity to develop knowledge and understanding of the processes involved in the construction of a multimedia sequence from a range of media elements. Candidates will plan, prepare, present and evaluate a multimedia sequence for use in a performance.

This is an optional Unit within the National Certificate in Technical Theatre (SCQF level 6), but can also be taken as a free-standing Unit.

The Unit is suitable for candidates who have an interest in, or who are looking to develop, practical skills in technical theatre.

OUTCOMES

- 1 Demonstrate an understanding of the practical requirements and copyright issues for a multimedia sequence for use in a performance
- 2 Plan a multimedia sequence for use in a performance in compliance with a director's brief
- 3 Prepare a multimedia sequence for use in a performance
- 4 Present and evaluate a multimedia sequence for use in a performance

RECOMMENDED ENTRY

Entry is at the discretion of the centre.

Administrative Information

Superclass: LE

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National Unit Specification: general information (cont)

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CREDIT VALUE

1 credit at SCQF level 6 (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.*

CORE SKILLS

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

This Unit provides opportunities for the candidate to develop aspects of the following Core Skills:

- ◆ Communication
- ◆ Problem Solving
- ◆ Information and Communication Technology

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 the Scottish Qualifications Authority.

OUTCOME 1

Demonstrate an understanding of the practical requirements and copyright issues for a multimedia sequence for use in a performance.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Identify media elements and their sources used in the creation of a multimedia sequence.
- (b) Identify types of files, signals and recording media.
- (c) Identify copyright issues relating to media elements.
- (d) Demonstrate an understanding of hardware terminology associated with a multimedia sequence.
- (e) Describe factors affecting multimedia projection within the theatre environment.

OUTCOME 2

Plan a multimedia sequence for use in a performance in compliance with a director's brief.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Research requirements for the brief.
- (b) Produce a plan for a multimedia sequence.

OUTCOME 3

Prepare a multimedia sequence for use in a performance.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Source media elements.
- (b) Adhere to copyright issues in relation to media elements.
- (c) Create using a range of media elements.
- (d) Edit media elements.
- (e) Integrate a range of media elements into final multimedia sequence.

OUTCOME 4

Present and evaluate a multimedia sequence for use in a performance.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Set up AV and IT equipment for a multimedia sequence.
- (b) Use AV and IT equipment to present a multimedia sequence.
- (c) Evaluate the multimedia sequence.

National Unit Specification: statement of standards (cont)

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EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS UNIT

Evidence is required that candidates have achieved all Outcomes and Performance Criteria.

Outcome 1

For Outcome 1 written and/or oral evidence is required to demonstrate that the candidate has achieved the standard specified in the Outcome and the Performance Criteria. The evidence for Outcome 1 must be obtained under closed-book, supervised conditions on one assessment occasion.

For Performance Criteria (a) the candidate must be able to identify a minimum of 3 media elements and their sources.

For Performance Criteria (b), the candidate must identify files, signals and recording media. It is important that these are the most common and up-to-date types in use.

For Performance Criteria (c) copyright issues, relating to video, photographs and audio must be identified.

For Performance Criteria (d) the candidate will be identify audio and video hardware. This hardware must include as a minimum – three types of audio connector and three types of video connector.

Outcomes 2, 3 and 4

Written and/or oral evidence, product evidence and performance evidence is required for Outcomes 2, 3 and 4.

The candidate will be given a director's brief for a multimedia sequence for use in a performance. Using the brief, the candidate will plan, create, edit and integrate a sequence of sourced and created media elements. The media elements must include video, audio, graphics and animation and must be free from copyright restrictions.

National Unit Specification: statement of standards (cont)

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Product evidence will take the form of a logbook, which the candidate must maintain. This evidence must document the development process of the multimedia sequence and must contain the director's brief and details of research.

The sequence should last a minimum of 5 minutes. If it is done in pairs then the final sequence should be a minimum of 8 minutes.

Performance evidence, supplemented by an Assessor Observation Checklist is required to show that the candidate can correctly set up and use AV and IT equipment to present the multimedia sequence. The sequence must last a minimum of 5 minutes. If it is done in pairs then the final sequence will be a minimum of 8 minutes. The final multimedia file must be retained as evidence.

The candidate should also submit a written/oral evaluation of the final multimedia sequence and evaluate to what extent the sequence complies with the director's brief, whilst taking into account their progress through each stage of the process. This evidence should be gathered under open-book conditions and the minimum word count is 500 words.

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 intended to provide candidates with theoretical and practical skills to provide a multimedia sequence for use in a performance within a theatre environment. Candidates will have the opportunity to develop skills in using video equipment to source and edit video segments. They will also be introduced to methods of sourcing, creating and integrating media elements and setting up AV and IT equipment for a multimedia sequence. The final sequence should be designed for presentation in a theatre environment. However, it is not a requirement to present the sequence in a theatre, but factors relating to a theatre should be taken into consideration when creating and presenting the multimedia sequence. It is suggested that the following equipment may be used as a starting point in planning delivery of the Unit:

- ◆ a video projector
- ◆ a video camcorder and/or digital camera
- ◆ digital audio recorder
- ◆ a computer with basic image and video editing software, DVD authoring software and presentation software

Outcome 1

This Outcome is intended to provide candidates with knowledge and understanding of the practical requirements and copyright issues for a multimedia sequence. The candidate should be exposed to a wide variety of equipment and, where possible, a visit to a theatre may be useful to put the ideas in context.

A variety of audio, image and video file formats should be discussed, but it is not necessary to address every type available. However, the most common and up-to-date types should be covered. Copyright issues, relating to video, photographs and audio must be identified, as well as how to obtain the necessary permission to use the files for public consumption. Factors such as mounting of AV projector, screen size, ambient lighting conditions, distance between source and screen affecting a multimedia production within a theatre should also be considered.

Outcome 2

This Outcome is intended to provide candidates with knowledge and understanding of how to plan a multimedia sequence for performance to meet the requirements of a given brief. The candidate should be given a detailed brief early in the delivery of the Unit. This will allow the candidate sufficient time to produce planning documentation and carry out research. A logbook should be maintained and the teacher/lecturer may wish to check this periodically throughout the Unit. This logbook could include flowcharts, storyboards, timelines, sources, notes, sketches, diagrams gathered during the research process.

National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

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The emphasis in this Outcome should be on planning and a deadline should be given in the brief for submission of the multimedia presentation. Discussions should take place throughout the Unit between the candidate and assessor in order to verify that the development of the multimedia sequence is progressing in line with the timelines set by the candidate and recorded in their logbook.

Outcome 3

The candidate should source, create and edit media elements including video, audio, graphics and animation. These elements should then be integrated to form the required sequence using relevant software. The media elements used should be free from copyright restrictions. Video sources could be video camcorders, digital still cameras and mobile phones. Media elements can be edited or created using a variety of equipment eg digital video recorder, digital audio recorder or digital camera. The media elements can also be created and edited using appropriate software.

Outcome 4

This Outcome is intended to allow candidates to set up and use AV and IT equipment in order to present a multimedia sequence for use in a performance. Candidates should be given the opportunity to get as much experience as possible in setting up and connecting AV and IT equipment prior to assessment. Issues such as projector brightness and focusing should be considered. The candidate should evaluate the final sequence through reflection on the development of the multimedia sequence and to what extent their final presentation met the director's brief.

GUIDANCE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING APPROACHES FOR THIS UNIT

The Unit is intended for candidates who wish to develop skills in the application of multimedia for performance purposes in a theatrical environment. Candidates should be exposed to a wide variety of electronic hardware and software that will allow them to source and create a range of video, audio, graphics and animation media elements. Issues relating to copyright should be strictly adhered to particularly if elements are downloaded from the internet. The candidate should be given demonstrations in the use of equipment such as camcorder, digital audio recorder etc. and also in the use of relevant software. It is essential that the candidate is made aware of the importance of deadlines and adheres to them throughout the development of the multimedia sequence. Health and safety procedures should be demonstrated and employed throughout.

For Outcomes 2-4, the director's brief should encourage a creative approach to the process and eventual end product. As guidance for assessors, the brief given could be for a devised performance from a theme or a performance of a text. Centres have free choice in the selection of possible themes or texts which lend themselves to breadth, scope and creative development of a multimedia sequence.

National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

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OPPORTUNITIES FOR CORE SKILL DEVELOPMENT

In this Unit, candidates are required to work from a given brief and construct a multimedia presentation for performance. This exercise provides candidates with the opportunity to develop aspects of the Core Skill *Problem Solving*.

Candidates will have the opportunity to develop aspects of the Core Skill *Information and Communication Technology*, as they will be using IT equipment and software in Outcomes 3 and 4 to prepare and present a multimedia sequence.

Candidates will also have the opportunity to develop aspects of the Core Skill *Communication*, through the requirement to produce written and/or oral evidence for Outcomes 1, 2 and 4.

GUIDANCE ON APPROACHES TO ASSESSMENT FOR THIS UNIT

A suitable instrument of assessment for Outcome 1 is short answer questions. A practical exercise could be used for identification of hardware in Performance Criteria (d).

Outcomes 2, 3 and 4 should take the form of a project, in conjunction with a given brief. The brief should be issued in the early stages of the delivery of the Unit, thus allowing time for creative research. The given brief should reflect the fact that the multimedia presentation is ultimately aimed for use within a theatrical environment. The final written evaluation of the project should be used to assess the stages of development of the sequence and how well the final sequence complies with the director's brief.

Time should be allowed for any necessary re-assessment.

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)*.

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