



## **National Unit specification: general information**

**Unit title:** Creative Printmaking with Photography: Digital Techniques (SCQF level 5)

**Unit code:** FP9F 11

**Superclass:** KH

**Publication date:** September 2011

**Source:** Scottish Qualifications Authority

**Version:** 02

## **Summary**

The purpose of the Unit is to provide candidates with the knowledge, understanding and skills to create image carriers from digital files suitable for a range of printmaking processes. Candidates will describe printing processes, produce image carriers and evaluate the quality of an image carrier.

This Unit is suitable for candidates who follow a printmaking programme of units or work in a related industry. It is aimed at school leavers and also adult returners.

This is an optional Unit within the National Certificate in Creative Printmaking with Photography at SCQF level 5. It can also be taken as a freestanding Unit.

## **Outcomes**

- 1 Describe printing processes.
- 2 Produce image carriers suitable for print from digital files.
- 3 Evaluate the print-ready image carrier.

## **Recommended entry**

While access is at the discretion of the centre, it is envisaged that candidates may have progressed from a foundation level course in print related disciplines.

## National Unit specification: general information (cont)

**Unit title:** Creative Printmaking with Photography: Digital Techniques (SCQF level 5)

### Credit points and level

1 National Unit credit at SCQF level 5: (6 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 5\*)

*\*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

Achievement of this Unit gives automatic certification of the following Core Skills component:

- ◆ Critical Thinking at SCQF level 5

There are also opportunities to develop aspects of Core Skills which are highlighted in the Support Notes of this Unit specification.

## **National Unit specification: statement of standards**

**Unit title:** Creative Printmaking with Photography: Digital Techniques  
(SCQF level 5)

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**

Describe printing processes.

#### **Performance Criteria**

- (a) Describe the techniques for printing processes.
- (b) Describe origination methods for printing processes.
- (c) List suitable applications for printing processes.

### **Outcome 2**

Produce image carriers suitable for print from digital files.

#### **Performance Criteria**

- (a) Source artwork for output according to a given brief.
- (b) Prepare originals for transfer to suitable image carriers.
- (c) Select output methods according to given brief.
- (d) Produce print-ready image carriers according to given brief.

### **Outcome 3**

Evaluate the print-ready image carrier.

#### **Performance Criteria**

- (a) Describe print-ready image carrier quality parameters.
- (b) Evaluate end products against given quality parameters.

## **National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)**

**Unit title:** Creative Printmaking with Photography: Digital Techniques (SCQF level 5)

### **Evidence Requirements for this Unit**

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

#### **Outcome 1 — Written and/or oral recorded evidence or annotated visuals**

Evidence must include a description of:

- ◆ three techniques for printing processes
- ◆ two suitable origination methods for the printing processes
- ◆ suitable applications for each printing process

Printing techniques will include three from the following:

- ◆ screen printing; offset lithography, linocut, letterpress, drypoint, collography

Origination methods will include two from the following:

- ◆ stencil preparation, digital pre-press, computer to plate, acetone image transfer, etching, collography

Suitable process applications from the list:

- ◆ fabric printing, magazines, greeting cards, fine art, stationery

Evidence will be gathered under supervised open-book conditions.

#### **Outcome 2 — Performance and product evidence**

Evidence must be provided to demonstrate that the candidate can carry out the following tasks:

- ◆ an appropriate analysis and interpretation of the brief
- ◆ produces suitable content for at least two print-ready image carriers in accordance with the brief
- ◆ uses preparation methods appropriate to the selected originals and print processes
- ◆ effectively organises electronic data and assets using appropriate file management and naming conventions
- ◆ prepares originals effectively for transfer to two suitable image carriers
- ◆ transfers prepared originals to two suitable image carriers in accordance with the brief and to an acceptable industry standard

Evidence should be gathered in the form of a practical checklist and a portfolio containing research materials, intermediate proofs, screen grabs of folders and files, and the final prepared print-ready image carrier.

Evidence will be gathered under supervised open-book conditions.

## **National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)**

**Unit title:** Creative Printmaking with Photography: Digital Techniques  
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### **Outcome 3 — Written and/or oral recorded evidence**

Evidence must be provided to demonstrate that the candidate has evaluated the final outputs to an acceptable standard which includes:

- ◆ a description of quality parameters, acceptable to industry, for a print-ready image carrier An evaluation of the suitability of the original to meet the requirements of the brief
- ◆ an evaluation of how well the stages of production have been performed and an analysis of the quality of candidate work, comparing it to an acceptable industry standard
- ◆ an evaluation of the suitability of the final image carriers to meet the requirements of the specification, which includes commenting on whether modifications or improvements are necessary and if so stating achievable and realistic recommendations

Evidence will be gathered under supervised open-book conditions.

## National Unit specification: support notes

**Unit title:** Creative Printmaking with Photography: Digital Techniques (SCQF level 5)

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 aligned to the following National Occupational Standard (NOS) Units:

#### Proskills

Unit 120	Plan work to meet production requirements
Unit 123	Capture images from specific sources
Unit 127	Plan and produce edited images
Unit 128	Produce approved proofs from digital artwork
Unit 129	Produce computer-generated image carriers
129.2:	Prepare images for processing

#### Creative and Cultural Skills

Unit CR4	Research ideas for craft work and work practice
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This Unit is primarily intended to develop the candidate's awareness of the different printmaking processes/techniques and the range of image carrier preparation methods specific to each process/technique. Candidates are given the opportunity to source and prepare originals, ready for print to an acceptable standard, and evaluate their work.

This Unit is suitable for candidates who follow a printmaking programme of units or work in a related industry. It is aimed at school leavers and also adult returners.

This is an optional Unit within the National Certificate in Creative Printmaking with Photography at SCQF level 6. It can also be taken as a freestanding Unit.

For Outcome 1, candidates could build up knowledge of the processes by means of practical demonstrations of the processes, handouts, and examples of work showing typical applications for each process. This Outcome could be delivered concurrently with Outcome 2, where candidates will produce image carriers.

For Outcome 2, candidates are asked to produce image carriers, from digital files, suitable for print. Candidates must produce all work to an acceptable industry standard, which should be specified in the brief. Candidates could build up knowledge of the processes by means of practical demonstrations of the processes, handouts, and being shown examples of completed work. Sources of content for this Outcome could be the world wide web, printed publications, or work completed by candidates in other units, particularly Art & Design and Photography. Candidates could keep a log book, detailing each step in the process. This would be useful in Outcome 3.

## **National Unit specification: support notes (cont)**

**Unit title:** Creative Printmaking with Photography: Digital Techniques (SCQF level 5)

In Outcome 3, candidates are asked to evaluate the two print-ready image carriers. Candidates could compare their work with examples and specifications supplied by the teacher/lecturer. In completing this Outcome, candidates could refer to the log book kept in Outcome 2.

There are opportunities for group work in this Outcome.

### **Guidance on learning and teaching approaches for this Unit**

Practical activities could be teacher/lecturer-led in that all equipment, techniques and processes should be explained, demonstrated and understood before commencement of activities. Examples of image carriers for a range of processes could be shown to candidates. Demonstrations should be clear and logically sequenced to ensure candidates understand each process before proceeding to the next.

The preparation of originals for print could be demonstrated throughout delivery of the Unit, as well as practical demonstrations of the processes. Handouts and examples of previous work showing typical applications for each process may be given. The teacher/lecturer could lead group discussions on suitable applications for each process, showing examples.

All work should be completed under supervision, and the candidates should be encouraged to informally peer review during Outcome 3.

Industrial visits, where possible, could enhance the candidate's understanding of processes and applications.

Centres are encouraged to use up-to-date features and techniques of the software and hardware.

## **National Unit specification: support notes (cont)**

**Unit title:** Creative Printmaking with Photography: Digital Techniques (SCQF level 5)

### **Guidance on approaches to assessment for this Unit**

#### **Outcome 1**

This Outcome could be assessed by means of a questioning method such as restricted response/short answer questions. It is recommended that this Outcome be delivered concurrently with Outcome 2.

#### **Outcome 2**

This Outcome should be assessed by means of practical exercises.

Candidates must prepare image carriers for at least two different printmaking processes/techniques. The candidates will analyse a brief and should be encouraged to research the subject.

Candidates have the option of identifying pre-existing originals, or create their own suitable originals.

Using computer applications, candidates will prepare their originals for transfer to appropriate image carriers. They should be encouraged to explore the facilities offered by the applications and manage all digital assets effectively. All files should be prepared to a standard specification appropriate to the output methods. The prepared originals will be transferred to suitable image carriers.

Evidence should be gathered in open-book conditions in the form of a portfolio containing research materials, intermediate proofs, and the two final prepared print-ready image carriers.

#### **Outcome 3**

This Outcome could be assessed by means of a short report. Areas covered in the submission should include the following:

- ◆ the suitability of the original to meet the requirements of the brief
- ◆ the suitability of the final image carrier to meet the requirements of the specification
- ◆ how well the stages of production have been performed and an analysis of the quality of their work, to an acceptable standard

Candidates could discuss their work with colleagues in groups.

Evidence could be gathered in the form of an oral or written report of no less than 250 words.



## **National Unit specification: support notes (cont)**

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### **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 Communication 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)*.

### **Opportunities for developing Core Skills**

Candidates will have opportunities to develop aspects of the *ICT* Core Skill in this Unit when they are preparing digital artwork for transfer to image carriers in Outcome 2.

Candidates will also have opportunities to develop aspects of the *Communication, Critical Thinking and Working with Others* Core Skills in Outcome 3, where an evaluation of their work is performed.

### **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](http://www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements)

## History of changes to Unit

Version	Description of change	Date
02	Core Skills Component Critical Thinking at SCQF level 5 embedded.	29/09/2011

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