



National Unit specification: general information

Unit title: Photography: Location 2 (SCQF level 6)

Unit code: FV19 12

Superclass: KE

Publication date: September 2011

Source: Scottish Qualifications Authority

Version: 02

Summary

The purpose of this Unit is to enable candidates to develop knowledge and skills in the use of specialist techniques and equipment for location photography.

This Unit is suitable for candidates who have a good basic knowledge of camera techniques and who wish to gain experience of more specialised location photography techniques.

This is an optional Unit within the National Certificate in Photography (SCQF level 6).

Outcomes

- 1 Research specialist equipment and techniques appropriate to location photography.
- 2 Plan and undertake location assignments to a given brief.
- 3 Comply with regulations and procedures for safe location working.

Recommended entry

While entry is at the discretion of the centre, candidates would normally be expected to have attained one of the following, or equivalent: Photography: Basic Camera Techniques; Photography: Camera Techniques; Photography: An Introduction.

Credit points and level

1 National Unit 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.*

National Unit specification: general information (cont)

Unit title: Photography: Location 2 (SCQF level 6)

Core Skills

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

- ◆ Critical Thinking at SCQF level 6
- ◆ Planning and Organising at SCQF level 6

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: Photography: Location 2 (SCQF level 6)

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

Research specialist equipment and techniques appropriate to location photography.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Research a variety of location equipment.
- (b) Research a range of location techniques.
- (c) Research a range of location working methodologies.

Outcome 2

Plan and undertake location assignments to a given brief.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Produce a plan of action and shoot schedule for location assignments.
- (b) Photograph a group of people on location using appropriate location techniques and equipment.
- (c) Photograph a location using appropriate location techniques and equipment.

Outcome 3

Comply with regulations and procedures for safe location working.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Provide risk assessments for all proposed location working.
- (b) Confirm permissions for safe access to locations.
- (c) Arrange appropriate model release for location working and comply with copyright interpretation.

National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Photography: Location 2 (SCQF level 6)

Evidence Requirements for this Unit

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

Outcome 1

Written and/or oral evidence produced under open-book conditions is required.

Candidates must provide evidence of the following:

- ◆ knowledge of the appropriate use of tripods, shutter release mechanisms, camera remote controls and techniques used to minimise camera shake
- ◆ knowledge of appropriate techniques for the modification of daylight including diffusers, flags and reflectors
- ◆ knowledge of portable electronic flash equipment and associated techniques including, red eye reduction, bounce flash illumination, fill flash in conjunction with daylight, rear curtain synchronisation and open/multiple flash
- ◆ knowledge of portable, continuous lighting
- ◆ knowledge of painting with light techniques and black noise reduction

Outcome 2

Written and/or recorded oral evidence and product evidence is required. The evidence for this Outcome will be obtained under open-book conditions via tutor devised practical project briefs and will comprise:

A plan of action that details:

- ◆ a minimum of three proposed locations including access and permissions
- ◆ a suitable concept for a group photograph of a minimum of 3 people on location
- ◆ suitable concepts for shooting two locations only (interior or exterior)
- ◆ the location lighting equipment and techniques proposed for each shoot
- ◆ a shoot schedule for each location exercise

Candidates will undertake a minimum of three location shoots only after submitting a successful plan of action. The images produced (minimum 3) must provide evidence of appropriate use of specialist location equipment and techniques to include:

- ◆ appropriate choice of at least three different types of location
- ◆ correct use of portable electronic flash as a fill light source on location
- ◆ appropriate choice of models and arrangement and lighting of a group of a minimum of three people on location
- ◆ correct use of portable continuous lighting as a primary light source to illuminate a location using painting with light techniques
- ◆ appropriate arrangement and lighting of a second (either an interior or exterior) location using either continuous lighting, electronic flash

National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Photography: Location 2 (SCQF level 6)

Outcome 3

Written and/or oral recorded evidence and product evidence produced under open-book conditions is required. Evidence is required to demonstrate that the candidate has:

- ◆ carried out a risk assessment for all areas and locations for practical exercises
- ◆ obtained model release for all individuals being photographed
- ◆ provided details of access to locations and obtained confirmation of permission to use locations

Note — Evidence can be holistic or Outcome by Outcome

National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Photography: Location 2 (SCQF level 6)

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

In this Unit candidates are required to research specialist photographic location equipment and techniques. They will learn about approaches to using daylight in conjunction with diffusers, reflectors and electronic flash. They will also learn to use portable electronic flash and portable continuous light sources as the primary light sources used in the production of location images.

In Outcome 1 candidates should research as broad a range of location equipment and techniques as possible, identifying the visual impact of each, as well as the technical aspects involved. Candidates would benefit from having knowledge and/or skills in research, web browsing, referencing and concept mapping.

In Outcome 2 candidates should plan and undertake a series of location assignments for this outcome, submitting and discussing shoot plans with tutors prior to commencing work. Candidates can choose location and lighting techniques to be employed however the appropriateness of all suggested equipment and approaches must be justified in terms of visual impact, research and safety. This Outcome offers opportunities for candidates to practice a range location techniques and skills researched in Outcome 1 and also to practice some organisational and logistical tasks prior to planning their own location exercises.

Candidates should undertake a range of location techniques using both electronic flash and portable continuous lighting both in the role of primary lighting and in conjunction with daylight or ambient light sources as fill. These techniques should be set out in a Tutor devised brief and be underpinned by demonstration and lectures. The main aim of this Outcome is to introduce concepts of lighting balance and lighting impact/quality within a location situation. Techniques or approaches that create visual impact should be demonstrated in this outcome, these could be painting with light, multiple or open flash techniques or overpower flash, for example.

In Outcome 3 candidates should undertake risk assessment, shoot planning and model management tasks. This could successfully be integrated with Outcome 2, forming a large part of the planning and preparation for the practical exercises in that Outcome. It is intended that this Outcome will not only allow candidates to plan and organise more effectively, but will ensure the identification and management of any risks associated with location working. Candidates would benefit from having knowledge and/or skills in risk assessment procedures and in negotiating/ completing model release contracts.

Delivery of this Unit could be integrated with the Unit Photography: Portfolio Production (SCQF level 6) and should also help to prepare candidates for progression to HNC/D level study.

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Photography: Location 2 (SCQF level 6)

Guidance on learning and teaching approaches for this Unit

In Outcome 1 candidates would benefit from working in small groups and individually to source location images that show the use of specialist techniques or equipment. Such images could then be discussed and analysed within class groups with clarification from tutors.

A workbook or sketchbook could be used as a summative and formative assessment tool, facilitating individual feedback on research carried out. It will be useful for tutors to introduce key terminology and discuss the visual impact of lighting techniques at the outset of candidates' own research efforts.

In Outcome 2 candidates would benefit from:

- ◆ trips to a variety of locations for tutor demonstration of techniques and working methodology. General guidance on safe working practices and approaches to location working could be given at this point
- ◆ working in small groups to practise techniques and use of specialist equipment, allowing the roles of models, photographer and assistant to be rotated
- ◆ working individually to produce a plan for a location shoot involving a group of people and a second exercise photographing a location only
- ◆ working in small groups to review their individual plans in relation to peers and to identify possible approaches and concepts not previously thought of
- ◆ working in small groups to review their individual plans and to identify common aims, subject matter or concepts to identify opportunities for co-operative working to take place in the execution of each candidate's practical work

For Outcome 3 candidates would benefit from:

- ◆ working as a class group to identify effective risk assessment and model management procedures and ensure these are implemented during planning for location working
- ◆ working as individuals to incorporate risk assessment, model release and location access permissions into planning for practical location exercises

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Photography: Location 2 (SCQF level 6)

Guidance on approaches to assessment for this Unit

The following approaches to assessment are suggested:

Outcome 1

This Outcome could be assessed by compilation of a folio of evidence. It is strongly recommended that tutors use some form of peer or group formative assessment when evaluating research materials to encourage cross fertilisation of creative concepts and insights. The evidence for this Outcome should be obtained prior to practical work being carried out.

Outcome 2

This Outcome could be assessed by practical exercises in group or individual assessment events. Tutors could undertake formative assessment of candidates via observational checklists during location visits. Candidates are expected to undertake planning and organisational tasks prior to practical work and it is suggested that formative assessment of these elements takes place prior to completion of practical work.

Outcome 3

It is strongly recommended that the assessment of this Outcome is integrated with Outcome 2 a planning document which outlines all planning and organisational tasks related to the two practical exercises.

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 social software. 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

In this Unit candidates will research a variety of location photography techniques and equipment and undertake a range of practical photographic exercises on location using specialist location equipment. In addition to this, candidates will also be required to effectively plan and project-manage location shoots.

Candidates will:

- ◆ research specialist equipment and techniques
- ◆ plan and undertake location assignments
- ◆ select appropriate equipment and models
- ◆ source locations
- ◆ obtain and record permissions
- ◆ carry out risk assessments

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Photography: Location 2 (SCQF level 6)

This means that as candidates are doing this Unit they will be developing aspects of the Core Skills of *Communication* and *Problem Solving*.

The principal area in which candidates will develop problem solving techniques will be in the research, planning and safety compliance. A degree of interpretation and decision-making is required when selecting and analysing research images and in developing creative concepts for implementation of location photography techniques, however candidates will be required to apply problem solving skills mainly in the logistical planning for practical exercises such as arranging access to locations and the scheduling of models for shoots.

In addition, candidates may develop aspects of the Core Skill of *Working with Others* when required to work with others specifically in the selection and direction of models as well as in the negotiation of model release contracts. In addition it has been recommended that candidates work together at a variety of stages, providing mutual support both in the planning and practical execution of project work. This would provide opportunities for candidates to gain skills in developing and maximising the effectiveness of working relationships.

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

History of changes to Unit

Version	Description of change	Date
02	Core Skills Components Critical Thinking and Planning and Organising at SCQF level 6 embedded.	29/09/2011

© Scottish Qualifications Authority 2011

This publication may be reproduced in whole or in part for educational purposes provided that no profit is derived from reproduction and that, if reproduced in part, the source is acknowledged.

Additional copies of this Unit specification can be purchased from the Scottish Qualifications Authority. Please contact the Business Development and Customer Support team, telephone 0303 333 0330.