



National Unit specification: general information

Unit title: Jewellery: Etching (SCQF level 5)

Unit code: H0A2 11

Superclass: JH

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Summary

This Unit will enable candidates to acquire skills and knowledge in etching techniques and apply these to practical design work. Candidates will produce a range of exploratory etched samples using inspirational source and develop ideas for a finished piece of etched jewellery, in response to a given brief.

Outcomes

- 1 Investigate basic etching techniques to produce a range of exploratory samples.
- 2 Develop ideas in response to a brief.
- 3 Produce a piece of jewellery incorporating etching techniques.

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 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.*

General information (cont)

Unit title: Jewellery: Etching (SCQF level 5)

Core Skills

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

- ◆ Critical Thinking at SCQF level 4

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: Jewellery: Etching (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

Investigate basic etching techniques to produce a range of exploratory samples,

Performance Criteria

- (a) Investigate etching techniques, materials and working methods.
- (b) Produce a minimum of 4 samples based on work produced in Outcome 1.
- (c) Select and use appropriate materials, tools and equipment.
- (d) Use correct cleaning and preparation techniques.
- (e) Use scratch through, paint on and applied resist techniques.
- (f) Use correct etching procedures.
- (g) Use tools and equipment.
- (h) Follow safe working practices at all times.

Outcome 2

Develop ideas in response to a brief.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Identify the requirements of the brief.
- (b) Produce a series of initial design ideas based on source material.
- (c) Develop selected initial design ideas.
- (d) Produce 3 final design solutions.
- (e) Use materials, tools and equipment correctly.

Outcome 3

Produce a piece of jewellery incorporating etching techniques.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Select development idea and plan production.
- (b) Demonstrate competent and effective use of selected materials and techniques in producing final etched piece of jewellery.
- (c) Follow correct safe working practices to make and finish jewellery piece.

National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Jewellery: Etching (SCQF level 5)

Evidence Requirements for this Unit

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

Product evidence and written/oral evidence to demonstrate that candidates have achieved all of the Outcomes and Performance Criteria is required. Candidates will demonstrate the ability to follow a given brief to develop ideas from a suitable inspirational source theme for a minimum of three final designs for jewellery items that incorporates an etched surface. Candidates will select and use appropriate materials, techniques and working methods in the production of etched metal samples and a minimum of one finished piece of etched jewellery. Safe working practices will be followed throughout.

Candidates will produce a folio of work that includes:

- ◆ Samples of a minimum of four etched metal surfaces that reflect the use of and/or development of ideas in the original source material and which demonstrates the competent use of selected materials, tools and techniques. These should include a minimum of three different resists. Scratch through, painted on and applied resist techniques should be explored
- ◆ A series of initial visual ideas and research suitable for use in the development of etched jewellery designs. The ideas will be generated by the use of selected thematic source material and show understanding of the requirements of the brief. Sketches and ideas will be developed into a minimum of three final design ideas suitable for etched jewellery items.
- ◆ An item of decorative jewellery that is correctly finished and incorporates an etched surface as a main focus of the piece.

The finished work should demonstrate craftsmanship; effective selection, experimentation and use of materials and techniques; the development of interesting etched surfaces from chosen source material; the application of correct finishing and safe working practices.

The evidence for this Unit must be produced under open-book conditions throughout delivery of the Unit, with progress monitored by lecturers on an ongoing basis. Continuous assessment in the form of candidate/lecturer reviews may be used to assist candidates in the progression of their work. Although assessment may be on going, lecturers should assist candidates to prepare for the final assessment by advising and guiding them in the selection, production and finishing of the work to be assessed.

The folio should be assessed to ensure that candidates have demonstrated individual and competent use of creative etching effects and has applied all the necessary knowledge and required skills. The folio of work may be presented in a sketchbook, workbook or display board format and all assessment evidence must be retained along with a copy of the brief.

National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Jewellery: Etching (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 an optional Unit of the National Certificate in Jewellery at SCQF level 6. It can also be taken as a free standing Unit.

The purpose of the Unit is to equip candidates with the knowledge and practical experience of using etching techniques, materials and tools within the context of jewellery design and manufacture. The Unit is designed to enable candidates to apply the knowledge and skill gained to design and produce a finished piece of etched jewellery in response to a given brief.

This Unit gives candidates the opportunity to develop skills such as evaluation and research skills, problem solving and working considerately with others.

This Unit aligns to the following National Occupational Standards from Creative and Cultural Skills:

- J3.4 Demonstrate and apply an understanding of metallurgy to your jewellery or silversmithing work
- J2.9 Polish and finish jewellery or silverware components
- J2.10 Produce hand engraving
- J3.2 Produce jewellery, silverware or engraving from detailed drawings and specifications
- J3.1 Contribute to the maintenance and preparation of the jewellery or silversmithing workshop environment

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Jewellery: Etching (SCQF level 5)

Guidance on learning and teaching approaches for this Unit

Lecturers should issue a brief providing guidance and inspiration and should explain the correct and safe procedure of etching techniques and working within the jewellery workshop.

Thematic source material suitable for generating visual ideas should be selected and discussed. Lecturers can demonstrate approaches to the production of visual ideas when working from an inspirational thematic brief as source material.

Lecturers should discuss and demonstrate various approaches and candidates should be made aware of the materials; metals, acids (eg ferric nitrate, ferric chloride, nitric acid) and resists (eg stop-out varnish, adhesive backed vinyl, PnP paper, permanent marker, nail varnish, vinyl stickers) and the tools and equipment, procedures and working methods suitable for applying etched surfaces to jewellery items. Candidates should produce metal samples demonstrating exploration of a range of techniques and approaches. Supporting technical notes should be included.

Safe working practices should be discussed and demonstrated by the lecturer, health and safety equipment should be provided and candidates follow correct, safe and considerate working practices at all times.

Lecturers could demonstrate the use of various etching techniques such as paint-on resists, scratch-through resists and photocopying an image onto PnP paper resist. This would support candidates understanding of the variety of techniques and processes involved and the Unit requirements. Candidates should be made aware of the sympathetic relationship and use of the visual elements, in particular form, shape and texture. This can be developed from firsthand drawing of source material and secondary sources.

Candidates will be expected to work through the design process, developing knowledge, ideas and skills gained from practical exercises. The skills and knowledge gained should be applied to the production of a finished piece of etched jewellery.

Candidates should also be encouraged to investigate and discuss the working methods and approaches of relevant professional artists and/or designers. Visits to Museums, Galleries and Exhibitions could be arranged in order that the candidate may be made aware of the wide range of styles and techniques used in the craft of jewellery design.

Candidates should work individually with guidance from lecturers.

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Jewellery: Etching (SCQF level 5)

Guidance on approaches to assessment for this Unit

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

Candidates should be aware of all assessment requirements and arrangements.

Continuous assessment in the form of candidate/lecturer reviews may be used to assist candidates in the progression of their work.

Although assessment may be on going, lecturers should assist candidates to prepare for the final assessment by advising and guiding them in the selection, production and finishing of the work to be assessed.

The folio should be assessed to ensure that candidates have demonstrated individual and competent use of creative etching effects and has applied all the necessary knowledge and required skills.

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

Candidates may have opportunities to develop aspects of the Core Skills of *Communication* through lecturer group discussions and written technical note taking.

Candidates may have the opportunity to develop aspects of the Core Skill of *Problem Solving* through investigation of the brief, the development process and ongoing reflective evaluation with reference to the requirements of the given brief.

This Unit has the Problem Solving component of Critical Thinking embedded in it, so when the candidate achieves this Unit their Core Skills profile will be updated to show they have achieved Critical Thinking at SCQF level 4.

National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Jewellery: Etching (SCQF level 5)

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 Component Critical Thinking at SCQF level 4 embedded.	19/01/2012

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