

## National Unit Specification: General Information

**UNIT** Painting Techniques - Watercolour (Intermediate 2)

**NUMBER** D954 11

### COURSE

### SUMMARY

This unit will enable the candidate to explore various techniques used in watercolour painting. By experimenting with techniques including washes, glazing, line and wash, creating textural effects and by tackling a selection of subject matter such as landscape, still life and abstract painting, the candidate will develop skills which will enable them to produce finished watercolour paintings.

Skills learned in this unit may be used in other art and design units.

### OUTCOMES

- 1 Select and use a variety of papers.
- 2 Use multiple washes and glazing techniques.
- 3 Use line and wash.
- 4 Use controlled and accidental washes.
- 5 Create a variety of textural effects.
- 6 Produce a watercolour painting which exploits the use of the above techniques.

### RECOMMENDED ENTRY

Candidates enrolling for this unit do not require any formal qualifications.

### CREDIT VALUE

1 Credit at Intermediate 2.

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## Administrative Information

**Superclass:** JB

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## **CORE SKILLS**

Information on the automatic certification of any core skills in this unit is published in *Automatic Certification of Core Skills in National Qualifications* (SQA, 1999).

The achievement of this unit may contribute to the development of core skills, but the assessment arrangements for the unit do not guarantee that candidates will produce sufficient evidence of core skill achievement. This means that there is no automatic certification of core skills for this unit.

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

### **UNIT**            Painting Techniques: Watercolour (Intermediate 2)

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.

#### **Note on range for the unit**

Methods of stretching paper, applied wash techniques, multiple washes, glazing techniques, controlled and accidental washes, line and wash, methods of achieving textural effects.

#### **OUTCOME 1**

Select and use a variety of papers.

##### **Performance Criteria**

- a) The candidate should make use of the various textures of watercolour paper to achieve different paint effects.
- b) The candidate should select an appropriate type and weight of watercolour paper for a given brief.
- c) Watercolour paper should be stretched successfully in preparation for watercolour painting.

##### **Evidence Requirements**

For outcome 1 the candidate must show evidence of their ability to select and stretch an appropriate type of watercolour paper in preparation for producing a watercolour painting (eg. the brief given in outcome 2).

As an introduction to this, candidates should produce samples of different paint effects by experimenting on various types and textures of paper.

Finished work is not required for this outcome.

#### **OUTCOME 2**

Use multiple washes and glazing techniques.

##### **Performance Criteria**

- a) The candidate should demonstrate skill in using multiple washes.
- b) The candidate should demonstrate skill in glazing techniques.
- c) Finished work should be neatly finished and effectively presented.

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

**UNIT**            Painting Techniques: Watercolour (Intermediate 2)

### **Evidence Requirements**

The evidence for this outcome can be provided by practical exercises based on briefs supplied by the tutor and should consist of at least one painting and supporting evidence in the form of experimental sheets.

The candidate should produce one painting which shows effective application of multiple wash and glazing techniques.

The candidate may experiment with other translucent media.

Candidates should apply paint with skill and confidence.

### **OUTCOME 3**

Use line and wash.

#### **Performance Criteria**

- a)        The candidate should produce a piece of work which shows skill in handling line and wash.
- b)        Watercolour infill should demonstrate skill in creating tone, depth and form.
- c)        The painting should be neatly finished and effectively presented.

### **Evidence Requirements**

Evidence for this outcome should be based on a practical exercise working from a precise brief set by the tutor. The candidate should produce a drawing in pencil or pen and waterproof ink and infill with watercolour to create tone depth and form.

### **OUTCOME 4**

Use controlled and accidental washes.

#### **Performance Criteria**

- a)        Candidates should show skill in handling a build up of controlled washes.
- b)        Candidates should demonstrate skill in using spontaneous/accidental washes.
- c)        Completed work should be neatly finished and effectively presented.

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

**UNIT**            Painting Techniques: Watercolour (Intermediate 2)

### **Evidence Requirements**

Evidence for this outcome should be based on practical exercises.

The candidate should experiment with methods of producing washes – controlled flat and graded washes and spontaneous accidental washes.

Having completed these experimental samples the candidate should produce a painting based on a precise brief given by the tutor, which demonstrates a variety of effects and their interaction within one piece of work.

### **OUTCOME 5**

Create a variety of textural effects.

#### **Performance Criteria**

- a) The candidate should successfully use a variety of tactile textural effects.
- b) The candidate should successfully use a variety of optical textural effects.
- c) Completed work should be neatly finished and effectively presented.

#### **Evidence Requirements**

The evidence for this outcome should be based on practical exercises.

The candidate should produce experimental samples of different textural effects using a variety of methods.

A piece of work should be produced which is based on a brief set by the tutor. This piece should successfully include a variety of these optical and tactile textural techniques.

### **OUTCOME 6**

Produce a watercolour painting which exploits the use of the above techniques.

#### **Performance Criteria**

- a) The candidate should produce a watercolour painting which shows sound balance and composition.
- b) The finished painting should demonstrate competent and effective use of tone and colour.
- c) The candidate should demonstrate skill in confidently applying watercolour paint.
- d) The finished painting should demonstrate effective use of various watercolour techniques.
- e) The completed painting should be neatly finished and effectively presented.

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

**UNIT**            Painting Techniques: Watercolour (Intermediate 2)

### **Evidence Requirements**

The evidence for this outcome can be provided by the production of a finished painting based on a brief given by the tutor.

The painting should exploit a combination of several of the techniques which the candidate has used in outcomes 2-5.

Choice of techniques should be appropriate to the subject matter specified in the brief.

## **National unit specification: support notes**

### **UNIT**            Painting Techniques: Watercolour (Intermediate 2)

This part of the unit specification is offered as guidance. None of the sections of the support notes is mandatory.

#### **GUIDANCE ON CONTENT AND CONTEXT**

In this unit the candidates will complete a series of practical exercises which will give them experience in a variety of watercolour painting techniques. They will be encouraged to experiment with different watercolour effects and apply them to finished paintings.

No formal qualifications are required for the achievement of this unit but it would be an advantage for the candidate to possess reasonable artistic ability to enable the production of drawings as a basis for the watercolour paintings, and to demonstrate confidence in the handling of paint.

The details of content given in the statement of standards provide information on the delivery of this unit. It may be delivered as a freestanding unit or as part of a group award.

The level of detail expected at this level is outlined below.

#### Outcome 1

This outcome relates to understanding and knowledge about different weights and types of watercolour paper and the different effects of various textured surfaces on paint application.

Methods of stretching watercolour paper in preparation for painting.

#### Outcome 2

This outcome relates to the application of multiple washes and glazing techniques.

#### Outcome 3

This outcome relates to line and wash techniques using pencil or pen and waterproof ink with watercolour infill.

#### Outcome 4

This outcome relates to wash techniques. The candidate will practice controlled washes such as flat wash, graded wash, adjacent washes and experiment with accidental or spontaneous washes using methods such as wet on wet, dry brush overlay, blotting with paper, wet wipe etc.

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

**UNIT**            Painting Techniques: Watercolour (Intermediate 2)

### Outcome 5

This outcome relates to methods of creating textural effects. The candidate will experiment with methods such as adding salt, sand, ox gall or gum arabic. Using wax crayons, oil pastel, masking fluid, acrylic gel, texture paste, spattering, sponging, bleeding, hatching, rolling, scumbling etc and lifting out colour using backwash, scraping, sandpaper, cotton wool, sponges, brushes etc.

### Outcome 6

This outcome relates to the production of a finished painting which exploits several of the techniques learned during the course of the unit.

### **GUIDANCE ON TEACHING AND LEARNING APPROACHES**

Throughout this activity based unit candidates should have the opportunity to learn about watercolour painting and apply various techniques to finished paintings.

Candidates should work singly and the tutor should give individual guidance on a personal basis.

For outcomes 1 – 6

The tutor should demonstrate various working methods and show examples of different styles and techniques to the candidates. This might involve introduction to materials and equipment, colour mixing/theory and examples of artists' work.

Since work produced by candidates in this unit should be effectively presented, tutors should include guidance in, and demonstrations of presenting and mounting suitable for watercolour paintings.

The tutor should prepare appropriate briefs for each practical exercise choosing suitable subject matter for each technique. These briefs could be based on landscape, townscape, interiors, still life, portraiture, figure composition, abstract etc.

The candidate should produce samples of experimental techniques which can be done before beginning paintings and suitably labelled for reference.

Small paintings may be produced for outcomes 2-5 and perhaps a larger, more adventurous piece tackled for outcome 6. Time should be allowed for sketching, drawing and preparation.

This unit provides opportunities for the candidate to experience a wide variety of watercolour techniques and a range of subject matter.



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

**UNIT**            Painting Techniques: Watercolour (Intermediate 2)

Good examples of techniques and interesting exercises can be found in books on painting and watercolour techniques.

Where appropriate, arrangements should be made to ensure that there will be no artificial barriers to learning and assessment. The nature of a candidate's special needs should be taken into account when planning learning experiences and selecting Instruments of Assessment.

### **GUIDANCE ON APPROACHES TO ASSESSMENT**

Candidates should be aware of the assessment instruments and criteria.

Continuous assessment should be used to assist candidates in their work.

Holistic approaches to assessment should be used. Candidates should work singly with guidance from tutor.

All outcomes should be assessed by practical exercises, based on briefs given by the tutor.

The nature and purpose of different outcomes should be recognised and promoted and evidence material labelled with appropriate outcome number for ease of assessment.

All work should be retained as a portfolio.

Where a candidate is unsuccessful in achieving an outcome, provision should be made for further work and re-assessment.

### **SPECIAL NEEDS**

This unit specification is intended to ensure that there are no artificial barriers to learning or assessment. Special needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments or considering alternative outcomes for units. For information on these, please refer to the SQA document *Guidance on Special Assessment and Certification Arrangements* (SQA, 1998).