

National Unit Specification: general information

UNIT Design in Context (Intermediate 2)

NUMBER D9GD 11

COURSE

SUMMARY

This unit is designed to enable candidates to engage with the design process. The candidates will be required to produce a brief after initial investigation of a range of design issues that will influence the brief specifications.

OUTCOMES

- 1 Review two distinct areas of design.
- 2 Investigate and research significant historical and contemporary design issues related to one of the selected areas of design.
- 3 Compare and contrast two specific design solutions from the selected area of design.
- 4 Devise a brief for a client.

RECOMMENDED ENTRY

Access is at the discretion of the centre.

CREDIT VALUE

1 Credit at Intermediate 2 (6 SCOTCAT points*) at SCQF level 5.

**SCOTCAT 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 SCOTCAT points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

Administrative Information

Superclass: VF

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National Unit Specification: general information (cont)

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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, publication code BA0906).

National Unit Specification: statement of standards

UNIT Design in Context (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.

OUTCOME 1

Review two distinct areas of design.

Performance criteria

- a) Select two areas of design of personal interest.
- b) Explore design issues related to selected areas of design.
- c) Consider the influences of the selected areas of design on the consumer.

Evidence requirements

Annotated workbook with visual material and written and/or oral evidence of 150/200 words.

OUTCOME 2

Investigate and research significant historical and contemporary design issues related to one of the selected areas of design.

Performance criteria

- a) Select a particular area of design of personal interest.
- b) Research the key influences of the selected area of design.
- c) Research contemporary issues relevant to the selected design area.
- d) Research historical issues relevant to the selected design area.

Evidence requirements

Annotated workbook with visual material and written and/or oral evidence of 150/200 words.

OUTCOME 3

Compare and contrast two distinct design solutions from the selected area of design.

Performance criteria

- a) Compare and contrast TWO solutions to the same problem within the selected area of design.
- b) Comment on the production methods, materials and possible influences of each design solution.
- c) Responses should include references to historical and contemporary design.

Evidence requirements

Written and/or oral evidence in any preferred format 150/200 words.

National Unit Specification: statement of standards (cont)

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OUTCOME 4

Devise a brief for a client.

Performance criteria

- a) Design problems are clearly identified.
- b) Constraints and limits are identified.
- c) Identify and record needs of the client.

Evidence requirements

Completed design brief in any preferred format of 150/200 words.

National Unit Specification: support notes

UNIT Design in Context (Intermediate 2)

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

Outcome 1

The purpose of this outcome is to allow the candidate to explore 2 discrete design areas, giving them the opportunity to be influenced by design in a wider context.

They should be encouraged to explore design issues related to selected areas of design, ie fitness for purpose, scale and proportion, materials used, durability, etc.

Candidates should also be encouraged to engage in discussion with peer group when considering the influences of the selected areas of design on the consumer. Looking at the wider context of the design in relation to what was going on at that time, historical, political, art movements, etc.

Outcome 2

The purpose of this outcome is to engage the candidate in learning about the main historical and contemporary aspects relating to his/her design brief.

The historical and contemporary investigation and research could be treated separately. The relevant information and resource material could be gathered using books, library, internet, department resources, video, CD, visits to museums and galleries.

The research should focus on sources of inspiration, key influences, style and characteristics of design area. Technology and culture of the periods should be investigated. This material could be in sketchbook format or simply mounted onto 2xA2 sheets or equivalent, or any other preferred format.

Outcome 3

The purpose of this outcome is to encourage the candidate to compare and contrast two specific design solutions.

Any significant design from both the historical and contemporary area of design would be appropriate.

The candidate could use, from Outcome 2, relevant facts and information such as: sources of information, key influences and styles to put the chosen design in context. The appropriate design issues such as: function, form, use of materials, ergonomics, style, durability, cost and target market should be discussed and personal opinions justified. Appropriate terminology should be used.

This piece of work should be in written format of 150/200 words.

National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

UNIT Design in Context (Intermediate 2)

Outcome 4

The purpose of this outcome is to allow the candidate to identify a design problem or need with a client (real or simulated) and to devise a design brief.

The candidate should identify:

- what is the problem or need of the client (real or simulated)
- why this provides a design opportunity
- who will benefit from the improvement or change
- what the key design issues are
- what the essential requirements are
- what the constraints or limits are

The final design brief should be clear and have all the relevant stages for meeting the needs of the client.

This could be in written or sketchbook format or any other preferred format.

This piece of work should be in written form of 150/200 words or equivalent.

GUIDANCE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING APPROACHES FOR THIS UNIT

The tutor could show examples of good detailed design briefs.

Discussion and demonstration of possible methods of research and investigation of the historical and contemporary areas of design should take place.

Styles and techniques of recording information should be demonstrated.

Classroom discussion and brainstorming the key design issues of appropriate design objects should take place in order to encourage critical evaluation.

Where possible, visits to museums/galleries/design studios should be encouraged.

Candidates should work on their own and the tutor should give guidance on an individual basis.

GUIDANCE ON APPROACHES TO ASSESSMENT FOR THIS UNIT

Outcome 1

Assignment to explore two discrete areas of design of personal interest. Assignments to explore design issues related to selected areas of design taking into account influences of design on the consumer within the discrete areas chosen by the candidate.

Outcome 2

Assignment to research, investigate and record historical and contemporary aspects of design area. Assignments to describe and record technological and cultural influences of design area.

Outcome 3

Assignments to compare and contrast and record specific designs from both the historical and contemporary design areas.

National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

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Outcome 4

Assignment to identify and record needs of client.

Assignment to clarify and record requirements and constraints of the brief.

Assignment to record design brief.

Additional Notes

Outcome 1

A short answer response could be used to determine knowledge and understanding of design issues and design influences on the consumer within the two selected areas of design.

Outcome 2

A short answer response could be used to determine knowledge and understanding of the historical and contemporary aspects of the chosen design area.

Outcome 3

A short oral presentation could be used to assess the outcome of the comparison of the specific designs.

Outcome 4

A short oral presentation could be used to assess the understanding of the problems and needs of the client and essential design issues involved in the brief.

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 special alternative outcomes for units. For information on these, please refer to the SQA document *Guidance on Special Assessment Arrangements* (SQA, publication code AA0645).