



Advanced Higher  
Course Assessment  
Specification



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# Advanced Higher Art and Design (Design) Course Assessment Specification C706 77

**Valid from August 2015**

This edition: April 2015, version 2.0

Please refer to the note of changes at the end of this Course Assessment Specification for details of changes from previous version (where applicable).

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## Course outline

<b>Course title:</b>	Advanced Higher Art and Design (Design)
<b>SCQF level:</b>	7 (32 SCQF credit points)
<b>Course code:</b>	C706 77
<b>Course assessment code:</b>	X706 77

The purpose of the Course Assessment Specification is to ensure consistent and transparent assessment year on year. It describes the structure of the Course assessment and the mandatory skills, knowledge and understanding that will be assessed.

### Course assessment structure

Component 1 — portfolio	100 marks
<b>Total marks</b>	<b>100 marks</b>

This Course includes eight SCQF credit points to allow additional time for preparation for Course assessment. The Course assessment covers the added value of the Course.

### Equality and inclusion

This Course Assessment Specification has been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to assessment. Assessments have been designed to promote equal opportunities while maintaining the integrity of the qualification.

For guidance on assessment arrangements for disabled learners and/or those with additional support needs, please follow the link to the Assessment Arrangements web page: [www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/14977.html](http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/14977.html).

Guidance on inclusive approaches to delivery and assessment of this Course is provided in the *Course Support Notes*.

# Assessment

To gain the award of the Course, the learner must pass all of the Units as well as the Course assessment. Course assessment will provide the basis for grading attainment in the Course award.

## Course assessment

SQA will produce and give instructions for the production and conduct of Course assessments based on the information provided in this document.

## Added value

The purpose of the Course assessment is to assess added value of the Course as well as confirming attainment in the Course and providing a grade. The added value for the Course will address the key purposes and aims of the Course as defined in the Course Rationale. It will do this by addressing one or more of breadth, challenge, or application.

In this Course assessment, added value will focus on the following:

- ◆ challenge — requiring greater depth or extension of knowledge and/or skills
- ◆ application — requiring application of knowledge and/or skills in practical or theoretical contexts as appropriate

This added value consists of a portfolio.

Learners will draw on, extend and apply a range of skills and knowledge from across the Course.

In the portfolio, learners will further develop selected examples of their previous work and will use these and their in-depth understanding of designers and design practice to influence and inform the development of their design ideas and solution(s). The portfolio will focus on both the process and products of learning.

## Grading

Course assessment will provide the basis for grading attainment in the Course award.

The Course assessment is graded A–D. The grade is determined on the basis of the total mark for all Course assessments together.

A learner's overall grade will be determined by their performance across the Course assessment.

### Grade description for C

For the award of Grade C, learners will have demonstrated successful performance in all of the Units of the Course. In the Course assessment, learners will typically have demonstrated successful performance in relation to the mandatory skills, knowledge and understanding for the Course.

This could be evidenced by, for example:

- ◆ using aspects of their knowledge of designers' work and practice to inspire and influence their creative response
- ◆ the competent and assured use of design materials, techniques and/or technology when responding to the chosen design area/context
- ◆ presenting a selection of creative design development work and ideas and new design solution(s), taking account of the design area requirements, constraints and issues

### **Grade description for A**

For the award of Grade A, learners will have demonstrated successful performance in all of the Units of the Course. In the Course assessment, learners will typically have demonstrated a consistently high level of performance in relation to the mandatory skills, knowledge and understanding for the Course.

This could be evidenced by, for example:

- ◆ using knowledge of designers' work and practice with skill and insight to inspire and influence their own personal creative response
- ◆ the highly skilled and creative use of design materials, techniques and/or technology when responding to the design area/design brief
- ◆ presenting a selection of highly resolved and sophisticated design ideas and solution(s), showing in-depth, well-conceived development of ideas and in-depth understanding of the design area requirements, constraints and issues

### **Credit**

To take account of the extended range of learning and teaching approaches, remediation, consolidation of learning and integration needed for preparation for external assessment, six SCQF credit points are available in Courses at National 5 and Higher, and eight SCQF credit points in Courses at Advanced Higher. These points will be awarded when a Grade D or better is achieved.

## Structure and coverage of the Course assessment

The Course assessment will consist of one Component, a portfolio. The portfolio will have one Section.

### Component 1 — portfolio

The purpose of this portfolio is to assess the learner's ability to integrate and apply practical design skills and in-depth knowledge and understanding of designers and design practice across the Course. Learners will select one or more examples of their earlier investigative and design development work and use this as the basis for developing and producing highly resolved design solution(s).

The choice of design context/stimuli for the *Art and Design (Design): Design Enquiry* Unit/portfolio will be selected by the individual learner and approved by the centre.

The portfolio will include:

- ◆ the initial creative starting point for the design(s) and further development work
- ◆ the final design solution(s)
- ◆ supporting evidence of critical analysis and evaluation

This portfolio will give learners an opportunity to demonstrate the following skills, knowledge and understanding:

- ◆ the ability to identify the creative development potential in their work
- ◆ assured and skilled use of a variety of design materials, techniques and/or technology
- ◆ applied understanding of function and aesthetics informed by in-depth investigation and analysis of design work and practice
- ◆ personal creativity when developing sustained lines of design-based enquiry
- ◆ creating design ideas and resolved solution(s) in 2D and/or 3D formats
- ◆ using design-based problem solving, planning and evaluation skills within the creative process
- ◆ the ability to review, edit and present their work for assessment

The portfolio will have 100 marks.

In the portfolio, marks will be awarded for:

- ◆ presenting design development idea(s) and design solution(s) in 2D and/or 3D formats
- ◆ skilfully using design materials, techniques and/or technology to creatively develop progressive lines of design based enquiry
- ◆ creative use of design problem solving skills
- ◆ maintaining visual continuity with the earlier development work when developing and realising line(s) of design enquiry
- ◆ personal applied understanding of design work and practice
- ◆ in-depth critical analysis of a single design work or a group of closely related design works
- ◆ evaluating the portfolio of design work

60 marks will be awarded for practical design work, 30 marks for the critical analysis and 10 marks for evaluation.

## **Setting, conducting and marking of assessment**

### **Controlled assessment — portfolio**

This portfolio is:

- ◆ set by centres within SQA guidelines
- ◆ conducted under some supervision and control

Evidence will be submitted to SQA for external marking.

All marking will be quality assured by SQA.

#### **Setting the assessment**

Set by centres within SQA guidelines.

#### **Conducting the assessment**

Conducted under some supervision and control.

The portfolio will be developed in response to a design context/stimuli selected by the individual learner. The choice of stimuli will be agreed by centres and learners following SQA guidelines, and the completed portfolio will be sent in to SQA for external marking.

The portfolio will be produced over an extended period of time. This allows learners the opportunity to develop, reflect on and refine their work before it is presented for external assessment/marketing.

Some aspects of this work may happen outside class time. It is therefore important for teachers/lecturers to ensure that all of the work presented for assessment is the work of learners.

## **Further mandatory information on Course coverage**

The Advanced Higher Art and Design (Design) *Course Specification* gives a broad overview of the mandatory skills, knowledge and understanding that will be assessed in the Course. Course assessment will involve sampling these skills, knowledge and understanding.

# Administrative information

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**Published:** April 2015 (version 2.0)

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## History of changes to Course Assessment Specification

Version	Description of change	Authorised by	Date
2.0	Page 1: 'Course outline' section — marks for portfolio Component changed from 200 marks to 100 marks.  Pages 2 to 5: 'Assessment' section — description of added value in Course assessment amended; grade descriptions revised; description of structure and coverage of the portfolio revised and mark allocations changed.	Qualifications Development Manager	April 2015

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Note: You are advised to check SQA's website ([www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk)) to ensure you are using the most up-to-date version of the Course Assessment Specification.

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