

Arrangements for:
HNC Contemporary Art Practice
Group Award Code: G8K4 15

HND Contemporary Art Practice
Group Award Code: G8K5 16

Validation date: December 2006

Date of original publication: June 2007

Version: 05 (March 2017)

Acknowledgement

SQA acknowledges the valuable contribution that Scotland's colleges have made to the development of Higher National qualifications.

Contents

1	Introduction	1
2	Rationale for the development of the awards	1
3	Aims of the Group Award	2
3.1	General aims of the award	3
3.2	Specific aims of the award.....	3
3.3	Target groups.....	4
3.4	Employment opportunities	4
4	Access to awards	4
4.1	Prior Qualifications	5
4.2	Work Experience	6
4.3	Entry to Year 2 HND.....	6
4.4	Core Skills	6
4.5	English as an additional language	6
5	Award(s) structure	6
5.1	Design Principles for HNCs and HNDs	6
5.2	Structure of HNC Contemporary Art Practice	7
5.2.1	Structure: HNC Contemporary Art Practice.....	8
5.3.1	Structure: HND Contemporary Art Practice.....	10
5.4	Graded Unit	13
5.4.1	Type of Graded Unit.....	13
5.4.2	Rationale for Graded Unit Assessments	14
5.5	Core Skills	14
5.6	Mapping information.....	15
5.7	Articulation, professional recognition and credit transfer	18
5.8	Credit Transfer Transition Arrangements.....	18
6	Approaches to delivery and assessment	19
6.1	Open Learning	19
6.2	Opportunities for Core Skills Development	19
6.3	Assessment Moderation.....	20
7	General information for centres.....	20
8	General information for candidates	21
8.1	Core Units HNC/D	22
8.2	Core Units HND 2	22
8.4	Optional Units	23
8.5	The Graded Units	23
8.6	Progression Pathways.....	24
9	Glossary of terms.....	25
10	Appendices	26

1 Introduction

This is the Arrangements Document for the new HNC/HND Group Awards in Contemporary Art Practice, which were validated in December 2006. This document includes: background information on the development of the Group Awards, their aims, guidance on access, details of the Group Award structures, and guidance on delivery.

The new qualifications are presented to meet the challenges facing the contemporary artist in the 21st century.

The new HN qualifications in Contemporary Art Practice are designed to equip candidates with the knowledge, understanding and skills required for success in current and future employment or progression to higher education.

The Group Awards, which will be implemented in August 2007, are designed to meet employers' and candidates' expressed needs and priorities. They will develop theoretical, conceptual and practical creative competences within the area of Contemporary Art Practice along with appropriate technical skills through in-depth study of the current professional practices.

2 Rationale for the development of the awards

The HNC and HND in Contemporary Art Practice have been devised as national awards that will be delivered in further education colleges across Scotland. The awards will supersede locally devised courses currently on offer in the areas of Fine Art and Public/Environmental Art.

The design and development of these awards was overseen by a Contemporary Art Practice Qualification Design Team (QDT). The QDT was fully aware of the need for awards, which could provide:

- ◆ a programme of study which stimulates an inquiring, analytical and problem solving approach, encouraging judgement, critical awareness and the ability to transfer skills between fields of knowledge
- ◆ personal, social and intellectual development of the individual and encourage development and application of communicative abilities, visual language and receptive skills
- ◆ the opportunity to identify and place personal development within the broader contexts of contemporary art practice
- ◆ individuals with the relevant technical and practical skills to develop as contemporary artists
- ◆ candidates with the opportunity to study awards that are flexible and can be delivered by centres throughout the country

The opportunity for specialisation within a specified subject area, such as drawing, painting and sculpture, has been retained within the new awards but the new frameworks also offer a matrix of subjects, which will meet the growing demands of contemporary practice, Higher Education Institutions (HEI), employers and industry.

Evidence gathered through market research identified support for the restructuring of the existing awards into a flexible and more comprehensive framework allowing for greater areas of integration that will assist candidates in their progression and development as independent thinkers, makers and collaborators.

The results of the market research are available in Appendix 1, Page 26 along with exemplar questionnaire.

It is recognised that Further Education caters for a variety of different candidate requirements and aspirations. Many candidates continue to use the HNC and HND programmes as stepping-stones to Higher Education so it is essential that critical and cognitive skills are developed, as well as vocational and professional practice within the programmes of study.

Similarly, the courses are designed to enable different centres to offer tailor made programmes to meet the needs of their candidate cohort while maintaining the common underpinning knowledge of creative skills development provided in the mandatory Units.

The clusters and options available give centres scope to provide candidates with a wide variety of Units that reflect the breadth of current practice, for example:

- ◆ Digital Media
- ◆ Lens Based Media
- ◆ Site Specific
- ◆ Sculpture
- ◆ Community Arts

The full frameworks are given in Section 5.

The feedback and guidance gained from market research, in both the employment and HEI sectors, was important in the development and construction of the HNC/HND Contemporary Art Practice awards. The research concluded that the requirements of both sectors overlap in key areas. For example, along with a broad range of practical skills specific to art practice both sectors clearly identified creative, critical and evaluative thinking, good communication skills and the ability to work with others as being imperative to the success of HN graduates.

The awards have therefore been developed to be flexible and are at all times candidate centred, while taking into account the requirements of progression to either employment or Higher Education.

The new awards continue to meet the requirements of employers and industry. In recent years the number of candidates leaving, at both HNC and HND level, to embark upon careers has increased and therefore the changes within the new frameworks are direct responses to the advancements within the area of Contemporary Art Practice.

3 Aims of the Group Award

The aims of the HNC/HND Group Award have been divided into general aims and subject-related (specific) aims.

3.1 General aims of the award

All HNC/HNDs have a range of broad aims that are generally applicable to all equivalent HE qualifications. These are:

1. to develop critical and evaluative thinking
2. to develop problem solving
3. to develop the ability to manage and assimilate complex information
4. to develop communication skills and presentation techniques
5. to develop the ability to be flexible and to work co-operatively with others
6. to develop personal effectiveness
7. to develop the ability to take responsibility for one's own learning
8. to develop study and research skills
9. to develop skills in IT
10. to develop employment skills and enhance candidates employment prospects
11. to provide opportunities for career planning
12. to enable progression within the SCQF framework including progression to HE
13. cultural context

3.2 Specific aims of the award

These courses provide a broad visual education in Contemporary Art Practice which aims to develop skills, knowledge and an awareness of specialist disciplines. As candidates progress they will have the opportunity to develop individual practice in relation to their own interests. This is supported by historical and contextual studies that provide the candidates with a framework within which to locate their individual practice. Opportunities exist to work individually and collaboratively, supported by group discussion, personal and individual support.

Professional practice will provide candidates with knowledge of potential career opportunities and relevant experience.

Candidates will be encouraged to research, develop, contextualise and evaluate their concepts and practice in response to their subject choices.

Other subject-related aims are to:

1. develop critical thinking, reflective and evaluative skills within contemporary art practice
2. develop practical and transferable skills in contemporary art practice
3. develop visual language through rigorous exploration of possibilities within drawing and visual thinking
4. develop an open-minded, critical and evaluative approach to study, investigation and research
5. develop an understanding of the influence and contribution made by art practice and practitioners within the 20th and 21st centuries
6. develop knowledge and understanding in selected disciplines within contemporary art practice
7. develop an understanding of interdisciplinary practice between various areas within contemporary art
8. develop safe and considerate work practice

3.3 Target groups

The Group Awards are designed for those who wish to pursue a career within one of the key areas of Contemporary Art Practice and who seek the relevant training in ancillary subjects. The HND is aimed at those who have some previous experience, perhaps through a lower level qualification, or who show potential and demonstrate a strong interest to develop their skills and is intended to facilitate progression to subject related employment or to Higher Education. All candidates must fulfill the entry requirements of the awards by presenting a portfolio of work as evidence of their ability along with the entry criteria of particular centres. Candidates could be drawn from a variety of educational backgrounds including: school leavers, adult returners, those in work and the self-employed.

3.4 Employment opportunities

Market research confirmed that candidates who gained these HNC/D vocational qualifications would have employment opportunities within the following positions:

- ◆ Gallery assistant
- ◆ Gallery technician
- ◆ Sculpture studio technician
- ◆ Printmaking technician
- ◆ Digital media technician
- ◆ Curatorial assistant
- ◆ Artist assistant
- ◆ Studio assistant
- ◆ Teaching assistant
- ◆ Instructors
- ◆ Learning assistant

While a substantial number of candidates choose to work for others or progress to Higher Education, a proportion of candidates successfully set up in business for themselves as:

- ◆ Practising Artist
- ◆ Gallerist
- ◆ Curator
- ◆ Net Artist

Those who progressed into employment or were in employment while studying for the predecessor Group Awards confirm the usefulness of the skills they gained.

4 Access to awards

As with all SQA qualifications, access to the awards will be at the discretion of the centre. The following recommendations are for guidance only and are not exhaustive.

- (a) A strong interest in contemporary art and/or fine art and contemporary art and/or fine art practices and associated skills demonstrated in the presentation of a portfolio of work.

- (b) Ability at SCQF level 6 (Higher) in Art & Design and English (or language based subjects such as Economics, History or Modern Studies, etc would be acceptable), along with three Standard Grade passes or equivalent.
- (c) An appropriate programme of study at National Qualification level in Art and Design
- (d) An existing HNC Group Award in order to articulate into the second year of the HND Group Award.
- (e) Qualifications comparable to the above gained from other awarding bodies.
- (f) In the case of mature candidates, appropriate prior or experiential learning may also be considered.

Formal academic achievements will not, in themselves, represent adequate entry criteria. A more accurate prediction of candidate attainment may be achieved through appraisal, which includes an element of guidance. This will normally include a formal interview where applicants should demonstrate their artistic and creative ability to SCQF level 6 by presenting a portfolio of work. This will enable an appropriate and realistic assessment of candidate suitability for these Group Awards.

Academic staff with experience in course tutorship, candidate counselling, advice and guidance, work placement and post-qualification career monitoring may also carry out a non-academic assessment interview.

This informally structured, adaptive interview process will allow candidates to form a realistic perception of the Group Awards and their demands in terms of workload, content and assessment methods. This will improve retention and allow for earlier career planning and development.

4.1 Prior Qualifications

(a) Secondary Education

- ◆ SQA National Units and courses in appropriate subjects at Higher level
- ◆ GSVQ (level 3) Art and Design or other appropriate awards
- ◆ SGA in Art and Design at Intermediate 2 level, with additional appropriate Highers
- ◆ SGA in Art and Design at Higher level
- ◆ SGAs at Advanced Higher level with appropriate subjects
- ◆ specialisms appropriate to the HNC/HND Contemporary Art Practice evidenced by appropriate qualifications

(b) Further Education

- ◆ SQA National Units and courses in appropriate subjects at Higher level
- ◆ GSVQ (level 3) Art and Design or other appropriate awards
- ◆ SWAP Access courses — Art and Design or similar
- ◆ SGA in Art and Design at Intermediate 2 level, with additional appropriate Highers
- ◆ SGA in Art and Design at Higher level
- ◆ SGA at Advanced Higher level with appropriate subjects
- ◆ GCE 'A' levels in appropriate subjects

- ◆ specialisms appropriate to HNC/HND Contemporary Art Practice evidenced by appropriate qualifications (City & Guilds, Btec, etc)

4.2 Work Experience

Mature candidates with suitable work experience will be accepted for entry provided the enrolling centre believes the candidate is likely to benefit from undertaking the award.

4.3 Entry to Year 2 HND

In order to achieve the HND in Contemporary Art Practice candidates must gain 30 credits. While ideally the full-time candidate should be encouraged to achieve 15 credits in each year, wider access should be provided to cater for the needs of those, for example, who have achieved the HNC at day release or evening classes or in other centres. Candidates would therefore be expected to have a minimum of 12 credits on entry to year 2 and these would include the HNC mandatory Units. Candidates with qualifications of an equivalent nature should be given opportunities in APL (Accreditation of Prior Learning) or Accelerated Assessment to enter year 2 of the HND award.

4.4 Core Skills

The minimum recommended Core Skills entry profile for the HNC/HND Visual Communication awards is:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| ◆ Communication | SCQF level 5 |
| ◆ Information Technology | SCQF level 4 |
| ◆ Numeracy | SCQF level 4 |
| ◆ Problem Solving | SCQF level 5 |
| ◆ Working with Others | SCQF level 5 |

4.5 English as an additional language

For candidates where English is not their first language it is recommended that they possess English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) SCQF level 5 or a score of 5.5 in IELTS.

5 Award(s) structure

Both Group Awards adhere to the HN Design Principles outlined below:

5.1 Design Principles for HNCs and HNDs

- ◆ HNCs shall be designed to be at SCQF level 7 and shall comprise 96 SCQF credit points
- ◆ HNDs shall be designed to be at SCQF level 8 and shall comprise 240 SCQF credit points
- ◆ HNCs should incorporate at least 48 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7
- ◆ HNDs should incorporate at least 64 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 8

Core Skills

- ◆ HNC and HND programmes shall incorporate opportunities for candidates to develop Core Skills
- ◆ HNCs and HNDs should clearly include opportunities for candidates to develop Core Skills to levels required by the occupations or progression pathways the HNs support. This would mean that all five Core Skills should be developed in every HN programme.

Mandatory Section

- ◆ HNCs should include a mandatory section of at least at 48 SCQF credit points including a Graded Unit
- ◆ HNDs should include a mandatory section of at least 96 SCQF credit points, including Graded Units

Graded Units

- ◆ HNCs should include one Group Award Graded Unit of 8 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7
- ◆ HNDs should include one Group Award Graded Unit of 8 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7, plus 16 SCQF credit points of Graded Unit(s) at SCQF level 8

The purpose of Graded Units is to assess the candidate’s ability to integrate and apply the knowledge and/or skills gained in the individual HN Units to demonstrate that they have met the principal aims of the Group Award, and grade candidate achievement.

The Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF)

The Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) has been given due consideration in the design of these Group Awards. This has resulted in the HND being broadly equivalent to the second year of a Scottish degree. All new Units have been allocated an SCQF level; generally the first year HNC/HND is level 7 while the second year HND is level 8.

5.2 Structure of HNC Contemporary Art Practice

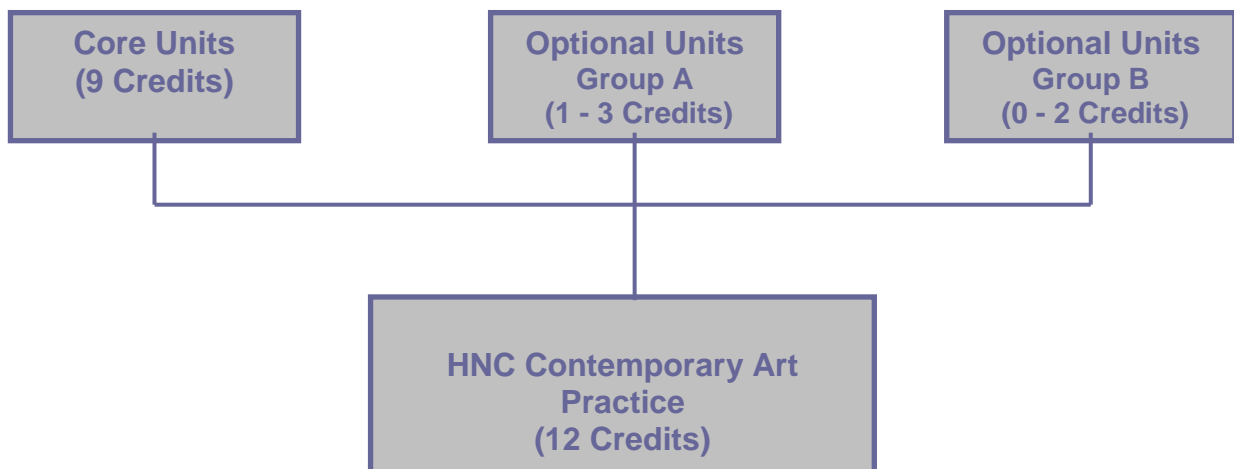


Fig 1: Structure of the HNC Contemporary Art Practice

5.2.1 Structure: HNC Contemporary Art Practice

HNC Mandatory Units: 9 Credits

Code						Unit Title	Credit
D	V	9	6		3 4	Developmental Drawing	1
F	D	6	3		3 5	* Art and Design Context	1
F	1	C	J		3 4	Contemporary Art Practice: Introduction to Digital Artform	1
F	1	E	9		3 4	Contemporary Art Practice: Conceptual Processes	1
F	1	C	H		3 4	Contemporary Art: Two Dimensional Practice	2
F	1	C	L		3 4	Contemporary Art: Three Dimensional Practice	2
F	D	6	2		3 4	* Contemporary Art Practice: Graded Unit 1	1

A further 3 credits must be obtained from the options below which may be composed of credits taken entirely from Group A or a combination of credits taken from Groups A and B

Optional Units Group A: A minimum of 1 to a maximum of 3 credits to be obtained from the following grouping.

Code						Unit Title	Credit
F	1	N	0		3 5	Painting: Exploratory Techniques	1
D	W	9	W		3 4	* Sculpture: An Introduction	1
D	V	9	8		3 4	Life Drawing	1
F	1	T	C		3 4	Life Painting: Introduction	1
F	1	T	D		3 4	Public Art: Introduction	1
F	1	C	N		3 4	Art Practice: Collaborative Project	1
F	1	M	T		3 4	Community Arts: Visual Arts	1
D	V	9	2		3 4	Printmaking and Producing Print	1
D	V	9	C		3 4	Portfolio Production	1
D	W	6	C		3 4	Photography: An Introduction	1
D	V	9	A		3 4	Observational Drawing	1

Optional Units Group B: 1 or 2 credits may be taken from the following grouping.

Code						Unit Title	Credit
H	7	M	B		3 4	Communication: Practical Skills*	1
D	E	3	R		3 4	Personal Development Planning	1
H	8	T	2		3 3	Workplace Communication in English	1
H	J	4	W		3 4	*Work Experience	1

*Refer to History of Changes Table for further information.

Candidates must follow a standardised route of study with all candidates completing the mandatory Units along with an additional **three** Units to complete the HNC.

Structure: HND Contemporary Art Practice

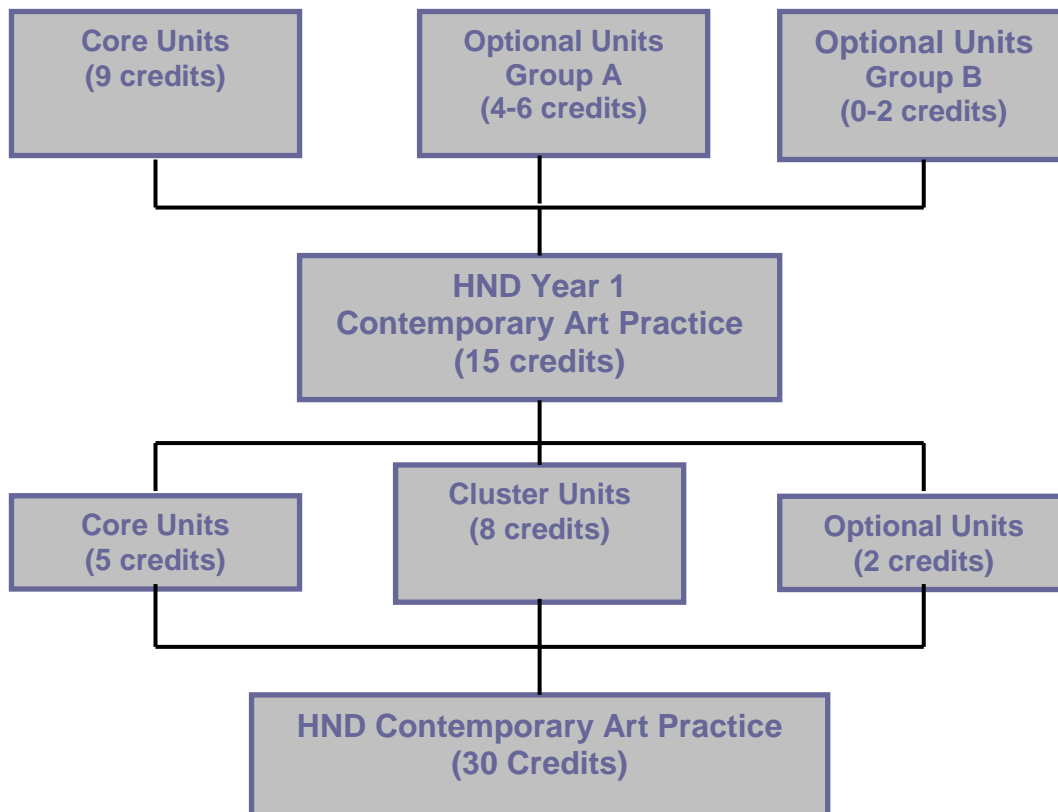


Fig 2: Structure of the HND Contemporary Art Practice

5.3.1 Structure: HND Contemporary Art Practice

HND Year 1 Mandatory Units: All 9 credits to be obtained.

Code						Unit Title	Credit
D	V	9	6		3 4	Developmental Drawing	1
F	D	6	3		3 5	* Art and Design Context	1
F	1	C	J		3 4	Contemporary Art Practice: Introduction to Digital Artform	1
F	1	E	9		3 4	Contemporary Art Practice: Conceptual Processes	1
F	1	C	H		3 4	Contemporary Art: Two Dimensional Practice	2
F	1	C	L		3 4	Contemporary Art: Three Dimensional Practice	2
F	A	6	G		3 4	* Contemporary Art Practice: Graded Unit 1	1

A further 6 credits must be obtained from the options below which may be composed of credits taken entirely from Group A or a combination of credits taken from Groups A and B

Optional Units Group A: A minimum of 4 to a maximum of 6 credits to be obtained from the following grouping.

Code						Unit Title	Credit
F	1	N	0		3 5	Painting: Exploratory Techniques	1
F	D	6	2		3 4	* Sculpture: An Introduction	1
D	V	9	8		3 4	Life Drawing	1
F	1	T	C		3 4	Life Painting: Introduction	1
F	1	T	D		3 4	Public Art: Introduction	1
F	1	C	N		3 4	Art Practice: Collaborative Project	1
F	1	M	T		3 4	Community Arts: Visual Arts	1
D	V	9	2		3 4	Printmaking and Producing Print	1
D	V	9	C		3 4	Portfolio Production	1
D	W	6	C		3 4	Photography: An Introduction	1
D	V	9	A		3 4	Observational Drawing	1

Optional Units Group B: 1 or 2 credits may be taken from the following grouping.

Code						Unit Title	Credit
H	7	M	B		3 4	*Communication: Practical Skills	1
D	E	3	R		3 4	Personal Development Planning	1
H	8	T	2		3 3	*Workplace Communication in English	1
H	J	4	W		3 4	*Work Experience	1

***Refer to History of Changes Table for further information.**

HND Year Two: Mandatory Units: All 5 credits to be obtained.

Code						Unit Title	Credit
F	1	D	5		3 5	Contemporary Art Practice: Project	1
F	1	C	M		3 5	Contemporary Art: Professional Practice	1
F	1	C	B		3 5	Exhibition of Contemporary Artform	1
F	A	6	H		3 5	* Contemporary Art Practice: Graded Unit 2	2

Clusters: 8 credits, to be obtained from two discrete clusters from the list below

Code						Unit Title	Credit
F	1	C	E		3 5	*Contemporary Art Practice: Conceptual Development	2
F	1	C	F		3 5	Contemporary Art Practice: Conceptual Production	2
F	1	C	A		3 5	Painting: Development	2
F	1	C	S		3 5	Painting: Production	2
F	1	C	W		3 5	Sculpture: Development	2
F	1	E	A		3 5	Sculpture: Production	2
F	1	C	D		3 5	Site Specific Artwork: Development	2
F	1	C	C		3 5	Site Specific Artwork: Production	2
F	1	R	9		3 5	Contemporary Art Practice : Digital Media Development	2
F	D	6	8		3 5	* Contemporary Art Practice : Digital Media Production	2
F	1	C	P		3 5	Developing Artwork for Environments	2
F	D	6	6		3 5	* Producing Artwork for Environments	2
F	1	D	2		3 5	Contemporary Art Practice: Lens Based Media Development	2
F	1	D	3		3 5	Contemporary Art Practice: Lens Based Media: Production	2
F	D	6	A		3 5	* Mixed Media Development	2
F	1	D	4		3 5	Mixed Media Production	2
F	1	C	V		3 5	Printmaking Development	2
F	1	C	T		3 5	Printmaking Production	2
F	D	6	7		3 5	* Contemporary Art Practice: Ceramics Development	2
F	1	R	7		3 5	Contemporary Art Practice: Ceramics Production	2

Optional Units: 2 credits to be obtained from the group below.

Code						Unit Title	Credit
D	X	3	9		3 5	Life Drawing Portfolio	1
F	1	T	C		3 4	Life Painting: Development	1
D	X	6	4		3 5	Printmaking in Multiple Layers	1
D	X	3	1		3 5	Developmental Drawing Portfolio	1
D	X	3	8		3 5	Observational Drawing Portfolio	1
F	1	D	6		3 5	Philosophical Aesthetics: An Introduction	1
D	V	5	W		3 5	Art and Design Project	1
F	1	M	V		3 5	Community Arts: Visual Arts Workshop	1
D	V	5	M		3 4	Web Design: An Introduction	1
F	1	T	B		3 5	Public Art: Project	1
D	X	0	3		3 4	Art and Design: Cultural Identity	1
F	0	M	F		3 5	Art and Design Context: Personal Investigation	1

Addendum 28/03/11 — Updates to HNC/D Frameworks.

The following Units have been revised and recoded for delivery from August 2011:

Contemporary Art Practice GU1 FA6G 34
 Contemporary Art Practice GU2 FA6H 35
 Contemporary Art Practice: Conceptual Development FA6F 35
 Art and Design Context FD63 35
 Sculpture: An Introduction FD62 34
 Contemporary Art Practice: Digital Media Production FD68 35
 Producing Artwork for Environments FD66 35
 Mixed Media Development FD6A 35
 Contemporary Art Practice: Ceramics Development FD67 35

Two new Units have been added to the optional sections of the HNC/D

Creative Arts Project: Development FF31 34
 Creative Arts Project: Production FF30 34

5.4 Graded Unit

The general purpose of the Graded Unit is to:

- ◆ assess the candidate's ability to retain and integrate the knowledge and skills gained in the identified mandatory Units
- ◆ assess the candidate's ability to meet the principal aim(s) of the Group Award
- ◆ grade candidate achievement

The specific purpose of the Graded Units is to provide evidence that the candidate has achieved the following principal aims of the HNC/HND Contemporary Art Practice award:

- ◆ develop critical thinking, reflective, evaluative skills within contemporary art practice
- ◆ develop practical and transferable skills in contemporary art practice
- ◆ develop a broad visual language
- ◆ develop an open-minded, critical and evaluative approach to study investigation and research
- ◆ develop an understanding of the influence and contribution made by art practice and practitioners within the 20th and 21st centuries
- ◆ develop knowledge and understanding in selected disciplines within contemporary art practice
- ◆ develop an understanding of interdisciplinary practice between various areas within contemporary art
- ◆ develop safe and considerate work practice

The Graded Unit(s) will be assessed and a grade of A, B or C will be awarded to each of the Graded Units. Candidates will complete one Graded Unit at SCQF level 7 for the HNC Award and an additional double credit Graded Unit at SCQF level 8 for the HND award.

5.4.1 Type of Graded Unit

The HNC and HND Graded Units will be project based practical assignments, which will provide candidates with the opportunity to produce evidence that demonstrates they have met the aims of the Group Award that the Graded Unit(s) covers.

The Graded Unit should be undertaken on an individual basis and take place in the latter part of the course as it is important that candidates have completed or are in the process of completing the identified mandatory Units prior to undertaking the Graded Unit. Candidates should be given a set project which involves them developing a completed artwork and which demonstrates an understanding of contemporary art practice. The project will demonstrate developmental processes and application of a variety of knowledge and skills gained through studying the mandatory Units within a determined time scale.

The use of SQA produced assessment exemplar material, which indicates the national standard of achievement required for the Graded Unit, is encouraged in order to aid assessment. These can be accessed via the SQA secure website. Alternatively centres can develop and use their own assessment materials although it

is strongly recommended that in the case of Graded Units, centres submit all developed assessment materials to SQA for prior verification before use. This will enable centres to be confident in the validity and reliability of the assessment instruments and associated marking guidance.

5.4.2 Rationale for Graded Unit Assessments

The Graded Unit provides an opportunity for candidates to integrate the knowledge and skills gained in the mandatory and selected optional Units in the form of a practical assignment, which would contribute substantially to the overall presentation of a portfolio of work achieved by undertaking the HN Contemporary Art Practice awards.

It is necessary that the Graded Unit(s) be assessed by means of a practical project as this allows the candidate the opportunity to demonstrate the ability to be self motivated and carry out a self directed project successfully from conception to completion.

5.5 Core Skills

Core Skills are not formally assessed in the HN awards. However, candidates completing these awards will have developed verbal, written and visual communication to a high level. Similarly, interaction, in a variety of situations will develop social skills such as working with others and problem solving, and through the use of technology and computers, skills in ICT will be developed. Competences in these areas are crucial for success.

Candidates who achieve the HNC award will have opportunities to develop relevant aspects of Core Skills to the following levels:

- ◆ Communication SCQF 6 (Higher)
- ◆ Problem Solving SCQF 6 (Higher)
- ◆ Working with Others SCQF 6 (Higher)
- ◆ Numeracy SCQF 6 (Higher)
- ◆ Information Technology SCQF 6 (Higher)

In the second year of the HND award awareness and development of Core Skills is strengthened by candidates, supported by assessors, taking a greater level of personal responsibility for their own learning programmes, and working with a range of others to complete a variety of professional projects. As they exercise autonomy and initiative, applying more detailed knowledge to interpret briefs further enhancement of skills to a sophisticated level will take place.

Individual Unit specifications include advice on potential and strategies for Core Skill development.

5.6 Mapping information

Theory, critical and conceptual studies and professional studies Grid

Code	Unit Title	Credit	Theoretical studies	Critical & conceptual studies	Professional studies
Mandatory Uunits - Year 1					
DV96 34	Developmental Drawing	1		✓	
DV5R 34	Art and Design Context	1	✓	✓	✓
	Contemporary Art: Introduction to Digital Artform	1		✓	
	Contemporary Art: Conceptual Processes	1	✓	✓	✓
	Contemporary Art: 2D Practice	2		✓	
	Contemporary Art: 3D Practice	2		✓	
	Graded Project 1	1	✓	✓	✓
Optional Units Group A:					
A minimum of 1 to a maximum of 3 credits to be obtained from the following grouping:.					
	Painting: An Introduction	1	✓	✓	
DW9W 34	Sculpture: An Introduction	1	✓	✓	
DV98 34	Life Drawing	1		✓	
	Life Painting	1		✓	
	Public Art: An Introduction	1	✓	✓	
	Collaborative Project	1	✓	✓	✓
	Community Arts: Visual Art	1			✓
DV93 34	Printmaking and Producing Prints	1		✓	
DV9C 34	Portfolio Production	1			✓
	Photography: An Introduction	1		✓	
DV9A 34	Observational Drawing	1			

Code	Unit Title	Credit	Theoretical studies	Critical and conceptual studies	Professional studies
Optional Units Group B: 1 or 2 credits may be taken from the following grouping.					
D77G 34	Communication; Practical Skills	1			✓
F0HW 33	French for Work: Basic Operational	1			✓
F0HR 33	Spanish for Work: Basic Operational	1			✓
F0HT 33	German for Work: Basic Operational	1			✓
F0HS 33	Italian for Work: Basic Operational	1			✓
DE3R 34	Personal Development Planning	1			✓
H8T2 33	Workplace Communication in English	1			✓

HND Year Two: Mandatory Units: All 5 credits to be obtained.					
	Contemporary Art: Project	1	✓	✓	✓
	Contemporary Art Professional Practice	1	✓	✓	✓
	Contemporary Art: Exhibition and Presentation	1	✓	✓	✓
	Graded Project 2	2	✓	✓	✓
Clusters: 8 credits, to be obtained from two discrete clusters from the list below					
	Conceptual: Development	2	✓	✓	
	Conceptual: Production	2	✓	✓	
	Painting: Development	2	✓	✓	
	Painting: Production	2		✓	
	Sculpture: Development	2	✓	✓	
	Sculpture: Production	2		✓	
	Site Specific Artwork: Development	2	✓	✓	
	Site Specific Artwork: Production	2		✓	✓
	Contemporary Art: Digital Media: Development	2	✓	✓	
	Contemporary Art: Digital Media: Production	2		✓	
	Contemporary Art Practice: Developing Artwork for Environments	2	✓	✓	
	Contemporary Art Practice: Producing Artwork for Environments	2		✓	✓

Code	Unit Title	Credit	Theoretical studies	Critical and conceptual studies	Professional studies
	Lens Based Media: Development	2	✓	✓	
	Lens Based Media: Production	2		✓	
	Mixed Media: Development	2	✓	✓	
	Mixed Media: Production	2		✓	
	Printmaking: Development	2	✓	✓	
	Printmaking: Production	2		✓	
	Ceramics: Development	2	✓	✓	
	Ceramics: Production	2		✓	
Optional Units: 2 credits to be obtained from the group below					
	Life Drawing Portfolio	1			✓
DX39 35	Life Painting: Development	1		✓	
DX64 35	Printmaking in Multiple Layers	1		✓	
DDX3 35	Developmental Drawing Portfolio	1			✓
DX38 35	Observational Drawing Portfolio	1			✓
	Introduction to Philosophical Aesthetics	1	✓	✓	✓
DV5W 35	Art and Design Project	1		✓	
	Community Arts: Visual Arts Workshop	1			✓
DV5M 34	Web Design; An Introduction	1		✓	
	Public Art: Production	1		✓	✓
DX03 34	Art & Design: Cultural Identity	1	✓		
	Art & Design: Context Personal Enquiry	1		✓	
F0HX 33	French for Work: Intermediate Operational	1			✓
F0J2 33	Spanish for Work: Intermediate Operational	1			✓
F0J0 33	German for Work: Intermediate Operational	1			✓
F0JI 33	Italian for Work: Intermediate Operational	1			✓
DV0M 34	Work Experience	1			✓

5.7 Articulation, professional recognition and credit transfer

The HND award has the potential to lead to articulation into year three of a degree programme but this is at the discretion of each receiving institution, and is predominately based on the portfolio evidence presented by the individual candidate at interview and based on a mapping of the subject content and competencies developed within the HND. Articulation to year one or two of a degree programme with an HN award is currently a more common progression route for candidates.

It is anticipated that the HND award will lead to articulation of candidates into the following HEI awards:

- ◆ BA (Hons) Contemporary Art Practice
- ◆ BA (Hons) Fine Art
- ◆ BA (Hons) Sculpture
- ◆ BA (Hons) Painting
- ◆ BA (Hons) Printmaking
- ◆ BA (Hons) Environmental Art
- ◆ BA (Hons) Community Arts
- ◆ BA (Hons) Environmental Design
- ◆ BSc Art Therapy
- ◆ BA Design (site specific)

5.8 Credit Transfer Transition Arrangements

It is anticipated that during the transition period (up to 2008) that some candidates may wish to transfer from an old (1988) design rule HNC (or first part of an HND) into the new HND in Contemporary Art Practice. To facilitate this, it has been agreed that such candidates need only achieve the HND Graded Unit of 16 SCQF credit points at level 8, and that they are not required to also achieve the HNC Graded Unit of 8 SCQF credit point at level 7.

The following arrangements show the alternative route to certification, which will **only** be available to candidates who have already completed a 'predecessor' HNC/first year HND and should **not** be offered to any new candidates. Candidates should

- ◆ be given credit transfer between HNC/HND Units (developed using 1988 design principles) and the new HN Units (developed using 2003 design principles)
- ◆ achieve a Graded Unit(s) of 16 SCQF points at level 8
- ◆ be given opportunities to develop Core Skills

Credit transfer can be given where there is broad equivalence between subject related content of the Unit (or combination of Units).

Candidates who are given credit transfer between current HNC/HND Units and the new HN Units must still satisfy all other conditions of award of the new principles HNC/HND including the mandatory Units and the correct number of credits at the correct SCQF level.

Core Skills may be achieved through completion of National Units containing Core Skill or by being assessed in the normal way against the Unit specifications in this award, which contain the Core Skill.

6 Approaches to delivery and assessment

These awards are designed to provide a balance between an awareness and understanding of key skills and creativity required in Contemporary Art Practice... This balance is intended to develop candidates' ability to identify and apply individual skills and to facilitate these abilities in Contemporary Art Practice, thereby enhancing future employability and progression.

The assessment strategy of the SQA Design Principles — to encourage a more holistic approach to assessment — has been adopted in these awards. The new HN Unit specification places the emphasis on reducing the assessment load for both candidates and centres by devising assessments that assess the entire Unit or join the assessments of Outcomes together.

There is also the opportunity to integrate assessments across Units. The logistics of this will depend on the programme in individual centres.

Unit specifications detail the exact Evidence Requirements and provide centres with valuable information relating to assessment procedures for each assessment event. This will assist with standardisation in and across centres raising the credibility of the new awards.

Centres may wish to use centre devised assessment instruments and related marking schemes instead of using any SQA produced assessment exemplars. It is recommended that centres seek prior verification from SQA for centre devised assessments, especially if the assessments relate to the Graded Units. SQA will produce exemplar assessments for mandatory Units, indicating to centres what is required in terms of meeting national standards for the newly leveled awards.

6.1 Open Learning

Open learning may be feasible for some Outcomes within some Units in these awards and in some cases for whole Units. These opportunities are highlighted within the Unit specifications. The significant majority of Outcomes, however, rely on the development of practical skills. Practical and hands-on activities underpin much of the learning process and so the opportunities for distance learning are limited or constrained and consideration must be given to authentication of candidate assessment evidence produced outwith controlled conditions. Centres may, however, find it possible to develop solutions for all or parts of some Units provided all Unit and moderation requirements are met in full.

Technological advances may make the possibility of such creative solutions more widespread in the future.

6.2 Opportunities for Core Skills Development

The HNC/HND Contemporary Art Practice awards provide opportunities for candidates to develop relevant elements of Core Skills in the context of the mandatory and optional Units. Complex problem solving requiring analytical thinking and on-going evaluation are essential aspects of all practical art and design activities. The focus on technology and numeracy as practical tools to support the creative process ensures a sophisticated level of skill in candidates achieving the awards. Opportunities are also provided for candidates to make extensive use of communication in research investigations, in maintaining records, in producing and

presenting reports orally to peers and in writing. This contributes to the development of an advanced level of specialist professional awareness that will overtake broader Core Skills concepts and meet the current needs of industry.

Work undertaken across the awards provides an environment for developing and contextualising relevant elements of the Core Skills to the specific demands of the vocational area. There are additional dedicated Core Skill Units to foster effectiveness in the workplace included in award options - centres may select these to further support any identified individual or local needs.

6.3 Assessment Moderation

All instruments of assessment used within this Group Award should be internally moderated including any exemplar material provided using the appropriate policy within the centre and the guidelines set by SQA. This will ensure the validity and reliability of the instruments of assessment used within the centre.

Assessment Exemplars have been produced for the mandatory and cluster units by the SQA. These are available from SQA's secure website. The SQA Coordinator in each centre has access to these documents and can download them for individual lecturers/assessors.

External moderation will be carried out by SQA to ensure that internal assessment is within the national guidelines for these qualifications.

For further information on internal and external moderation refer to the SQA document *Guide to Assessment and Quality Assurance for Colleges of Further Education*, which is available to download from SQA's website: www.sqa.org.uk.

7 General information for centres

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.

Internal and external verification

All instruments of assessment used within this/these Group Award(s) should be internally verified, using the appropriate policy within the centre and the guidelines set by SQA.

External verification will be carried out by SQA to ensure that internal assessment is within the national guidelines for these qualifications.

Further information on internal and external verification can be found in *SQA's Guide to Assessment* (www.sqa.org.uk)

8 General information for candidates

The HNC/HND in Contemporary Art Practice has been devised to enable you to develop your knowledge, skills and abilities in the researching, developing and production of contemporary art. Successful completion of the awards will equip you with the knowledge, understanding and skills to allow you to seek employment within the creative industries or to progress to higher education.

The awards are structured to provide you with a broad visual and intellectual education in Contemporary Art Practice. You will have the opportunity to develop individual practice in relation to your own interests.

Your studies are supported by integrated historical and contextual studies that will provide you with a framework within which to locate your individual practice. Throughout the course opportunities exist to work individually and collaboratively, supported by group discussion and personal support from tutors. Professional practice will provide you with relevant experience and knowledge of potential career opportunities. During the course you will be encouraged to evaluate, research, develop and contextualise your concepts and practice in response to subject choices.

You will develop critical, reflective and evaluative skills in Contemporary Art Practice through transferable practical skills via an open-minded approach to study investigation and research. You will therefore develop an understanding of interdisciplinary practice between various areas within contemporary art via an understanding of the influence and contribution made by art practice and practitioners within the 20th and 21st centuries

The HNC in Contemporary Art Practice is comprised of 12 HN Units – 9 mandatory Units and 3 optional Units.

The HND in Contemporary Art Practice is comprised of 30 HN Units. These fall into three categories:

- ◆ Core Units — which encompass the fundamental range of competences required for contemporary practice
- ◆ Cluster Units — which focus on a specific, specialist areas of practice
- ◆ Optional Units — which cover a wide spectrum of subjects, which complement the focus of your studies

In the first year of the HND award you will study 15 credits - 12 of these credits make up the HNC award in Contemporary Art Practice and the further three credits are undertaken to bridge year 1 into year 2 of the HND award. In year 2 of the course you will study a further 15 credits.

8.1 Core Units HNC/D

Within the Core Units for year one you will study:

Contemporary Art: Two Dimensional Practice

This enables you to develop knowledge and skills in a chosen area, or areas of Contemporary Art Two Dimensional Practice and produce two-dimensional artwork.

Contemporary Art: Three Dimensional Practice

In this Unit you will gain knowledge and understanding of three dimensional art practice in a contemporary context. It will offer the opportunity to research current practice and develop practical skills associated with the production of three-dimensional artworks.

Contemporary Art Practice: Conceptual Processes

This Unit will introduce you to conceptual art and the processes involved. You will be expected to generate research, initiate ideas and then produce an artwork. As conceptual art may be new territory for you, time will be taken to explore the processes used by conceptual artists. You will be encouraged to expand your limits of understanding of conceptual art.

Contemporary Art Practice: Introduction to Digital Artform

In this Unit you will use online and traditional study skills to research digital artform in contemporary art practice, produce a range of creative experiments using digital techniques and once you have completed both your research and creative experiments you will evaluate selected creative experiments.

Developmental Drawing

Through this Unit you will learn to develop visual ideas and concepts through drawing, using mark making processes and other appropriate drawing media.

8.2 Core Units HND 2

Within the Core Units for year two you will study:

Contemporary Art: Professional Practice

Through this Unit you will develop your understanding of the basic professional and business aspects of contemporary art practice. It also will allow you to produce a self-promotional package, a curriculum vitae and an artist's statement.

Contemporary Art Practice: Project

You will develop your own brief for a project through which you will develop concepts then produce and evaluate the artwork.

Exhibition of Contemporary Artform

This Unit gives you the opportunity to plan, prepare and produce an exhibition of pre-selected contemporary artforms. You will make an exhibition, install artwork and be involved in the marketing and promotion of the exhibition. You will also help maintain the exhibition and dismantle it at its conclusion.

Cluster Units

Cluster Units give you the opportunity to develop and produce artwork in a focused manner within specialist subject areas of contemporary art practice. These include:

- ◆ Conceptual Art
- ◆ Site Specific Art
- ◆ Digital Media Art
- ◆ Painting
- ◆ Sculpture
- ◆ Printmaking
- ◆ Mixed Media
- ◆ Lens Based Media
- ◆ Ceramic
- ◆ Environmental

The cluster Units available to you may vary depending upon the centre at which you are studying for your award.

8.4 Optional Units

Within the optional Units you will study selected Units, which cover a wide variety of subjects. Many of these Units are common to the other new HN awards created under the Art and Design Review. The optional Units will give you the opportunity to undertake supporting subjects that will complement the main area of study you have chosen.

8.5 The Graded Units

The Graded Units are an important part of the HNC/HND in Contemporary Art Practice. There are two Graded Units within the awards and both are project based. The HNC/HND Year 1 Graded Unit is a one credit Unit at SCQF level 7 and the HND Year 2 Graded Unit has a value of 2 credits at SCQF level 8.

The Graded Units are the only Units which are marked with a banding of A, B or C. The Graded Units are self-motivated projects, which will be supported by mentoring sessions with your course tutor.

The HNC/HND Contemporary Art Practice awards reflect the skills and competences needed for the practice of contemporary art. They will develop your practical and theoretical skills to a high level and help you place your own practice within the context of broader art practice. Most of all, the courses will provide you with an enjoyable and stimulating experience.

8.6 Progression Pathways

Progression to Higher Education

The HNC/HND award offers you a wide range of articulation routes to Higher Education. Candidates with HNC/HND awards can be offered entry into the first, second or third year of degree programmes although this is at the discretion of the individual HEI and is usually dependant on a satisfactory UCAS reference, interview and portfolio review.

Progression to Employment

The HNC/HND award will help you develop the creative, technical and intellectual skills you require to successfully progress into employment. Within the award there is an emphasis on personal development, communication, presentation, self motivation, time management and using initiative all of which will enhance your employability.

9 Glossary of terms

SCQF: This stands for the Scottish Credit and Qualification Framework, which is a new way of speaking about qualifications and how they inter-relate. We use SCQF terminology throughout this guide to refer to credits and levels. For further information on the SCQF see Appendix 2 or visit the SCQF website at www.scqf.org.uk.

SCQF credits: One HN credit is equivalent to 8 SCQF credit points. This applies to all HN Units, irrespective of their level.

SCQF levels: The SCQF covers 12 levels of learning. HN Units will normally be at levels 6–9. Graded Units will be at level 7 and 8 (see Section 6 for further information on this).

Subject Unit: Subject Units contain vocational/subject content and are designed to test a specific set of knowledge and skills.

Graded Unit: Graded Units assess candidates' ability to integrate what they have learned while working towards the Units of the Group Award. Their purpose is to add value to the Group Award, making it more than the sum of its parts, and to encourage candidates to retain and adapt their skills and knowledge.

Dedicated Core Skill Unit: This is a Unit that is written to cover one or more particular Core Skills, eg HN Units in Information Technology or Communications.

Embedded Core Skills: This is where the development of a Core Skill is incorporated into the Unit and where the Unit assessment also covers the requirements of Core Skill assessment at a particular level.

Signposted Core Skills: This refers to the opportunities to develop a particular Core Skill at a specified level that lie outwith automatic certification.

Qualification Design Team: The QDT works in conjunction with a Qualification Manager/Development Manager to steer the development of the HNC/D from its inception/revision through to validation. The group is made up of key stakeholders representing the interests of centres, employers, universities and other relevant organisations.

Consortium-devised HNCs and HNDs are those developments or revisions undertaken by a group of centres in partnership with SQA.

Specialist single centre and specialist collaborative devised HNCs and HNDs are those developments or revisions led by a single centre or small group of centres who provide knowledge and skills in a specialist area. Like consortium-devised HNCs and HNDs, these developments or revisions will also be supported by SQA.

**Market Research
(Higher Education and Industry)**

Higher Education Institutes and Employers consulted during market research

Higher Education Institutes:

Cumbria School of the Arts
Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art, Dundee
Edinburgh College of Art
Glasgow School of Art
Grays School of Art, Aberdeen
Heriot Watt University
UHI Millennium Institute
University of Paisley

Employers:

Artists House, Leeds
Artists Union
Central High, Newcastle
Creative and Cultural Skills Scotland
Creative and Cultural Skills UK
Cultural Enterprise Office
Collective Gallery, Edinburgh
Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop
Edinburgh's Telford College
Engage Scotland
Falkirk Council
Fife Arts Co-operative
Fruitmarket Gallery, Edinburgh
Harvey Hosie Partnership; Edinburgh
Ian Henderson Consultancy
Lauder Design, Lauder
Lowood Gallery, Cumbria
OneZero Projects, Edinburgh
Printmakers Workshop, Edinburgh
The Changing Room, Stirling
Visual Arts Forum
Wasps Studios: Edinburgh/Glasgow/Fife

Statistical Findings:

HE Consultation: HNC/D Contemporary Art Practice

The findings of the questionnaire are as follows:

1 **What year will you normally accept HNC students into?**

Year 1 =100%

What year will you normally accept HND students into?

Year 1 =100% Year 2 = 88%

2 **Do you agree that current HNC/HND Art and Design frameworks meet the needs of universities in terms of students' articulating from HNC/D to degree having:**

	Strongly Agree	Agree	No Opinion	Disagree
Knowledge	44. %	44%	12%	
Practical skills	44%	44%	12%	

3 **Relevance of HNC Units**

	Very Significant	Significant	Quite Significant
Observational Drawing	66%	22%	12%
Developmental Drawing	100%		
Art and Design Process	100%		
Art and Design Project	33%	56%	11%
Art Design Context	56%	33%	11%
Graded Unit	56%	33%	11%

4 **Relevance of Optional Units**

	Very Significant	Significant	Quite Significant
Life Drawing	33%	56%	11%
Painting	22%	56%	22%
Printmaking	67%	22%	11%
Photography	11%	33%	56%
Environmental Art		55%	45%
Sculpture		45%	65%
Illustration	32%	46%	22%

Textiles	32%	46%	22%
Ceramics		78%	22%
Cultural Identity	22%	67%	11%
Mixed Media	22%	67%	11%
Communication	45%	55%	
Professional Studies	33%	56%	11%
Freelance Working Skills	22%	45%	33%

5 Relevance of HND Mandatory Units

	Very relevant	Relevant
Observational Drawing 2	55%	45%
Developmental Drawing 2	89%	11%
Project 2	33%	67%
Creative Presentation	33%	67%
Graded Unit 2	45%	55%

6 Relevance of Options

	Very relevant	Relevant	Quite relevant
Life Drawing	33%	56%	11%
Painting	45%	22%	33%
Printmaking	34%	33%	33%
Photography	11%	45%	44%
Environmental Art	11%	45%	44%
Sculpture	11%	45%	44%
Ceramics		67%	33%
Cultural Identity	56%	33%	11%
Mixed Media	11%	56%	33%
Community Arts	33%	56%	11%
Business Studies	33%	45%	22%
Using Digital Media	33%	67%	
Work Placement	22%	56%	22%

7 Relevance of Core Skills

	Very relevant	Relevant	Quite relevant
Communication	81%	19%	
Numeracy	55%	45%	
IT	67%	33%	
Working with Others	78%	22%	
Problem Solving	84%	16%	

8 What level of Core Skill would you expect an HNC/D CAD student to attain by the end of their course?

	Intermediate 2	Higher
Communication	12%	88%
Numeracy	45%	55%
IT	22%	78%
Working with Others	22%	78%
Problem Solving	22%	78%

9 What would you accept as equivalent to a C Pass in Higher English?

Certificated Communication Skills	67%
Communication Skills taught in the course	33%

10 In terms of successful completion of your degree course(s) and in comparison to other categories of students you may recruit students are:

More Successful	11%
Equally Successful	78%
Less Successful	11%

Comments

Lack of evidence of contextual/historical theoretical studies hinders smooth transition into SCQF 8/9.

We regularly accept HNC/HND students onto our programmes – not always at the entry point expected — and it is usually because of a gap/weakness in one or two main areas: Critical and Contextual Knowledge and Creative Thinking. The students are generally very able technically.

An HND course often covers many of the basic skills covered in our first year design programme and occasionally strong HND applicants satisfy us that they are ready for year 3.

Making students consider how they are going to fund higher education would be helpful to them and us.

Industry Consultation: HNC/D Contemporary Art Practice

The findings of the questionnaire are as follows:

- 1 **Would your organisation use HNC/D as a qualification for employment/self/employment in a creative arts role?**

Yes = 89%

- 2 **Would your organisation use HNC/D grades as guide for employment/self/employment in a creative arts role?**

Yes = 83%

- 3 **What level of importance do you give to practical skills when recruiting or developing staff?**

	Very High	High	Medium	Low
Drawing	28%	39%	16.5%	16.5%
Handling media	44%	39%	11%	6%
Working with materials	55%	39%		6%
Application of techniques	55%	33%	6%	6%
Design and layout	39%	39%	22%	
Creative thinking	78%	16%	6%	
Visual display and presentation	55%	22.5%	22.5%	
Using creative ICT software	28%	33%	28%	11%

- 4 **What level of importance do you give to related knowledge when recruiting or developing staff?**

	Very High	High	Medium	Low
History of art/design	28%	44%	22%	6%
Design principles	44 %	39%	11%	6%
Art theory	11%	56%	33%	10%
Creative techniques	50%	28%	22%	
Use/maintenance of equipment	44,5%	39%	16.5%	
Use of materials/media	44.5%	33%	22.5%	
Business Management	11%	44.5%	33.5%	11%

5 What level of importance do you give to general (core) skills when recruiting or developing staff?

	Very High	High	Medium	Low
Using information technology	16%	61%	11.5%	11.5%
Communication	72%	22%	6%	
Numeracy	22.5%	61%	16.5%	
Using graphical information	39%	44.5%	16.5%	
Critical thinking	61%	39%		
Planning and organising	61%	33%	6%	
Reviewing and evaluating	50%	44%	6%	
Working with others	78%	16%	6%	

Comments

Obviously a good general knowledge of art and design related material is essential, but for a graduate starting to work for a salary, good communication and working with others is very important.

We would expect visual arts assistants to have knowledge and interest in contemporary art and art history.

Portfolio and personality along with communication skills are of paramount importance

I feel that the new qualification will provide students with a good range of practical and conceptual skills

Any opportunities for individuals interested in the arts to gain useable and applicable skills are highly valuable.

Creating real opportunities for students to anticipate and learn about the wide variety of disciplines necessary to function in the creative industries, post graduation should be seen as high priority

A welcome addition to the HN portfolio and should prepare students well for progression to further study, self employment or apprentice/technical level employment in arts based organisations.

Galleries would also look for experience of working with groups, in an educational context, when recruiting artists as educators for specific projects.

Revision of HNC/HND — Contemporary Art Practice Frameworks

Questionnaire for Employers

Name:	Position:
Company:	
Address:	Tel: E-Mail:
Main Business Activity of company:	No of Employees (including part-time):

Would your organisation consider an HNC/HND in Contemporary Art Practice a suitable qualification for a position or involvement in your organisation?	YES / NO
If yes, please give examples of the main positions involved.	

What level of importance do you give to the knowledge and understanding of <u>practical and creative skills</u> when recruiting or developing staff?				
Skill	Very High	High	Medium	Low
Drawing				
Handling media				
Working with materials				
Application of techniques				
Design and layout				
Creative thinking				
Visual display and presentation				
Using creative ITC software				

What level of importance do you give to <u>the following</u> when recruiting or developing staff?				
Area of Knowledge	Very High	High	Medium	Low
History of art/design				
Design principles				
Art theory				
Creative techniques				
Use/ maintenance of equipment				
Use of materials/media				
Business management				

What level of importance do you give to <u>general</u> skills when recruiting or developing staff?				
Skill	Very High	High	Medium	Low
Using Information Technology				
Communication				
Numeracy				
Using graphical information				
Critical thinking				
Planning and organising				
Reviewing and evaluating				
Working with Others				

Please add any further comments you wish to make regarding the award in general (continue on a separate sheet if you wish)

Thank you for taking time to complete this questionnaire. Please return to:

Sandra Bain
 Development Officer
 Scottish Qualifications Authority
 The Optima Building
 58 Robertson Street
 GLASGOW
 G2 8DQ

E-mail: sandra.bain@sqa.org.uk

Letters of Support:

At the time of this document going to print the chair had received letters of support from the following:

- Prof. M Eigenheer: Artist
Professor, Art Academy Stuttgart, Germany
Director of ICE (Institute for Curatorship and Education)
Edinburgh College of Art
- Charles Esche: Curator/Writer/Researcher on Contemporary Art
Director, Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven
Co-editor of Afterall Journal and Afterall books
- Prof. Jake Harvey: Artist
Head of School of Sculpture, Edinburgh College of Art
- Dr Neil Mulholland: Writer/Critic/Curator; Edinburgh
Head of Centre for Visual and Cultural Studies, Edinburgh
College of Art
- Laura Quarmby: Artist
Director of Artists House, Contemporary Art Studio, Leeds
- Helen Stringfellow: Artist/Educator
Co-Founder Tectonic Industries, St Paul, Minnesota, USA
- Lyn Lowenstein: Artist/Educator, London
- Sarah Munro: Director, Collective Gallery, Edinburgh
- Gregor White: Divisional Leader, University of Abertay, Dundee
- Clive Gillman: Director, Dundee Contemporary Art Centre, Dundee
- Irene Kernan: Director, Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop, Edinburgh
- Ruth Maclennan: Artist/Curator/Teacher, London
- Ben Fallon: Artist/Curator/Designer
Director of Onezero Projects, Edinburgh
- Kirsten Lloyd: Artist/Curator: Stills Gallery, Edinburgh
- Trude Blows: Artist Gallery Rep, Patriothall Gallery, Edinburgh
- Virus: Artist group, Edinburgh