

Next Generation Higher National Unit Specification

Camera (SCQF level 8)

Unit code:	J6DS 48
SCQF level:	8 (16 SCQF credit points)
Valid from:	session 2024 to 2025

This unit specification provides detailed information about the unit to ensure consistent and transparent assessment year on year. It is for lecturers and assessors and contains all the mandatory information you need to deliver and assess the unit.

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Unit purpose

This unit develops learners' knowledge and skills in carrying out the role of camera operator in a production team. They communicate effectively with a production crew. Learners develop advanced camera techniques in the context of a production, along with technical problem solving and creative skills.

Entry to the unit is at your centre's discretion. We recommend that learners have successfully completed Television Technical Production at SCQF level 7 or have practical camera experience before starting this unit.

On completion of the unit as part of the Higher National Diploma (HND) Television, learners may have the opportunity to progress to further study, including degree-level courses, or employment.

Unit outcomes

Learners who complete this unit can:

- 1 contribute to the planning of a production
- 2 liaise with the crew on a shoot
- 3 operate a camera to an advanced standard

Evidence requirements

All outcomes

Learners provide evidence of their knowledge and skills by showing that they can contribute to the planning and production of a programme, while carrying out the role of camera operator. Learners must provide recorded footage that demonstrates advanced camera techniques, and which meets the requirements of a given brief. Their footage must demonstrate a consistently acceptable aesthetic and technical standard.

Learners' footage must demonstrate that they can:

- ◆ select and set up appropriate camera equipment
- ◆ communicate effectively with crew during the production process
- ◆ use standard production terminology
- ◆ follow current health and safety guidelines
- ◆ analyse shots and correct as appropriate

Learners should evidence their knowledge and skills with:

- ◆ footage
- ◆ storyboards or a shot list
- ◆ location forms
- ◆ camera logs

Grading

This unit contributes to learners' overall final grades.

Knowledge and skills

Knowledge	Skills
<p>Outcome 1 Learners should understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ the role and responsibilities of a camera operator during pre-production ◆ how to select appropriate equipment to meet production requirements ◆ how to liaise with the crew during pre-production 	<p>Outcome 1 Learners can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ use floor plans, shot lists and storyboards ◆ select the correct equipment for a shoot ◆ liaise with the crew regarding any issues that may affect, or be affected by, the camera
<p>Outcome 2 Learners should understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ the role and responsibilities of a camera operator during production ◆ standard production terminology 	<p>Outcome 2 Learners can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ obtain, prepare and return equipment ◆ carry out the role of camera operator during production ◆ use appropriate terminology
<p>Outcome 3 Learners should understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ advanced camera techniques ◆ advanced camera principles ◆ how to analyse and resolve shot problems ◆ current health and safety regulations 	<p>Outcome 3 Learners can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ use the camera to tell a visual story ◆ analyse and resolve shot problems ◆ comply with current health and safety regulations

Meta-skills

You must give learners opportunities to develop their meta-skills throughout this unit. We've suggested how to incorporate the most relevant ones into the unit content, but you may find other opportunities.

Self-management

This includes focusing, integrity, adapting and initiative. The most relevant are:

- ◆ Focusing:
 - attention to detail
 - awareness of frame content
 - continuity
 - camera controls and settings
- ◆ Integrity:
 - strong work ethic
 - timekeeping
 - reliability
 - discipline
 - trustworthiness
 - compliance
- ◆ Adapting:
 - willingness to learn
 - critical reflection
 - resilience
 - working under pressure
 - adjusting and problem-solving to achieve appropriate shots in changing light, sound, or location
- ◆ Initiative:
 - self-promotion
 - showing enthusiasm and knowledge of the industry

Social intelligence

This includes communicating, feeling, collaborating and leading. The most relevant are:

- ◆ Communicating:
 - communicating clearly and concisely in-person and through digital methods, such as telephone, email and social media
 - skills in listening, storytelling and relaying accurate information

- ◆ Feeling:
 - showing empathy
 - building relationships
 - understanding production etiquette
- ◆ Collaborating:
 - working as part of a team

Innovation

This includes curiosity, creativity, sense-making and critical thinking. The most relevant are:

- ◆ Curiosity:
 - asking questions
 - researching
 - looking at things from a different angle
 - engaging with and understanding industry practice
- ◆ Creativity:
 - generating ideas
 - visualising
 - problem-solving
- ◆ Sense-making:
 - researching
 - analysing data
 - seeing the bigger picture
 - prioritising tasks
- ◆ Critical thinking:
 - logical thinking
 - making judgements based on facts
 - decision-making

Literacies

This unit provides opportunities to develop the following literacies.

Numeracy

Learners can develop their numeracy skills by using analytical and technical skills regarding:

- ◆ f-stop settings
- ◆ shutter speed
- ◆ gain settings
- ◆ resolution (for example dots per inch)
- ◆ aspect ratios

Communication

Learners can develop their communication skills by:

- ◆ working as part of a production team
- ◆ communicating with other team members
- ◆ conveying information and ideas to achieve the shot or shots intended

Digital

Learners can develop their digital skills by using digital tools to capture and review footage.

Learning for Sustainability

Throughout this unit, you should encourage learners to develop their skills, knowledge and understanding of sustainability.

This includes:

- ◆ a general understanding of social, economic, and environmental sustainability
- ◆ a general understanding of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- ◆ a deeper understanding of subject-specific sustainability
- ◆ the confidence to apply the skills, knowledge, understanding and values they develop in the next stage of their life

Delivery of unit

If you deliver the unit as part of a group award, we recommend that you teach and assess it in the subject area of the group award to which it contributes.

You can deliver and assess the unit alongside Television: Collaborative Production Projects at SCQF level 8, Television: Working in Industry at SCQF level 8, and selected optional units in the Higher National Diploma (HND) Television at SCQF level 8.

Additional guidance

The guidance in this section is not mandatory.

Content and context for this unit

This unit helps learners to develop the knowledge and skills they need to carry out the role of camera operator in a production team. Learners must produce material to meet the requirements of a production brief.

Learners should focus on achieving their best quality of camera footage, under direction and in the context of a production team.

The unit emphasises the skills, roles and behaviours expected in a production team. Throughout your delivery of the unit, you should help learners to understand advanced concepts of camera operation, including terminology, key principles and dynamic relationships.

The following list of camera terminology is for guidance only and we encourage centres and learners to add to it:

- ◆ 3.2K
- ◆ 5.6K
- ◆ aperture
- ◆ aspect ratio
- ◆ axial cut
- ◆ back focus
- ◆ big close up (BCU)
- ◆ close up (CU)
- ◆ composition
- ◆ continuity
- ◆ crab
- ◆ depth of field
- ◆ dissimilarity
- ◆ dots per inch
- ◆ elevate
- ◆ exposure
- ◆ eye-line
- ◆ f-stop
- ◆ focal length
- ◆ follow focus
- ◆ framing
- ◆ gain
- ◆ general view (GV)
- ◆ headspace

- ◆ iris
- ◆ jump cut
- ◆ long shot (LS)
- ◆ looking space
- ◆ medium close up (MCU)
- ◆ mid-shot (MS)
- ◆ mis-en-scene
- ◆ pan
- ◆ point of view (POV)
- ◆ presenter to camera (PTC)
- ◆ pull focus
- ◆ shutter
- ◆ shutter speed
- ◆ similarity
- ◆ soft focus
- ◆ strobing
- ◆ throw focus
- ◆ tilt
- ◆ track
- ◆ walking space
- ◆ whip pan
- ◆ white balance
- ◆ wide shot (WS)

Approaches to assessment

Learners can generate evidence through different assessment methods. The following are suggestions only, as there may be other methods that would be more suitable to learners.

Where learners experience a range of assessment methods, this helps them to develop different skills that should be transferable to work or further and higher education.

We suggest that you carry out assessment as part of a complete production. You can assess learners' footage along with their pre-production documentation. The unit should follow on from Television Technical Production at SCQF level 7, and learners' footage and documentation should clearly demonstrate the advanced camera knowledge and skills outlined in the 'Knowledge and skills' section.

Equality and inclusion

This unit is designed to be as fair and as accessible as possible with no unnecessary barriers to learning or assessment.

You should consider the needs of individual learners when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment methods or considering alternative evidence.

Guidance on assessment arrangements for disabled learners and those with additional support needs is available on the [assessment arrangements web page](#).

Information for learners

Camera (SCQF level 8)

This information explains:

- ◆ what the unit is about
- ◆ what you should know or be able to do before you start
- ◆ what you need to do during the unit
- ◆ opportunities for further learning and employment

Unit information

This unit develops your knowledge and skills in carrying out the role of camera operator in a production team. You must communicate with a crew during pre-production and production tasks. The unit develops your camera techniques and builds on your existing knowledge and skills in the context of a full programme production. This further develops your technical problem-solving and creative skills.

Entry to the unit is at your centre's discretion. We recommend that you have successfully completed Television Technical Production at SCQF level 7 or have practical camera experience before you start.

On completion of the unit, you can:

- 1 contribute to the planning of a production
- 2 liaise with the crew on a shoot
- 3 operate a camera to an advanced standard

You demonstrate your knowledge and skills by showing that you can contribute to the planning and production of a programme, while carrying out the role of camera operator. You must provide recorded footage that demonstrates advanced camera techniques and meets the requirements of a given brief. The footage must demonstrate a consistently acceptable aesthetic and technical standard.

You are assessed on your footage and your pre-production documentation.

When you finish the unit as part of the Higher National Diploma (HND) Television, you may have the opportunity to progress to further study, including degree-level courses, or employment.

Meta-skills

Throughout this unit, you develop meta-skills for the television sector.

Meta-skills are transferable behaviours and abilities that help you adapt and succeed in life, study and work. There are three categories of meta-skills: self-management, social intelligence and innovation.

Self-management

This meta-skill includes:

- ◆ Focusing:
 - attention to detail
 - awareness of frame content
 - continuity
 - camera controls and settings
- ◆ Integrity:
 - strong work ethic
 - timekeeping
 - reliability
 - discipline
 - trustworthiness
 - compliance
- ◆ Adapting:
 - willingness to learn
 - critical reflection
 - resilience
 - working under pressure
 - adjusting and problem-solving to achieve appropriate shots in changing light, sound, or location
- ◆ Initiative:
 - self-promotion
 - showing enthusiasm and knowledge of the industry

Social intelligence

This meta-skill includes:

- ◆ Communicating:
 - communicating clearly and concisely in-person and through digital methods, such as telephone, email and social media
 - skills in listening, storytelling and relaying accurate information
- ◆ Feeling:
 - showing empathy
 - building relationships
 - understanding production etiquette
- ◆ Collaborating:
 - working as part of a team

Innovation

This meta-skill includes:

- ◆ Curiosity:
 - asking questions
 - researching
 - looking at things from a different angle
 - engaging with and understanding industry practice
- ◆ Creativity:
 - generating ideas
 - visualising
 - problem-solving
- ◆ Sense-making:
 - researching
 - analysing data
 - seeing the bigger picture
 - prioritising tasks
- ◆ Critical thinking:
 - logical thinking
 - making judgements based on facts
 - decision-making

Grading

This unit contributes to your overall final grade.

Learning for Sustainability

Throughout this unit, you develop skills, knowledge and understanding of sustainability.

You learn about social, economic and environmental sustainability principles and how they relate to the television sector. You also develop an understanding of the [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals](#).

Administrative information

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Superclass: KJ

History of changes

Version	Description of change	Date

Note: please check [SQA's website](#) to ensure you are using the most up-to-date version of this document.

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