National 5 Graphic Communication

Course Rationale

The course provides opportunities for candidates to gain skills in reading, interpreting and creating graphic communications. They also learn to apply knowledge and understanding of graphic communication standards, protocols and conventions. The course is practical, exploratory and experiential in nature and combines elements of recognised professional standards for graphic communication, partnered with graphic design creativity and visual impact.

Course Content

This course is a broad-based qualification, suitable for learners with an interest in both digital and paper-based graphic communication. It is largely learner-centred, includes practical and experiential learning opportunities and is suitable for those wanting to progress onto higher levels of study or a related career.

Skills

The following provides a broad overview of the subject skills, knowledge and understanding developed in the course:

- Replicating basic, familiar and some new graphic forms in 2D, 3D and pictorials
- Initiating and producing simple preliminary, production and promotional graphics in straightforward, familiar and some new contexts
- Initiating and producing simple informational graphics in straightforward, familiar and some new contexts
- Visual literacy by interpreting simple but unfamiliar graphic communications
- Spatial awareness in straightforward but unfamiliar 2D, 3D and pictorial graphic situations
- Using standard graphic communication equipment, software and materials effectively for simple tasks with some complex features
- Knowledge of graphic communication standards, protocols and conventions in straightforward but unfamiliar contexts
- Applying design skills, including creativity, when developing solutions to simple graphics tasks with some complex features
- The ability to take initiative in evaluating work in progress and completed graphics and applying suggestions for improvement in presentation
- Knowledge of a range of computer-aided graphics techniques and practices
- Knowledge of colour, illustration and presentation techniques in straightforward, familiar and some unfamiliar contexts
- Knowledge and understanding of the impact of graphic communication technologies on our environment and society

Course Assessment

Component 1: Question paper:	2 hours - 80 marks (SQA exam in May)
Component 2: Assignment:	8 hours - 40 marks (Closed book - class assessment)

Progression

Higher Graphic Communication

Career Pathways

Architect; Architecture; Engineering; Energy & Renewables; Surveying; Graphic Design; Magazine & Book writing; Desk top publisher; Web- page design; multi-media and animator; printing & digital imaging.

Please see the following for more information: Graphic Communication SWAY