

SUBJECT NAME: PRACTICAL CRAFT SKILLS

AWARD RECEIVED NATIONAL 3

The National 3 Practical Craft Skills course provides opportunities for you to develop and enhance your practical creativity and practical problem-solving skills, and to gain an appreciation of safe working practices in the workshop.

The course enables you to develop:

- develop skills in reading and interpreting drawings and diagrams
- identify, select and use a range of workshop tools, equipment and materials
- develop basic skills in measuring and marking out of materials
- develop basic skills in cutting, shaping, fixing and joining materials
- apply safe working practices in a workshop or similar environment
- take account of good practice regarding sustainability and recycling

ENTRY LEVEL – What do I need to do it?

The National 3 course will allow you to develop your knowledge and abilities within the practical technologies, building on the craft skills you have developed in S1 core technologies and the S2-3 elective courses in Graphics, Design & Manufacture and/or Practical & Vocational Skills. Ideally you will have completed one of the S2-3 elective courses, however, those students who have not followed an elective course in S2-3, but are keen to explore and develop their practical skills in are welcome to join the course.

COURSE CONTENT – What will I learn?

The Practical Craft Skills Course is a broad-based qualification for learners with an interest in practical woodworking and/or metalworking. You will be provided with opportunities to develop and enhance your physical skills, practical creativity, practical problem-solving skills and gain an appreciation of safe working practices in a practical craft context. It also allows you to gain knowledge and understanding of good practice regarding recycling and sustainability.

Working with tools

In this unit, you will develop knowledge of a range of common tools and equipment used in woodworking and metalworking. You will also develop skills for measuring and marking out and for preliminary cutting and shaping of materials.

Working with materials

In this unit, you will develop skills in working with different woodworking and metalworking materials. This unit helps you to develop skills in cutting, shaping, fixing and joining materials, using a variety of appropriate craft techniques.

Making an item

In this unit, you will develop skills in making an item from wood, metal or a combination of these materials. You will learn to read and interpret simple working drawings, select and use tools safely, apply appropriate finishing techniques and review your completed item.

TEACHING METHODS – What will I do?

The course is by its nature highly practical, exploratory and experiential. and you will spend the majority of your time in the wood and metal workshops developing your practical skills through a number of tasks.

Other teaching methods may include:

- Class discussion
- Written logbook tasks
- Group work

ASSESSMENT

At National 3 level, you will be expected to complete and submit a 'unit project' for each of the units of work, this will be supported by a log of your activities. This log will also include tool and material identification tasks required for the assessment of the three units.

Assessment tasks will likely be drawn from one or more of the following practical models*:

Working with tools – Safely use a variety of tools to manufacture items on both wood and metal, models may include pasta measurer, music player dock.

Working with materials – Manufacture items in both wood and metal that use a range of materials in their construction, models may include chalk-board frame, tea-light bracket, test-tube vase.

Making an item – Manufacture a product using the tools and materials experienced throughout the course, models completed for this unit of work may include sliding CD-rack, toy truck.

There is no externally assessed component to the National 3 Practical Craft Skills course and you will be given the opportunity to complete both the Working with tools unit and the Working with materials unit in both wood and metal before undertaking the final unit.

HOMEWORK

There is no formal homework associated with his course, however, due to the practical nature of the course, it is expected that students who are absent from workshop periods attend catch-up sessions that the department will arrange to allow you to complete this work should you require it.

PROGRESSION IN THE SENIOR PHASE

Success at National 3 Practical Craft Skills may allow you to progress to the National 4 Practical Woodworking course.

Students may also consider moving sideways to the National 4 Construction Crafts course.

COURSE COSTS

The National 3 Practical Craft Skills course has a cost of £15 associated with it contributing towards the cost of resistant materials consumed within the course.

**Note: Practical models are subject to change*