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## HELPING YOU MAKE THE SWITCH COMPARING SPECIFICATIONS

## GCSE ART & DESIGN

Eduqas	AQA	OCR	Pearson (Edexcel)	Notes
All titles offered: Art, Craft & Design, Fine Art, Critical Contextual Studies, Textile Design, 3-Dimensional Design, Photography	×	<b>√</b>	×	Critical, Contextual Studies is unavailable in OCR and Edexcel specifications
GCSE overview: qualification comprises two components: Component 1: Personal Portfolio (60%) Component 2: Externally Set Assignment (40%)	✓	✓	✓	Components and weightings are the same across exam boards.
Assessment Objectives  AO1: Develop ideas through investigations, demonstrating critical understanding of sources.  AO2: Refine work by exploring ideas, selecting and experimenting with appropriate media, materials, techniques and processes.  AO3: Record ideas, observations and insights relevant to intentions as work progresses.  AO4: Present a personal and meaningful response that realises intentions and demonstrates understanding of visual language.	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	GCSE Art & Design Assessment Objectives are the same across exam boards.  Eduqas use the assessment objective headings below to assist teachers and students: AO1 Critical understanding AO2 Creative making AO3 Reflective recording AO4 Personal presentation
Portfolio 60%  Major practical investigative project(s)/ portfolio.  No specified time limit (approximately 4 terms)  The proportion of the 120 guided learning hours devoted to this component should reflect its 60% weighting.  Work must show evidence of all four Assessment Objectives.  The Portfolio is internally determined, teacher assessed and externally moderated	✓	✓	✓	Theme(s), project(s) or task(s) selected should allow students to demonstrate their ability to develop and evidence a sustained line of reasoning. The subject matter of the Portfolio should gradually show increased personal significance for students as the course progresses, thus increasing the relevance and independence of their study and promoting their interest and application.

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Externally Set Assignment 40%  Consists of two integrated constituent parts, namely the supporting studies and preparatory work followed by a 10 hour period of sustained focus work, which are assessed together. This places equal value on creative processes and their outcomes.  Part 1: Supporting studies/preparatory work based upon a student selected externally set stimulus.  Responses should take the form of integrated practical and critical preparatory work which informs and relates to part 2.  Assignment papers released to students on or after January 2nd in the year of moderation.  Part 2: 10 hour period of sustained focus in which the student brings their work to a conclusion under supervised conditions.  Teacher assessed and externally moderated.  Both parts will be assessed together.	Separate written assignment paper for each title. No visuals.	Five themes in the assignment paper. Title specific briefs for each theme.	One broad theme based starting point with visuals	The Eduqas Externally Set Assignment encourages students to respond to one of a wide variety of visual and written stimuli. The assignment paper is visually engaging and accessible, comprising:  5 one word themes  5 visual assignments  5 written briefs  The Eduqas assignment paper is open to all disciplines  provides contemporary and relevant contextual references appropriate to each discipline listed to aid student research  encourages primary research from direct observation and personal experience which can give rise to a considerable range of individual interpretations  provides the basis for students to realise personal intentions
Annotation/writing with use of specialist Vocabulary.	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	Annotation with use of specialist Vocabulary is now a requirement in all GCSE Art & Design specifications. Annotation is assessed through AO3 with some other boards. In the Eduqas specification it is designed to integrate with students' practical and contextual investigation and does not apply specifically to any AO, but will be assessed holistically across the creative, investigative processes students pursue.

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Drawing requirement  The importance of drawing in its widest sense as a recording tool and means of exploring visual language is emphasised in the subject content. In every title, students must show evidence of drawing within Component 1 and Component 2. Students are not required to demonstrate technical mastery of drawing skills unless this is relevant to their area of study.	✓.	✓	✓	In the Eduqas specification, drawing is encouraged and emphasised as a design process and / or fundamental means of visual language, which is not separately assessed. Drawing will be assessed through all the Assessment Objectives.
Indicative Content  Non-prescriptive, helpful title specific guidance for teachers and students.	×	×	×	Indicative Content is exclusive to the Eduqas GCSE and A Level Art & Design specifications. Indicative content is available for each of the 7 Titles and provides helpful guidance to teachers and students relating to the kinds of evidence that should be presented for each Assessment Objective, specific to the title entered for. Includes guidance on careers in the creative industries to support research and promote the subject.
Assessment Objectives checklist for students	×	×	×	A student friendly tick list which explains each Assessment Objective in simple, straightforward language.
Assessment grid	✓	✓	✓	We have developed clear mark schemes, with assessment guidance, 5 performance bands and a helpful colour coding system to support your internal assessment. Plus, an extensive range of online marked exemplar and moderation conference benchmark materials to support and inform internal standardisation
Teachers' Guide	×	×	×	Comprehensive Guidance for Teaching resource, with helpful advice on teaching approaches, assessment and administration, as well as providing advocacy materials and answers to 69 FAQs.