

# New A Level Art and Design: Critical and Contextual Studies

**H166 and H566 replacing 3806 and 7806**

Information for OCR centres transferring to **new specifications for first teaching in September 2008**

This document maps the current A Level Art and Design: Critical and Contextual Studies specification to the new specification for first teaching in September 2008. It includes information on the changes, support available and an outline of the new specification. It is intended to help ease the transition for Heads of Department and Teachers involved in the teaching of Art and Design: Critical and Contextual Studies

The full specification is available online along with a short questionnaire enabling you to share your comments on the specification and help shape the materials developed to support it. For more information including answers to frequently asked questions visit [www.ocr.org.uk/14-19alevels](http://www.ocr.org.uk/14-19alevels)

**Current specification – mapping the changes**

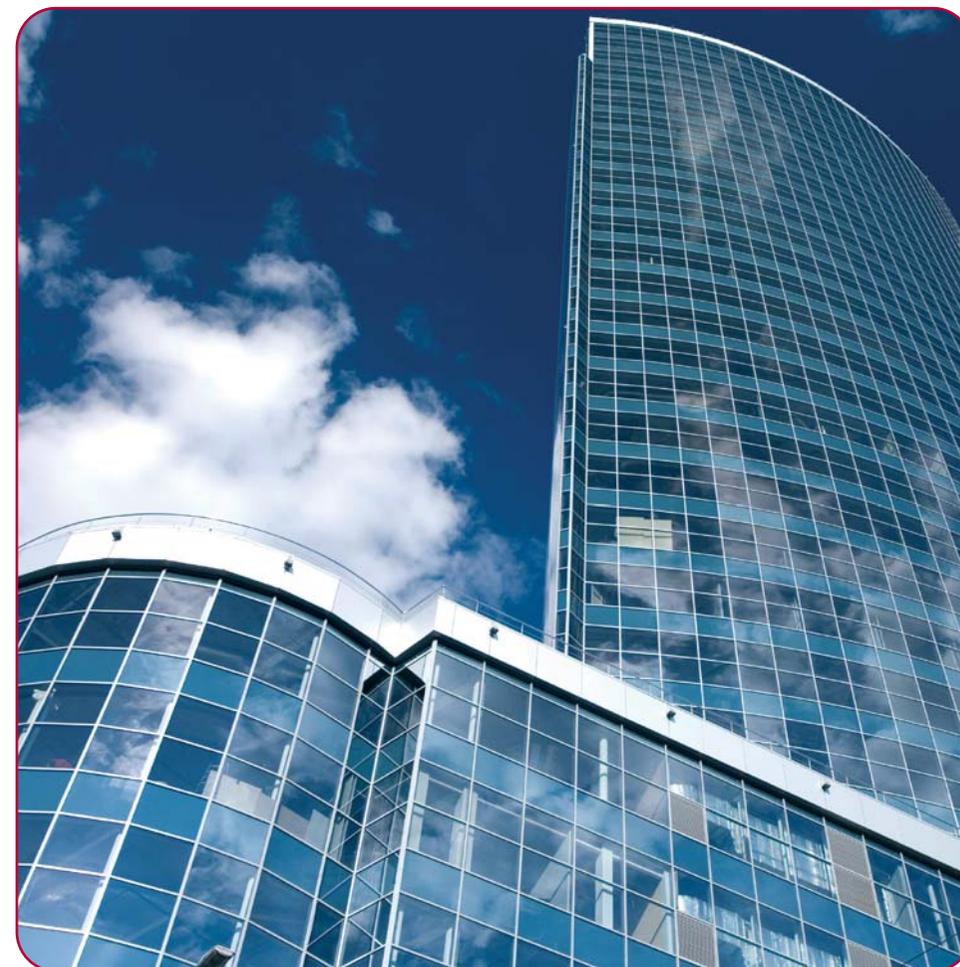
**pages 2-3**

**Outline specification for first teaching September 2008**

**page 4**

**QCA have stipulated that:**

- Number of units required to achieve A level Art is four.



# Mapping the changes to the A Level Art and Design: Critical and Contextual Studies specification for first teaching September 2008

H166 and H566 replacing 3806 and 7806



Existing specification		Candidates must complete six units			
Current unit title	Unit code	What remains the same?	What is changing?	Why is it changing?	Guidance
AS <b>Research Projects: Critical and Contextual studies</b>	<b>2906</b> Mandatory 30% (AS) 15% (A Level) Coursework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The ethos of developing, exploring, researching and acquiring skills and techniques has been retained from this unit and united with the ability to analyse their own work and the work of others.</li> <li>Starting points, topics or themes are still determined by centre.</li> <li>You still have to pick specialisms within the endorsement.</li> <li>The specialisms remain the same.</li> <li>Starting points still determined by centre.</li> <li>Marks available and the assessment method.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The unit title will be Coursework Portfolio.</li> <li>There is no prescribed amounts of 'projects' to complete within the portfolio.</li> <li>Stronger emphasis on analysis of own work and work of others.</li> <li>New unit code F416.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ease the burden for candidates and teachers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Teachers' Guide.</li> <li>Exemplar work and coursework guidance featuring pictures of work.</li> <li>INSET.</li> </ul>
AS <b>Personal Investigation: Critical and Contextual Studies</b>	<b>2916</b> Mandatory 30% (AS) 15% (A Level) Coursework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This unit is no longer available.</li> <li>Analysis of candidate's own work and the work of others element from this unit has been amalgamated into the new unit F416.</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Centres will be advised of the last re-sit dates for these units as soon as confirmation is received from QCA.</li> </ul>
AS <b>Controlled Assignment: Critical and Contextual Studies Component 01</b>	<b>2926</b> Mandatory 20% (AS) 10% (A Level) Examined 3.5 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Images are used.</li> <li>It is controlled and there is a time limit.</li> <li>The specialisms are the same.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The two components have now merged.</li> <li>The amount of time available to complete the assignment has increased.</li> <li>It offers more flexibility as students can now choose to respond in a practical way or through a written response.</li> <li>More choice in terms of questions on offer.</li> <li>There are now only three images used and they are no longer related to specialisms.</li> <li>Three images will be: one from sculpture or installation; one from architecture; one from painting or design.</li> <li>Some questions relate more specifically to specialisms.</li> <li>Teachers are expected to mark all of the work.</li> <li>New unit code F426.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It makes more holistic sense.</li> <li>To make it more fair and inclusive.</li> <li>To gain more parity with other endorsements.</li> <li>To provide candidates with more freedom of choice.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Teachers' Guide.</li> <li>Exemplar work and coursework guidance featuring pictures of work.</li> <li>INSET.</li> <li>Specimen Assessment Material in the form of a question paper.</li> </ul>
AS <b>Controlled Assignment: Critical and Contextual Studies Component 02</b>	<b>2926</b> Mandatory 20% (AS) 10% (A Level) Examined 1 hour				

Existing specification						
Current unit title	Unit code	What remains the same?	What is changing?	Why is it changing?	Guidance	
A2	<b>Specialist Project: Critical &amp; Contextual Studies</b>	<b>2936</b> Mandatory 15% (A Level) Coursework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Focus of working to resolution from SP unit and analysis of own work and work of others (from PS unit) have been combined.</li> <li>Starting point(s) still personal and determined by candidate.</li> <li>Written element can be presented formally as essay or through annotation.</li> <li>You still have to pick specialisms within the endorsement.</li> <li>The specialisms remain the same.</li> <li>Can be presented in any appropriate format.</li> <li>Marks available and the assessment method.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This project must now also included a related personal study element – word limit of 1000-3000 applicable.</li> <li>Work must now be placed more directly within its historical and/or contemporary contexts.</li> <li>New unit code F436.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To ease the burden for teachers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Teachers' Guide.</li> <li>Exemplar work and coursework guidance featuring pictures of work.</li> <li>INSET.</li> </ul>
	<b>Personal Study: Critical &amp; Contextual Studies</b>	<b>2946</b> Mandatory 15% (A Level) Coursework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Part of this unit has been amalgamated into the new F436.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This element of the new unit must be between 1000-3000 words.</li> </ul>		
A2	<b>Controlled Assignment: Critical and Contextual Studies Component</b>	<b>2956/01</b> Mandatory 15% (A Level) Examined 10hrs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Images are used.</li> <li>It is controlled and there is a time limit.</li> <li>The specialisms are the same.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The two components have now merged.</li> <li>The amount of time available to complete the assignment has increased.</li> <li>It offers more flexibility as students can now choose to respond in a practical way or through a written response.</li> <li>More choice in terms of questions on offer.</li> <li>There are now only three images used and they are no longer related to specialisms.</li> <li>Three images will be: one from sculpture or installation; one from architecture; one from painting or design.</li> <li>Some questions relate more specifically to specialisms.</li> <li>Teachers are expected to mark all of the work.</li> <li>New unit code F446.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It makes more holistic sense.</li> <li>To make it more fair and inclusive.</li> <li>To gain more parity with other endorsements.</li> <li>To provide candidates with more freedom of choice.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Teachers' Guide.</li> <li>Exemplar work and coursework guidance featuring pictures of work.</li> <li>INSET.</li> <li>Specimen Assessment Material in the form of a question paper.</li> </ul>
	<b>Controlled Assignment: Critical and Contextual Studies Component</b>	<b>2956/02</b> Mandatory Examined 2hrs				

# New A Level Art and Design: Critical and Contextual Studies specification for first teaching September 2008

**H166 and H566 replacing 3806 and 7806**

Candidates must complete four mandatory units



	New unit title	New unit code	Benefits to me and my learners	Support
AS	Coursework Portfolio	<b>F416</b> Mandatory 60% (AS) 30% (A Level) Coursework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Choice and flexibility are offered as the portfolio derives from initial starting points, topics or themes that can be determined by the centre.</li> <li>It can be tailored to fit candidates' needs with a choice of a single project and several smaller projects.</li> <li>Candidates can present their work in sketchbooks, mounted on sheets or in any other appropriate format.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Teachers' Guide.</li> <li>Exemplar work and coursework guidance featuring pictures of work.</li> <li>INSET.</li> </ul>
AS	Controlled Assignment	<b>F426</b> Mandatory 40% (AS) 20% (A Level) Examined. 3-6 weeks' preparation and 5 hours' controlled time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Challenges candidates by requiring them to produce artwork in a controlled environment.</li> <li>Enables candidates to independently develop ideas in sustained and focussed way.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Specimen Assessment Materials.</li> <li>A Teachers' Guide.</li> <li>Exemplar work and coursework guidance featuring pictures of work..</li> <li>INSET.</li> </ul>
A2	Personal Investigation	<b>F436</b> Mandatory 30% (A Level) Coursework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Choice and flexibility are offered as the portfolio derives from initial starting points, topics or themes that can be determined by the centre.</li> <li>It can be tailored to fit candidates' needs with a choice of a single project and several smaller projects.</li> <li>Candidates can present their work in sketchbooks, mounted on sheets or in any other appropriate format.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Teachers' Guide.</li> <li>Exemplar work and coursework guidance featuring pictures of work..</li> <li>INSET.</li> </ul>
A2	Controlled Assignment	<b>F446</b> Mandatory 20% (A Level) Examined. 3-6 weeks' preparation and 15 hours' controlled time	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Challenges candidates by requiring them to produce artwork in a controlled environment.</li> <li>Enables candidates to independently develop ideas in sustained and focussed way.</li> <li>Offers opportunity for candidates to produce personal and informed work that demonstrates the experience gained from whole GCE course.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Specimen Assessment Materials.</li> <li>A Teachers' Guide.</li> <li>Exemplar work and coursework guidance featuring pictures of work..</li> <li>INSET.</li> </ul>