UNIT D Level 4
Interior design with clay plaster

Learning outcomes
Criteria and indicators

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Revised edition: September 2015
### Knowledge

- Clay in design: cultural and historical diversity
- Design techniques of clay plaster using colour, texture, surface finish and thickness of the layer
- Composition of fine and coloured finish coats using own made clay plaster, manufactured mixes, clay or earth powders
- Colouring and texturing additives
- Sourcing raw materials and manufactured products
- The colours of earth
- Basic knowledge of colour theory: colour symbolism, colour ordering, colour contrasts, sensory perception and the effects of colour
- Basic knowledge of interior design: surfaces and light, combination of colours, subdivision of surfaces, colour balance; combination with other materials
- Assessment and preparation of background
- Surface finishes and how to create them; sequencing of steps, tools and materials
- Joins between clay surfaces and joins with other materials
- Awareness of health and environmental issues in designing with clay plaster
- Preparation and application of fine and coloured finish coats:
  - Current legislative workplace requirements
  - Relevant codes of practice and current standards for quality of work and materials
  - Tools, machinery and equipment
  - The order of work
  - Safe and healthy working practices

### Skills

- Develop an interior design concept for a room using colour, texture and surface finishes
- Prepare and test clay plasters for decoration with different colour intensities and grain size
- Make and compare sample boards and sample wall panels with own made and manufactured plasters
- Assess and if necessary prepare the background
- Protect adjoining surfaces
- Make several finished wall surfaces in a given room according to the design concept
- Make different surface finishes and textures: floated, sponged, troweled, decorative surface structures
- Execute joins between clay surfaces and with other materials
- Select, calculate and source materials
- Select and use appropriate tools, machinery and equipment for the preparation and application of fine and coloured finish coats including the surface finish
- Organise the building site
- Comply with current legislation, official guidance and workplace safety requirements at all times

### Competence

- Have an appreciation of the aesthetic and environmental impact of different plaster surfaces and finishes
- Formulate a design concept making reference to basic colour and interior design theory
- Plan and organise fine and coloured finish coats for usual and predictable building sites
- Be aware of the value of experimental work in the personal creative process
- Control the work process – accurate transference and realisation of the design; preparation of plasters, finish quality; joins
- Supervise and co-ordinate the plastering process in realising the design
- Input into the design concept and co-ordination of the processes involved in realising the design
- Advise on interior design with clay plaster, incorporating aesthetic, environmental and health benefits
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| Completion of the design concept       | • The overall impression conforms to the design concept  
• Colour, texture and surface structure conform to the design brief  
• The wall surfaces are sub-divided according to the design brief                                                                                                                                 |
| Quality of the plaster mix             | • The proportions to ensure a stable plaster are correct  
• The finish coat has no cracks apart from when controlled cracks are part of the finished surface design for aesthetic purposes                                                                                     |
| Workability                            | • The consistency is appropriate for the thickness of the layer and for the application technique  
• The texturing additives are appropriate for the application technique and the thickness of the layer                                                                                             |
| Recipe                                 | • Test samples are clearly marked with the proportions and ingredients  
• The colouring and texturing additives are precisely measured  
• The chosen recipe from the test results  
  • is suitable for selected surface finishing technique  
  • is clearly written down and can be repeated  
• The quantities of the different constituents have been calculated according to the recipe                                                                                      |
| Surface quality                        | • The colour is homogenous  
• The surface is homogeneous with regard to the surface finish                                                                                                                                           |
| Quality of Detailing                   | • The joins between clay plaster surfaces and other materials are neat and straight                                                                                                                        |
| Preparation                            | • The materials are soaked for the appropriate time  
• The materials are sized and sieved for the appropriate purpose  
• The adjoining surfaces are protected  
• If necessary the background has been cleaned, moistened and keyed                                                                                                                             |
| Sample Boards                          | • Sample boards have an appropriate key for the sample plaster finish, are well executed and can be easily transported without damage                                                                           |

Ensure that standards of work and materials comply with relevant codes of practice and to current standards.
### Criteria for the assessment of the method of work (criteria of skills evaluation)

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| Organisation | The examinee is able to:  
  - locate and access tools, equipment and materials  
  - check the availability of building materials  
  - logically organise the work space and the order of tasks |         |
| Economy of materials and time | Optimum use of materials and time - no wastage |         |
| Use of tools and machines | Appropriate choice of tools and machines  
  - Machines used according to operating instructions  
  - Ergonomic handling and use of machines, tools, equipment and materials  
  - Skillful and careful handling and use of tools, machines, equipment and materials |         |
| Work place | Tools and material are set out logically for maximum efficiency  
  - Tools and machines are cleaned and returned tidily to their correct place  
  - Surplus materials are properly collected and stored |         |
| Time | The work is completed within the allocated time in accordance with the programme of work |         |
| Safety | Compliance with Construction site health & safety  
  - The equipment is appropriate for purpose and has been risk-assessed  
  - All Protective safeguards are in place  
  - Erection of ladders and scaffolding according to regulations |         |
| Waste | Waste is appropriately sorted, stored, recycled, removed and disposed of according to regulations |         |
| Communication | Problems during the working process or any deviation from the specifications are reported  
  - The finished work is described / explained orally  
  - Progress and the various stages of work are discussed with the work team  
  - Instructions that are not understood are questioned |         |