

Unit number and title	Unit 14: Digital Magazine Production
Learning aim(s) (For NQF only)	LA B: Develop materials for magazine production LA C: Produce magazine layouts in the codes and conventions of a genre
Assignment title	Producing Magazine Layouts
Assessor	S Warwick
Hand out date	26/03/2026
Hand in deadline	05/06/2026

Vocational Scenario or Context	<p>The community media organisation that you work for has secured a commission from Creative Grow, for a downloadable media product to promote St John's Catholic School. One of the aims of the project is to raise awareness of the school within the community.</p> <p>You have been asked to produce a front cover and double page spread to illustrate your idea for a promoting St Johns School. You will have to select the platform through which your magazine would be distributed in order to adopt the relevant codes and conventions and develop appropriate content for your magazine pages.</p> <p>As part of the presentation of your ideas, you will be expected to produce magazine layouts targeting a specific purpose, audience, and platform and to reflect upon the outcomes and the production process.</p>
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Task 1	<p>Develop pre-production material for the creation of page layouts, following the codes and conventions of promotional magazines.</p> <p>In order to source, log and generate appropriate content for the magazine pages, you will need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • generate primary content, including text, photography, illustration, graphics, video, audio and interactive elements, as appropriate • source secondary content, including text and visual material • log the sources of secondary material • consider any legal and ethical issues that might arise, including the implications of using content created by others • analyse the aesthetic and technical qualities of the visual content generated/sourced • select content based upon the genre, audience and purpose of the proposed magazine. <p>Prepare content for the magazine pages, including:</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an analysis of the technical requirements of the proposed magazine and the platform on which it will be distributed • writing, editing, and reviewing copy • copy-editing for spelling, grammar, and clarity • importing, scaling, cropping and correcting images • selecting appropriate file formats, file sizes and the image quality of visual material. <p>Annotate your pre-production development work to justify the selection and preparation of content based upon the genre, purpose, audience and platform for the proposed magazine.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how to maintain the portfolio
Checklist of evidence required	<p>Hard copy or digital copies of the pre-production tasks, which should be annotated to indicate the tasks undertaken by each learner.</p> <p>A pre-production portfolio, containing relevant documentation and annotations. The portfolio can be presented as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a log • a blog • a physical portfolio • a digital portfolio.
Criteria covered by this task:	
Unit/Criteria reference	To achieve the criteria you must show that you are able to:
Unit 14/B.D2	Prepare creative primary and secondary content relevant to a specific magazine genre, target audience and platform.
Unit 14/B.M3	Source and log accurately effective content for a magazine for a specific genre, audience and purpose.
Unit 14/B.M4	Generate effective primary content for a magazine of a specific genre, audience and purpose.
Unit 14/B.P3	Source appropriate secondary content for a magazine for a specific genre, audience and purpose.
Unit 14/B.P4	Generate appropriate primary content for a magazine for a specific genre, audience and purpose.
Unit 14/B.P5	Prepare materials appropriately for a magazine for a specific genre, audience and purpose.
Task 2	<p>Experiment with the codes and conventions of appropriate magazines to develop layouts for a magazine cover and a double-page spread to promote St Johns School.</p> <p>In order to produce the magazine page layouts, you will need to manage the following stages of production:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • generating ideas • identifying the target audience • producing trial layouts

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> reviewing ideas and selecting a final design, justifying decisions in relation to the audience, purpose and platform for the proposed magazine producing the finished page layouts reviewing the page layouts, including the readability, resolution and appropriateness for audience testing media rich content for a digital platform <p>When producing the magazine layouts, you will need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> take into consideration the needs of the specified target audience use different design considerations for the front cover and double-page spread consider page layout principles when designing page layouts, such as composition, balance and white space consider fashion magazine codes and conventions experiment with typography, colour, and decorative elements use margins or bleed consider the aesthetic qualities of the magazine layouts shorten or expand copy to fit develop media rich content, such as video, audio and interactive elements, for digital magazines. <p>When evaluating your finished magazine layouts, you will need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> justify all of the aesthetic, technical and production decisions involved in producing the magazine layouts consider the suitability of the finished magazine layouts in relation to the specified audience <p>evaluate how effectively you have managed and reviewed the stages of production.</p>
Checklist of evidence required	<p>A record of the design and production stages, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a production log blog annotated visual record. <p>The finished layouts for a magazine cover and a double-page spread.</p> <p>A written review or blog/vlog of the suitability of the finished layouts for a specific audience, purpose and platform.</p> <p>An observation record from a teacher or a witness statement from a media practitioner regarding the production process.</p>
Criteria covered by this task:	
Unit/Criteria reference	To achieve the criteria you must show that you are able to:

Unit 14/C.D3	Evaluate the stages of magazine production, and the use of codes and conventions, to target a specific audience, genre and platform.
Unit 14/C.M5	Create a cover and double-page spread for a specific genre and magazine platform, using effective codes and conventions to target a specific audience and managing the stages of magazine production effectively.
Unit 14/C.P6	Create layouts for a cover and double-page spread using appropriate codes and conventions of a specific genre and magazine platform.

Sources of information to support you with this Assignment	<p>Books</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anton KK and Cruise J – Adobe InDesign CC Classroom in a Book (Adobe, 2015) ISBN 9780134310008 • Crowley D – Magazine Covers (Mitchell Beazley, 2006) ISBN 9781845332396 • Samara T – Making and Breaking the Grid (Rockport Publishers Inc., 2005) ISBN 9781592531257 <p>Magazines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer Arts (CreativeBloq) – This is an industry-leading magazine for graphic designers full of useful articles, tips and professional examples. <p>Websites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • http://www.digitalartsonline.co.uk/tutorials/ – This is a useful site for tutorials, including InDesign. • http://design.tutsplus.com/articles/15-indesign-tutorials-for-magazine-and-layout-design--vector-5456 - This is a useful site for tutorials – this page specifically features InDesign tutorials for magazine layout and design. • http://digitalmagazineawards.com/ - This features award winners in digital magazine design and productions. • https://flippingbook.com/online-digital-magazine - A digital magazine publishing tool. • http://www.howdesign.com/magazine/ - This is a digital magazine aimed at inspiring designers, particularly those using digital platforms. • https://www.joomag.com/ - This is a digital magazine publishing tool. • http://www.magazinedesigning.com/ - This gives useful tips for those designing magazines for both print and digital platforms. • http://www.magazinedesigning.com/55-best-tips-for-a-successful-magazine-cover/ - This is particularly useful for analysing the conventions of, and producing layouts for, cover designs.
Other assessment materials attached to this Assignment Brief	None