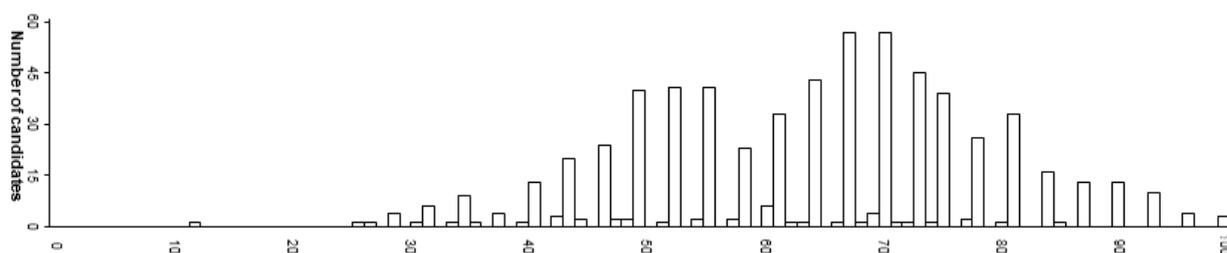




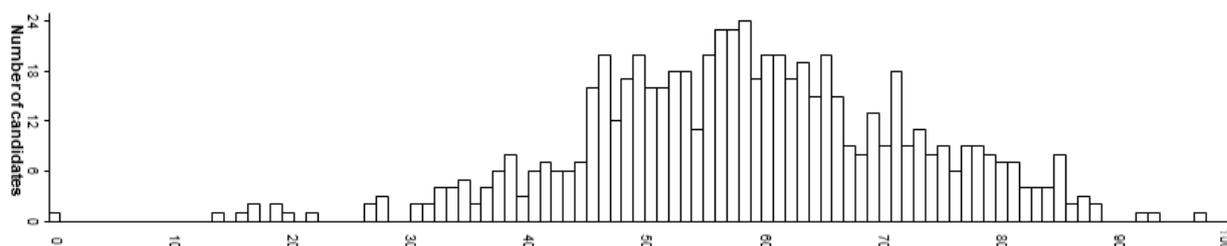
Summary report for candidates on the 2014 WACE examination in Visual Arts Stage 3

Year	Number who sat all examination components	Number of absentees from all examination components
2014	652	5
2013	1047	12
2012	1094	5

Examination score distribution - Practical



Examination score distribution - Written



Summary

The smaller cohort for the Visual Arts Stage 3 WACE course performed well overall producing means in both the practical and written examination higher than that of previous years.

The practical examination was worth 50% of the total examination. There were 659 candidates and the quality of this year's production submissions is reflected in the mean of 64.82%. The standard deviation was 14.81%. This mean is higher than that of the previous year being 61.81% in 2013. The practical (production) submissions included a wide variety of art forms; however 2D submissions remain the most popular choice for candidates with 74% of candidates submitting work into this category compared to the 72% in 2013. A slight decrease in submission into category 2 from 19% of candidates compared to 22% submissions the previous year. Category 3 submissions remained the same at around 6% in 2013 and 2014.

The written paper was worth 50% of the total examination. Candidates' responses to the examination produced an increased mean of 59.8% (compared to 56.17% in 2013) with a standard deviation of 13.96%. Candidates performed well in Section One which indicates that they have been better prepared to answer these questions focussing on the elements and principles of art only, without alluding to meaning and purpose. Section Two proved to illicit many extensive and insightful responses from candidates who were able to successfully connect to the images. Section Three in general was answered better than in previous years with many candidates demonstrating their ability to make meaningful connections between the question and their knowledge of their research investigation artist. The inclusion of an image based question drew some excellent responses from candidates, however the smaller number of candidates choosing this question reflected it's perceived difficulty.

General comments

Summary

Practical examination

Section means were:

Attempted by 659 Candidates Mean 64.82% Max 50.00(/50) Min 5.88

- Criterion 1 659 Mean 3.80(/6) Max 6 Min 0
- Criterion 2 659 Mean 3.51(/5) Max 5 Min 1
- Criterion 3 659 Mean 7.43(/12) Max 12 Min 1
- Criterion 4 659 Mean 3.54(/5) Max 5 Min 1
- Criterion 5 659 Mean 3.76(/6) Max 6 Min 1

Category 1:2D

Attempted by 492 Candidates Mean 63.97% Max 50.00(/50) Min 5.88

It was pleasing to see more experimental aspects in the 2D category especially with mixed-media paintings which were handled with discernment. A great variety of ability in skills levels were evident in this category, ranging from masterful application of media, demonstrating excellent use of the elements and principles of art as well as succinct communication of ideas to their audience through to unresolved and inadequate submissions.

Category 2

There were a total of 130 candidates who submitted practical production submissions in this category. The breakdown within this category is as follows:

- 3D

Attempted by 76 Candidates Mean 65.67% Max 48.53(/50) Min 16.18

There was a pleasing range of materials and techniques explored in this area contributing to great creativity and innovation evident in the work submitted in this area. 3-D works were varied in use of media and dimensions. Those candidates who achieve good results demonstrated confidence in the handling of their chosen media.

- 3D with 2D

Attempted by 54 Candidates Mean 67.70% Max 45.59(/50) Min 20.59

The 3D and 2D/3D categories improved in the selection of materials in submissions compared to the 2013 practical examinations. There is a pleasing range of materials and techniques explored, contributing to the varied three-dimensional work displayed. The use of laser cut technology and various applications of print technologies, Perspex etc. were evident in many works.

Category 3: Motion and time-based

Attempted by 37 Candidates Mean 70.19% Max 48.53(/50) Min 17.65

Some work in this category seemed 'gimmicky' and the candidates' use of technology was sometimes a distraction in regards to the reading of the work and the candidate's intentions. There were however candidates who embraced the opportunities in this category to present engaging and thoughtful, intelligent artwork in the response the syllabus, which utilised their digital skills and knowledge of technologies. There were some challenging and exploratory submissions in this category, with evidence that candidates are taking advantage of the wide range of creativity that this medium does allow. However many submissions did not reflect sustained research or investigation into a medium to communicate with the viewer and may have relied on the use of this technology to mask this.

Written examination

Section means were:

Section One: Short answer Mean 58.40% 10.00(/10) Min 1.00

Section Two: Compare and contrast extended response Mean 60.59% Max 19.67(/20) Min 1.00

Section Three: Extended response Mean 58.59% Max 20.00(/20) Min 0.25

Section One: Short answer

In general this section was handled better this year compared to previous years. Candidates seem to be focussing more specifically on arts language and demonstrated a better grasp of the elements and principles of art. Images and questions in Section One were accessible and enabled candidates of all abilities the opportunity to use arts language to analyse these images. The images were unambiguous, but provided enough scope and depth to initiate excellent responses from some candidates.

Section Two: Compare and contrast extended response

This section engaged candidates and many candidates wrote lengthy perceptive responses. Candidates generally responded well to the compare and contrast with a lot of reference to the artworks. This was mostly likely due to the contemporary nature of the image and the connection to youth culture in Source 3.

Section Three: Extended response

There is still a propensity for candidates to respond to questions in Section Three with a rote learnt essay, which does not address the question in great detail or depth. However some excellent responses to Questions 4 and 5 this year demonstrated candidates' ability to engage with the questions.

Practical examination

Advice for Candidates

- Supporting documentation accompanying practical submissions must be completed as per the Visual Arts practical (production) examination requirements.
- Some candidates lack discernment when submitting two artworks which had two works that were of very different quality.
- Photographs submitted in the supporting documentation should be; research into artistic style, visual inquiry, experimentation with mediums and materials, observational and inspirational drawing/photography/collage/installation, design development not just their artwork in completion stages.

Written examination

Advice for candidates

- Describe how visual language is used effectively rather than stating the obvious very briefly in Questions 1, 2 and 3.
- Do not skip Section One to concentrate on Section Three, whether this practice is an encouraged school-based examination strategy or the candidate's own tactic, it proved to be detrimental to the candidate's overall performance.