



Australian Government

CUACNM411 Assess the significance of collection objects

Release: 1

CUACNM411 Assess the significance of collection objects

Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version first released with CUA Creative Arts and Culture Training Package version 5.0.

Application

This unit describes the skills and knowledge required to complete significance assessments of collection objects. It involves determining significance by applying criteria including value, meaning, history, and cultural considerations attached to objects.

The unit applies to those who work in both small and large organisations assessing the significance of objects in collections or being considered for inclusion in collections. In smaller organisations, the role may be undertaken by individuals with broader management responsibilities, by committees and boards of management, or combinations of different personnel. In larger organisations, specialised curatorial staff may undertake this role.

The significance of collection objects relates to their value to past, present and future generations and may apply to their aesthetic, historical, scientific or social value. In this unit, significance assessment is undertaken autonomously, according to established procedures but in consultation with others.

No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

Unit Sector

Cultural services – Collection management

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
1. Prepare to assess the significance of objects	1.1 Research and identify need for significance assessment using different sources of information 1.2 Determine goal of undertaking significance assessment 1.3 Identify organisational policies and procedures relating to significance assessment of objects

2. Apply assessment methodology	2.1 Compile object files containing available details about objects and their history according to organisational policies and procedures 2.2 Research history, origin, social values and cultural significance of objects and explore their wider historical and environmental context 2.3 Confirm context, origin, social values and cultural significance of objects in consultation with required personnel 2.4 Analyse and record fabric, design, manufacture and condition of objects according to organisational policies and procedures
3. Develop statements of significance	3.1 Identify comparative examples of objects 3.2 Evaluate objects using primary and comparative criteria 3.2 Write statements of significance and describe value and meaning of objects according to organisational policies and procedures 3.3 Seek feedback from required personnel on statements of significance 3.4 Enter significance assessments into organisational records according to organisational policies and procedures
4. Review assessments of objects	4.1 Reassess significance of objects 4.2 Update statements of significance as required 4.3 Amend organisational records as required according to organisational policies and procedures 4.4 Prepare recommendations for further action as required according to organisational policies and procedures

Foundation Skills

This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential to performance but not explicit in the performance criteria.

Skill	Description
Numeracy	Interprets numerical information and applies basic mathematical calculations when recording the value of objects
Oral communication	- Participates in a verbal exchange of information and elicits views and opinions of others regarding the origin of objects using listening and questioning techniques - Asks clarifying questions and elicits clear and detailed information
Reading	Locates and interprets information and determines job requirements
Writing	- Develops material and conveys explicit statements and recommendations for a specific audience and purpose using clear and detailed language - Prepares and updates records and summarises key and significant

Skill	Description
	information using correct spelling and grammar according to organisational policies and procedures
Planning and organising	• Takes responsibility for planning, sequencing and prioritising tasks and own workload
Problem solving	• Identifies issues and generate possible solutions using analytical thinking techniques in consultation with others • Applies analytical processes and resolves problems associated with determining significance of objects
Self-management	• Takes responsibility for providing quality advice and information that complies with organisational policies and procedures • Identifies and follows organisational policies and procedures
Teamwork	• Discusses significance issues in collaboration and cooperation with others
Technology	• Undertakes research, enters data, and presents and stores information using digital technologies and systems

Unit Mapping Information

Supersedes and is equivalent to CUACNM401 Assess the significance of collection objects.

Links

Companion Volume Implementation Guide is found on VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=1db201d9-4006-4430-839f-382ef6b803d5>

Assessment Requirements for CUACNM411 Assess the significance of collection objects

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Performance Evidence

The candidate must demonstrate the ability to complete the tasks outlined in the elements, performance criteria and foundation skills of this unit, including evidence of the ability to:

- assess the significance of at least two collections of objects according to organisational policies and procedures, including:
 - developing a statement of significance of the value and meaning of objects, including:
 - considered assessment of the value, meaning and importance of objects
 - benchmark for future use
 - communication of values for interpretive programs
 - images, where available, of other comparative objects
 - record of crucial origin details and association of objects
 - summary of meaning and importance of objects
 - summary of cultural significance of objects
 - summary of investigation and assessment process
 - reviewing assessment of objects and preparing recommendations for further action as required.

In the course of the above, the candidate must:

- research the history, origin, social values and cultural significance and comparative examples of objects using sources of information that adhere to organisational policies
- use assessment methodology and meet required timeframes according to organisational policies and procedures.

Knowledge Evidence

The candidate must be able to demonstrate knowledge to complete the tasks outlined in the elements, performance criteria and foundation skills of this unit, including knowledge of:

- organisational policies and procedures for managing collections and assessing objects, including those relating to:
 - accessing reputable technical specialists

- accessing and using sources of information for comparative examples, including:
- formatting and producing required documentation including records and statements of significance
- methodology for significance assessment of objects
- difference between primary and comparative criteria in an assessment
- cultural sensitivities and significance of different objects
- sources of information for comparative examples that relate to:
 - national, state and local government public records
 - online collections databases
 - organisational policies and procedures.

Assessment Conditions

Skills in this unit must be demonstrated in a workplace or simulated environment where the conditions are typical of those in a working environment in this industry.

This includes access to:

- tools, equipment and storage system for statements of significance
- information sources required to demonstrate the performance evidence
- collections to assess
- organisational policies and procedures related to significant assessments.

Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational educational and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.

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