UNIT TITLE: PLAN, PREPARE AND DISPLAY A BUFFET SERVICE

NOMINAL HOURS: 45

UNIT NUMBER: D1.HCC.CL2.07

UNIT DESCRIPTOR: This unit deals with skills and knowledge required by cooks and chefs to plan, prepare, display and store a variety of buffet items in commercial food production environments

ELEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

UNIT VARIABLE AND ASSESSMENT GUIDE

Element 1: Plan a buffet display and service

1.1 Plan a buffet display and service appropriate to client needs

- **1.2** Plan *layout*, display and presentation of the buffet
- **1.3** Calculate *quantities* required and food costs components of buffet
- **1.4** Select appropriate food items
- **1.5** Identify and prepare a variety of buffet centre pieces

Element 2: Prepare and produce buffet dishes

- **2.1** Select appropriate preparation and *cooking methods* for dishes on buffet menu
- 2.2 Glaze buffet foods were appropriate
- **2.3** *Hold* prepared products as required prior to presenting
- **2.4** Prepare *garnishes, sauces and accompaniments* for appropriate buffet dishes

Unit Variables

The Unit Variables provide advice to interpret the scope and context of this unit of competence, allowing for differences between enterprises and workplaces. It relates to the unit as a whole and facilitates holistic assessment.

This unit applies to all industry sectors that prepare and display a buffet within the labour divisions of the hotel and travel industries and may include:

1. Food Production.

Plan a buffet display may be related to:

- Occasion, including stand up, sit down, finger and plated
- Theme, such as birthday, cultural and festival
- Hot and or cold
- Sweet and/or savoury.

Layout may be related to:

- Service style/flow
- Room set up
- Number of guests
- Time period
- Number of dishes.

2.5 Use trimming and leftovers

Element 3: Display buffet dishes

- **3.1** Present buffet products
- **3.2** Hold prepared products as required for duration of buffet service
- **3.3** *Minimise wastage* through presentation and replenishing
- 3.4 Display buffet dishes attractively

Element 4: Store buffet items

- **4.1** Store fresh and/or Cryovac items correctly
- 4.2 Store buffet products appropriately in correct containers
- 4.3 Label stored buffet food correctly
- **4.4** Store in *correct conditions* to maintain freshness and quality

Quantities will include:

- Portion control
- Standard recipes
- Service style.

Food items should relate to:

- Seasonal availability
- Occasion
- Client expenditure
- Enterprise profit
- Dietary and cultural needs
- Budget
- Season
- Occasion
- Client
- Savoury and sweet.

Centre pieces may include:

- Carvings, such as margarine, ice, vegetables and fruit
- Chocolate, such as moulded, formed and painted
- Sugar work
- Arrangements, such as flowers, vegetables and fruit
- Dough, such as bread and salt
- Boxes, trays, bottles, tins and equipment.

Cooking methods may be related to:

- Techniques of cookery, including boiling, steaming, braising, stewing, roasting, baking, poaching, shallow frying, wok and stir fry
- Dicing and slicing
- Forming, such as galantine and terrine
- Setting, such as gelatin and agar agar.

Glaze may include:

- Chaud/froid
- Aspic
- Flan gel
- Mayonnaise
- Gelatin.

Hold may be related to:

- Resting, portioning and cutting
- Holding equipment
- Cooling procedures
- Hygiene practice.

Garnishes, sauces and accompaniments may include:

- Vegetables, fruit, herbs and flowers
- Colour and flavour blends
- Cultural flavours
- Glazing

- Coating
- Flowers and leaves
- Pastry
- Sauces, sweet/savoury
- Dietary and cultural styles/flavours.

Trimmings may relate to:

- Off cuts, usage
- Saleable dishes
- Menu varieties
- Temperature time holding.

Present should include:

- Colour
- Height
- Service and storage temperature
- Classical and cultural
- Neatly and attractively
- Planning location
- Service and storage temperature
- Ceramics
- Glass
- Crystal
- Mirrors

- Trays
- Classical and cultural aspect
- Neatly and attractively
- Ease of service.

Minimize wastage should include:

- Storage space
- Portion control
- First In, First Out (FIFO)
- Replenishing times, as needed.

Display may be related to:

- Colour arrangement
- Container shape
- Hot and cold
- Height
- Product grouping
- Carving
- Texture
- Service areas
- Temperature.

Stored may include:

- Cool room temperature
- Cool room placement

- Length of time in cool storage
- Length of time in freezer storage
- · Appropriate process followed, Cryovac or ice packed
- Storage containers before assembly
- Storage containers after assembly
- Dietary and cultural styles/flavours
- Labelled
- Freshness, quality and presentation
- Temperature and humidity.

Labelled must include:

- Date
- Item name
- Handler name
- Time, temperature and storage.

Correct conditions should include:

- Temperature and humidity
- Stock rotation
- Reporting faults
- Changing containers.

Assessment Guide

The following skills and knowledge must be assessed as part of this unit:

Knowledge of correct method is demonstrated for buffet items

- Ability to identify food products by sight
- Ability to match ingredient quality to intended final product/use
- Overview of the relevant legislation in relation to food handling, food storage, chemical storage and general premises food safety
- Ability to demonstrate safe equipment/utensil practical skills
- Ability to interpret and adhere to enterprise recipes.

Linkages To Other Units

- Comply with workplace hygiene procedures
- Implement occupational health and safety procedures
- · Prepare and store food
- · Work effectively with colleagues and customers
- · Maintain strategies for safe food
- Present and display food products
- · Apply basic techniques of commercial cookery
- Prepare a variety of sandwiches
- Prepare stock and sauces
- Prepare soups
- Prepare vegetables, eggs and farinaceous dishes
- Identify and prepare various meats
- Prepare and cook poultry and game meats
- Prepare and cook seafood.

Critical Aspects of Assessment

Evidence of the following is essential:

- Knowledge of the classifications and characteristics of buffet items and the terminology used
- Demonstrate safe and hygienic handling of products
- Appropriate portion control and wastage
- Demonstrate complimentary presentation, garnishing and techniques
- Demonstrate safe knife skills and other associated equipment
- · Demonstration of commodity knowledge including quality aspects
- Knowledge of specific terminology related to various buffet items
- Demonstrated ability to prepare buffet items from at least six different recipes and cultural backgrounds
- Demonstrated ability to store various buffet items to industry and enterprise standards
- Knowledge of appropriate portion control and wastage
- Demonstrate complimentary presentation, garnishing and techniques
- Demonstration of creative and artistic skills in preparation, decoration and display of buffet items.

Context of Assessment

This unit may be assessed on or off the job

- Assessment should include practical demonstration either in the workplace or through a simulation activity, supported by a range of methods to assess underpinning knowledge
- Assessment must relate to the individual's work area or area of responsibility
- Demonstration of skills on more than one occasion
- Preparation and display of various buffet items within typical workplace conditions and timeframes.

Resource Implications

Training and assessment must include access and use of a fully equipped commercial kitchen, real ingredients and service equipment; and access to workplace standards, procedures, policies, guidelines, tools and equipment.

Assessment Methods

The following methods may be used to assess competency for this unit:

- Observation of practical candidate performance
- Oral and written questions
- Third party reports completed by a supervisor
- Project and assignment work
- Sampling of dishes prepared by the student.

Key Competencies in this Unit

Level 1 = competence to undertake tasks effectively

Level 2 = competence to manage tasks

Level 3 = competence to use concepts for evaluating

Key Competencies	Level	Examples
Collecting, organising and analysing information	2	Determine requirements of standard recipes and/or menu requirements. Collect equipment, commodities and ingredients, read menus, recipes and task sheets; select and obtain commodities, organize ingredients and task sheets
Communicating ideas and information	2	Share information with other kitchen and floor service staff; read recipes, menus and instructions and orders

	Planning and organising activities	2	Work within time constraints in a logical sequence; plan logical and efficient sequence and timing of tasks
	Working with others and in teams	2	Work cooperatively with other team members
	Using mathematical ideas and techniques	2	Calculate portions, weigh and measure quantities against standard recipes and/or menu requirements
	Solving problems	1	Identify and correct problems in the preparation and production of products such as ingredient quality and equipment failure
	Using technology	1	Use mechanical kitchen equipment including weighing equipment