UNIT TITLE: APPLY BASIC TECHNIQUES OF COMMERCIAL COOKERY

NOMINAL HOURS: 50

UNIT NUMBER: D1.HCC.CL2.01

UNIT DESCRIPTOR: This unit deals with skills and knowledge required by cooks and chefs to apply a range of cookery methods in the preparation of menu items in a commercial environment; the application of this unit is critical to all other food production units

UNIT VARIABLE AND ASSESSMENT GUIDE

ELEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

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Element 1: Select and use equipment

- **1.1** Select appropriate *cooking equipment* to prepare standard recipes
- **1.2** Use equipment in a *safe* manner according to manufacturer's and enterprise procedures
- **1.3** Clean and store equipment as appropriate to enterprise procedures

Element 2: Apply wet methods of cookery

- **2.1** Select appropriate *wet cooking method* for preparation of the dish/s
- **2.2** Apply appropriate wet cooking method for preparation of the dish/s
- **2.3** *Identify and solve* problems in the application of the cooking method
- **2.4** Coordinate the *production of menu items*
- 2.5 Communicate with front of house staff on the production/service of menu items

Element 3: Apply dry methods of cookery

3.1 Select appropriate *dry cooking method* for preparation of the dish/s

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 apply basic techniques of commercial cookery within the labour divisions of the hotel and travel industries and may include:

1. Food Production

Cooking equipment may include:

- Electric, gas or induction stoves
- Steamers, including combination oven, pressure, atmospheric, bamboo
- Salamanders
- Pressure cookers
- Smokers
- Grills, including direct, indirect, char, BBQ
- Ovens, convection ovens, combination ovens
- Wok
- Tilt pan/bratt pan
- Kettles
- Deep fryer and pressure fryer
- Microwave

- **3.2** Apply *appropriate dry cooking* method for preparation of the dish/s
- **3.3** Identify and solve problems in the application of the cooking method
- 3.4 Coordinate the production of menu items
- **3.5** Communicate with front of house staff on the production/service of menu items

- Food processors
- Mixers, mincers
- Blenders
- Slices, bowl choppers.

Safe will include:

- Knowledge of manufacturer's cleaning and operating recommendations
- · Demonstrating sanitisation of equipment
- Following enterprise safety and hygienic procedures.

Clean and store may be related to:

- Dismantle equipment safely
- Re-assemble equipment safely
- Routine maintenance schedules
- Safe occupational health and safety requirements
- Correct storage location
- · Sanitised to enterprise requirements.

Wet cooking method may include:

- Braising
- Stewing
- Poaching
- · Boiling, simmering
- Steaming, including atmospheric and/or pressure.

Appropriate wet cooking should relate to:

- Type of food product
- Size and age of the food product
- Equipment to product.

Identify and solve may relate to:

- Age and sex of meat cuts for cooking products
- Change portion amounts of standard recipes
- Identify problems and make corrective change
- Documenting changes to standard recipe
- Continuous improvement to quality, price, time efficiency of standard recipes.

Production of menu items may include:

- Menu styles and service types
- Cooking times
- Equipment and storage capacity
- · Cooking styles, such as cook, chill, freeze
- · Communication within the kitchen brigade.

Front of house staff may relate to:

- Debriefing menu dishes/specials
- Timelines for cooking
- Quantities of portions available
- · Special request, such as dietary and/or cultural requirements
- Service style, including a la carte, buffet, functions.

Dry cooking method may include:

- Roasting and pot roasting
- Baking
- Grilling
- Deep and shallow frying
- · Wrapped food, such as vine, banana leaf, paper, bark, paper bag
- Microwave.

Appropriate dry cooking should relate to:

- Type of food product
- Size and age of the food product
- Size of equipment to product
- Equipment to manufacturer's recommendations.

Assessment Guide

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

- Knowledge of which technique of cookery is correct for each dish
- Ability to demonstrate a range of cookery methods
- Ability to identify food products by sight, taste and consistency
- Ability to match ingredient quality to intended final product/use
- Ability to clean and maintain food working and storage areas
- Knowledge of general occupational health and safety procedures in the workplace
- Knowledge of the relevant legislation in relation to food handling, food storage, chemical storage and general premises food safety
- Ability to demonstrate practical skills in relation to safe use of equipment/utensils.

Linkages To Other Units

- Comply with workplace hygiene procedures
- Implement occupational health and safety procedures
- Work effectively with colleagues and customers
- Maintain strategies for safe food
- Present and display food products
- Note: these units must be completed prior to other food production units.

Critical Aspects of Assessment

Evidence of the following is essential:

- Knowledge of the classifications of various cooking methods from different recipes, cultural backgrounds and terminology
- Demonstrate safe and hygienic handling of products
- Demonstrate appropriate portion control
- Demonstrate ability to prepare and produce a range of dishes using the wet and dry methods of cookery within industry realistic timeframes and constraints
- Demonstrate correct knife skills, use of equipment and utensils.

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 individuals work area or area of responsibility
- Demonstration of skills on more than one occasion
- Preparation and display of various dishes using a variety of basic cooking techniques within typical workplace conditions and timeframes.

Resource Implications

Training and assessment must include access and use to a fully equipped commercial kitchen, use of real ingredients and service equipment; and access to workplace customer service 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; organise ingredients and task sheets
Communicating ideas and information	2	Share information with other kitchen, floor service staff; read recipes, menus, instructions and orders
Planning and organising activities	2	Work within time constraints in a logical sequence; plan logical and efficient sequencing 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