

Higher National Unit Specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Musical Theatre Repertoire

Unit code: DP8R 34

Unit purpose: This Unit is designed to enable candidates to recognise the key components of a selected musical theatre style. This Unit will encourage the candidate to research into, reflect upon and explore the conventions of a particular musical theatre style. The candidate will examine concepts through practical exercises and rehearse and present an extract from the musical theatre style under study. It is primarily intended for candidates who wish to work specifically in the musical theatre industry.

On completion of this Unit, the candidate should be able to:

- 1 Research and examine the theatrical context and conventions of a musical theatre style.
- 2 Explore the conventions of a musical theatre style.
- 3 Rehearse and perform a selected extract in the musical theatre style.

Credit points and level: 1 HN Credit at SCQF level 7: (8 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7*).

**SCQF credit points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification in the Framework is allocated a number of SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

Recommended prior knowledge and skills: Access will be at the discretion of the centre and the following recommendations are for guidance only. Where a candidate has achieved the course entry criteria for HNC/D Musical Theatre, they will have shown sufficient knowledge and skills for access to this Unit. For this Unit, some previous performance experience is preferable.

Core Skills: There may be opportunities to gather evidence towards Core Skills in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

Context for delivery: If this Unit is delivered as part of a Group Award, it is recommended that it should be taught and assessed within the subject area of the Group Award to which it contributes.

General information for centres (cont)

Unit title: Musical Theatre Repertoire

Assessment: This Unit will be assessed by two instruments of assessment, which require the Candidate to produce evidence of knowledge, understanding and practice of a musical theatre style. Outcome 1 requires the candidate to undertake a research project and present their findings in a practical presentation and a folio of evidence. The candidate will be required to work in a small group and create a practical presentation of key findings of that group, which will be shared with the rest of the cohort group. The presentation and folio will be assessed through observation checklists.

Outcomes 2 and 3 will be assessed through observation checklists, which indicate that the candidate has developed a practical and intellectual understanding of the musical theatre style and has demonstrated effective application of the skills in practical exercises, rehearsal and performance.

Please note candidates must achieve all of the minimum evidence specified for each Outcome in order to pass the Unit.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards

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The sections of the Unit stating the Outcomes, knowledge and/or skills, and Evidence Requirements are mandatory.

Where evidence for Outcomes is assessed on a sample basis, the whole of the content listed in the knowledge and/or skills section must be taught and available for assessment. Candidates should not know in advance the items on which they will be assessed and different items should be sampled on each assessment occasion.

Outcome 1

Research and examine the theatrical context and conventions of a musical theatre style

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Exploration of the musical theatre style in a historical context
- ◆ Exploration of the conventions of the theatre style
- ◆ Identification of the leading exponents of the musical theatre style
- ◆ Presentation of research

Evidence Requirements

Evidence will be provided by a practical presentation of research findings and should be assessed through observation checklists. The presentation should demonstrate key aspects of the findings through creatively effective means, and should be supported by a folio of research evidence of approximately 1,000 words. The presentation must last around 10 minutes in total, with time for questions and discussion after that. Candidates must demonstrate an adequate general understanding of the topic which is under study. One particular musical theatre style will be assigned, through discussion with the tutor, to individuals or groups.

Assessment guidelines

The fact that findings are presented will give all candidates in the group the chance to develop a general understanding of a wide range of styles in the musical theatre repertoire. The practical presentation of the findings and the supporting folio should be assessed through observation checklists. When assessing group work, the tutor should be satisfied that the candidate can demonstrate that they have undertaken work in one particular area.

The assessment for this outcome should be undertaken and passed prior to the candidate progressing to Outcome 2.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Musical Theatre Repertoire

Outcome 2

Explore the performance conventions of a musical theatre style

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Exploration of performance techniques applicable to musical theatre style
- ◆ Exploration of staging of the musical theatre style

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by showing practical exercises that explore the musical theatre style. The candidate must demonstrate effective application of the skills through practical sessions. Assessors should use observation checklists.

Assessment guidelines

This Outcome should be assessed through observation checklists that demand a progression of understanding of the musical theatre style. This should be gauged through on-going discussion and debate as part of the practical activities throughout the Outcome. The checklists should also require that the candidate demonstrates effective application of the skills, where appropriate. The practical assessment for Outcomes 2 and 3 should be integrated and assessed through observation checklists.

Outcome 3

Rehearse and perform a selected extract in the musical theatre style

Knowledge and/or skills

- ◆ Intellectual and emotional understanding of the extract
- ◆ Imaginative and creative interpretation of the extract
- ◆ Demonstration of appropriate rehearsal and effective presentation

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills through practical rehearsal and performance of a relevant extract that explores a musical theatre style. The candidate must demonstrate effective application of all the skills listed within the practical sessions. The candidate will be required to work within a group and present a musical theatre extract of 10-15 minutes in length, to an audience that may be the remaining cohort group. Assessors should use observation checklists and video evidence.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Musical Theatre Repertoire

Assessment guidelines

Assessors should use observation checklists that show that the candidate has demonstrated effective application of the skills in rehearsal and performance, and is able to apply all the knowledge and skills with a fair level of insight and awareness. The practical assessments for Outcomes 2 and 3 should be integrated and assessed through observation checklists. Video evidence for the musical theatre extract should be available.

Administrative Information

Unit code:	DP8R 34
Unit title:	Musical Theatre Repertoire
Superclass category:	LC
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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Musical Theatre Repertoire

This part of the Unit specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 40 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

This Unit is primarily designed as an optional Unit as part of the framework for HNC/HND Musical Theatre and is taught along with other relevant Units. This Unit would be best served if it were delivered as a series of practical workshops and exercises. Although it is a stand-alone Unit there are opportunities for it to operate in conjunction with a performance Unit where the text selected falls into the category of the musical theatre style under examination.

The musical theatre repertoire is exhaustive; however, centres should select a range of contrasting composers, periods of musical theatre writing, etc when assigning styles for study.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

This Unit is designed to enable candidates to recognise the key components of a selected musical theatre style. The Unit will encourage candidates to research into, reflect upon and explore the conventions of a particular musical theatre style. Through creative and effective delivery of this Unit, candidates will also have the opportunity to learn about a wide range of musical theatre styles through the shared research findings and performances of their cohort group.

This Unit is intended to be broad in the knowledge and skills required for each Outcome so that it allows each centre to select any musical theatre style. A centre may choose to use this Unit to develop a deeper and more in-depth study of a particular musical theatre style that is being explored in HNC and HND Performance and Production Units.

Open learning

For information on normal open learning arrangements, please refer to the SQA guide *Assessment and Quality Assurance for Open and Distance Learning* (A1030).

Candidates with additional support needs

This Unit specification is intended to ensure that there are no artificial barriers to learning or assessment. The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments or considering alternative Outcomes for Units. For information on these, please refer to the SQA document *Guidance Assessment Arrangements for Candidates with Disabilities and/or Additional Support Needs*, which is available on the SQA website www.sqa.org.uk.

General information for candidates

Unit title: Musical Theatre Repertoire

This Unit is designed to allow you to recognise the key components of a selected musical theatre style and to develop your awareness and understanding of musical theatre as a diverse art form. The Unit will encourage you to research into, reflect upon and practically explore the conventions of a musical theatre style. You will also have the opportunity to be introduced to a wide range of musical theatre styles through the research findings, presentations and performances of your cohort group.

Assessments will include:

- ◆ Outcome 1 requires you to undertake a piece of research. Findings will be presented practically to the group. A folio of evidence of around 1,000 words should also be produced.
- ◆ Outcomes 2 and 3 will be assessed through practical exercises and observation checklists by your tutor.

In order to complete this Unit successfully, you will be required to achieve a satisfactory level of performance in all Outcomes.