

Higher National Unit specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Dance: Choreography for Alternative Spaces

Unit code: F1LH 34

Unit purpose: This Unit is designed to enable candidates to create and perform choreography for non-theatrical venues.

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

- 1 Create choreography for alternative spaces.
- 2 Perform in choreography for alternative spaces.
- 3 Evaluate the process of choreographing and performing for alternative spaces.

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: Candidates should possess basic knowledge and understanding for creating choreography. This may be evidenced by the possession of HN Units: Dance: Contemporary Dance Techniques (F1LS 34) and/or Dance: Choreographic Skills (F1LJ 35).

Core Skills: There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Communication (Oral Communication), Working with Others, Problem Solving (Planning and Organising) and (Reviewing and Evaluating) at SCQF level 5 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.

Assessment: The assessment for Outcomes 1 and 2 in this Unit should be combined. The candidates should be assessed on their creation and performance of a piece of choreography in a non-theatrical venue.

The assessment for Outcome 3 will be an evaluation of the choreographic and performing process.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards

Unit title: Dance: Choreography for Alternative Spaces

Unit code: F1LH 34

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

Outcome 1

Create choreography for alternative spaces

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Environment
- ◆ Stimuli
- ◆ Choreographic devices
- ◆ Choreography
- ◆ Working Relationships
- ◆ Costume
- ◆ Music

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by showing that they can, through the creation of choreography for alternative spaces:

- ◆ Investigate at least three contrasting environments in which to create the choreography
- ◆ Investigate stimuli from at least three different environments
- ◆ Use at least five relevant choreographic devices to assist in creating the choreography
- ◆ Respond to the needs, feelings and attitudes of the performers and establish good working relationships
- ◆ Select costumes and music that are suitable for the environment

Following the investigation of the contrasting environments and stimuli, candidates should select **one** environment in which to create a piece of choreography for an alternative space. Candidates should work in collaboration with at least one other dancer to create a piece of choreography lasting a minimum of **three** minutes, which will be performed in Outcome 2.

The assessment of this Outcome should be combined with Outcome 2.

The candidates should be assessed on their creation and performance of a piece of choreography in a non-theatrical venue.

Assessment should be undertaken in supervised conditions with evidence being recorded by appropriate means.

Assessment Guidelines

Evidence of the candidates' investigation of environments and stimuli could be in the form of a report of 100 words or equivalent. The assessment could be taken at one single assessment event and be recorded using an assessment checklist and/or video.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Dance: Choreography for Alternative Spaces

Outcome 2

Perform in choreography for alternative spaces

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Rehearsals
- ◆ Spatial awareness
- ◆ Performance skills

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ Learn and rehearse the choreography, created in Outcome 1, responding to the needs, feelings and attitudes of the other performers
- ◆ Use spatial awareness within the choreography, taking into account the shape and size of the performance space
- ◆ Perform the choreography in the chosen environment

The candidates should be assessed on their creation and performance of a piece of choreography in a non-theatrical venue.

Assessment should be undertaken in supervised conditions with evidence being recorded by appropriate means.

Assessment Guidelines

The assessment for this Outcome should be combined with Outcome 1. The assessment could be taken at one single assessment event and be recorded using an assessment checklist and/or video.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Dance: Choreography for Alternative Spaces

Outcome 3

Evaluate the process of choreographing and performing for alternative spaces

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Opportunities and constraints
- ◆ Personal contribution and performance review

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ Evaluate the opportunities and constraints of performing and choreographing in an alternative space
- ◆ Evaluate their own contribution and performance in terms of their strengths and weaknesses

The assessment of Outcome 3 will be an evaluation of the candidate's own choreographic journey. Evidence should be generated under supervised conditions.

Assessment Guidelines

The candidate could keep a record of their personal journey to enable them to evaluate their choreographic process.

The assessment of Outcome 3 could be an oral presentation of between 3-5 minutes. The assessment could be recorded by an assessment checklist and/or video.

Administrative Information

Unit code: F1LH 34

Unit title: Dance: Choreography for Alternative Spaces

Superclass category: LB

Original date of publication: May 2007

Version: 01

History of changes:

Version	Description of change	Date

Source: SQA

© Scottish Qualifications Authority 2007

This publication may be reproduced in whole or in part for educational purposes provided that no profit is derived from reproduction and that, if reproduced in part, the source is acknowledged.

SQA acknowledges the valuable contribution that Scotland's colleges have made to the development of Higher National qualifications.

Additional copies of this Unit specification can be purchased from the Scottish Qualifications Authority. Please contact the Customer Contact Centre for further details, telephone 0845 279 1000.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Dance: Choreography for Alternative Spaces

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 will consider various approaches for choreographing in a non-theatrical venue. This Unit gives candidates the opportunity to explore their choreography by placing it in different environments. By using the physical space as stimulus for their work, candidates will be able to explore and develop their choreographic language.

Candidates should be led through a series of choreographic tasks which challenge their perception of how dance should be created and viewed. These choreographic skills for alternative spaces will enhance the candidates' spatial awareness and will open up opportunities for invention.

Candidates will then create a dance piece. They will contribute to the choreography and also perform in the finished piece.

Candidates will gather evidence which addresses their contribution, presentation and their reflection of the choreographic process.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

This Unit has been developed as part of the HNC/D Dance Artists Group Awards. It is expected that this Unit will be delivered within the HNC/first year HND.

Authentication of candidate work will be made through the use of appropriate means of assessment.

Assessment for Outcome 1 and 2 should be combined and treated as an ongoing assessment. The candidates will be assessed on their investigation, development and performance of a created piece of choreography in a non-theatrical venue. It is recommended that assessment evidence of practical performance is recorded. This recorded evidence can be used as an aid for candidates' personal analysis and critical evaluation. Candidates should also keep a record of their personal journey to enable them to evaluate their choreographic process in Outcome 3.

Assessment for Outcome 3 will be an evaluation of the candidate's choreographic journey and may be evidenced by an oral presentation lasting approximately 3-5 minutes. It is recommended that the candidates review their personal performance and development.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

Although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills in this Unit there are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Communication (Written Communication: Writing), Communication (Oral Communication), Working with Others, Problem Solving (Planning and Organising) and Problem Solving (Reviewing and Evaluating) at SCQF level 5. These Core Skills will be developed throughout the Unit as candidates devise their own choreography and work with others in creating a dance piece in an alternative space.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Dance: Choreography for Alternative Spaces

Outcome 3 gives the candidate the opportunity to develop the Core Skills of Communication (Written Communication: Writing) by producing a record of their personal journey, enabling them to evaluate their choreographic process and performance.

Outcome 3 also gives the candidate the opportunity to develop the Core Skills of Communication (Oral Communication) by producing an oral presentation.

Open learning

This Unit is not suitable for delivery by distance learning because it requires candidates to take part in regular practical sessions which are required to be led and observed by a qualified practitioner to meet:

Health and safety requirements

and

Outcomes of the Unit

For further information and advice please refer to the SQA document *Assessment and Quality Assurance for Open and Distance Learning* which is available on SQA's website: www.sqa.org.uk.

Candidates with disabilities and/or additional support needs

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. Further advice can be found in the SQA document *Guidance on Assessment Arrangements for Candidates with Disabilities and/or Additional Support Needs* (www.sqa.org.uk).

General information for candidates

Unit title: Dance: Choreography for Alternative Spaces

This Unit is designed to provide you with the knowledge and skills required to create and perform choreography for alternative spaces.

In Outcome 1 you will:

- ◆ Explore different environments
- ◆ Draw upon stimuli
- ◆ Use choreographic devices
- ◆ Create choreography
- ◆ Establish good working relationships
- ◆ Select costumes and music suitable for the selected environment

After completing the above you will begin to have a greater understanding of the knowledge and skills involved in Choreography for alternative spaces and then in Outcome 2 you will:

- ◆ Learn and rehearse choreography, created in Outcome 1
- ◆ Use spatial awareness
- ◆ Perform the choreography

The assessment of Outcomes 1 and 2 will be combined. You will be involved in a choreographed piece that will combine all the elements above. Your practical skills will be assessed at the venue chosen and may be recorded for future evidence and personal analysis.

In Outcome 3 you will be required to evaluate your choreographic journey making reference to:

- ◆ Opportunities and constraints when choreographing and performing
- ◆ Personal contribution and performance review

The evidence could be presented as an oral presentation of approximately 3-5 minutes.