

Higher National Unit specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Dance History for Contemporary Dancers

Unit code: F1NB 34

Unit purpose: This Unit is designed to develop candidates' knowledge of the history and development of modern and contemporary dance through task driven theoretical classes with particular focus on its growth in the United Kingdom.

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

- 1 Demonstrate knowledge of the historical origins of modern dance.
- 2 Demonstrate knowledge of the development of contemporary dance in the United Kingdom.

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: While entry to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, it is recommended that candidates have communication skills at Intermediate level 2 or above.

Core Skills: There may be opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Communication to and IT to 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: Assessment for Outcomes 1 and 2 may be met by means of a closed-book examination. This may be set at the discretion of the teaching centre. Assessment for Outcome 2 may be by three separate assignments consisting of a minimum of 650 words or equivalent.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards

Unit title: Dance History for Contemporary Dancers

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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

Demonstrate knowledge of the historical origins of modern dance

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ The forerunners to modern dance
- ◆ The key pioneers in modern dance
- ◆ Form in post-modern dance

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ Describe influences, styles and innovations associated with the forerunners of modern dance
- ◆ Describe the major contributions, styles and individual achievements of three of the pioneers in modern dance
- ◆ Describe the styles, techniques and other physical movement forms that emerged and influenced post-modern choreographers

Assessment Guidelines

Candidates' knowledge and understanding may be assessed by a closed-book written exam, where they will be expected to be tested on 50% of their total knowledge and understanding, with the pass mark being 75%.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Dance History for Contemporary Dancers

Outcome 2

Demonstrate knowledge of the development of contemporary dance in the United Kingdom

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Key developments of British contemporary dance
- ◆ Current choreographers
- ◆ UK based international dance companies

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ Describe the growth of contemporary dance in Britain from the rise of London Contemporary Dance Theatre, including pioneers, their major contributions, styles and individual achievements
- ◆ Research and describe the careers and influences of a currently practising choreographer based in the UK
- ◆ Research and describe a brief history of a UK based international dance company from its inception to the present day. The history will include details of the company's influences on its work.

Assessment Guidelines

The candidate could be asked to produce three open-book, extended answers covering the Evidence Requirements, each of a minimum of 650 words or equivalent.

Administrative Information

Unit code: F1NB 34
Unit title: Dance History for Contemporary Dancers
Superclass category: LB
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History of changes:

Version	Description of change	Date

Source: SQA

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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Dance History for Contemporary Dancers

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

Unit Purpose: This Unit is designed to develop candidates' knowledge of the history and development of contemporary dance through task driven theoretical classes with particular focus on its growth in the UK.

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

- ◆ Demonstrate knowledge of the historical origins of modern dance
- ◆ Demonstrate knowledge of the development of contemporary dance in the United Kingdom

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

The Unit should be presented in a lecture theatre or classroom with accessible television and video. Candidates should have access to ICT and a dance library.

Outcome 1 may be assessed by a closed-book examination when all teaching of the Outcome is completed. Extended and short question and answer papers may be integrated throughout the teaching.

Outcome 2 may be assessed through written or oral evidence produced by the candidate at the end of the Unit to allow maximum opportunity to research the topics. Tutors will set a deadline date for completion of evidence.

The candidate could be asked to produce three open-book extended answers covering the Evidence Requirements. A recommended minimum requirement would be 650 words or equivalent for each assignment.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

There may be opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Communication and IT to SCQF level 5 in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components. IT skills may be developed during research into modern dance and post modern dance in Outcome 1 and research into a UK based international company and the rise of contemporary dance in the UK and the pioneers involved in Outcome 2.

The Core Skill of Communication may be developed at SCQF level 5 in this Unit through the researching and completion of three assignments.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Dance History for Contemporary Dancers

Open learning

This Unit could be delivered through open learning. Arrangements would have to be made to ensure that candidates have sufficient support and that planning is sufficiently completed. Communication between the candidate and the mentor should be ongoing throughout the Unit.

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 History for Contemporary Dancers

This Unit has been designed to give you an understanding of the history of dance. You will gain insight into the origins of classical ballet, the development of modern and post-modern dance and discover new trends in contemporary dance.

The Unit will cover the following areas:

Outcome 1

Demonstrate knowledge of the historical origins of modern dance

- ◆ Forerunners in modern dance
- ◆ Key pioneers in modern dance
- ◆ Dance forms in post-modern dance

Your understanding of the above may be assessed through a closed-book examination.

Outcome 2

Demonstrate knowledge of the development of contemporary dance in the United Kingdom

- ◆ British contemporary dance
- ◆ Research one currently practising choreographer
- ◆ Research an international company

You may be assessed by the submission of three assignments, each consisting of approximately 650 words or equivalent.