

Higher National Unit specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Choreographing for Peers

Unit code: F1NC 35

Unit purpose: This Unit is designed to allow candidates to choreograph and direct devised work on that of their peers. This will involve the candidate in a complete process from planning to performance and evaluation.

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

- 1 Plan a production for peers
- 2 Create and expand choreography through rehearsal
- 3 Direct a performance of the developed choreography
- 4 Evaluate the process and end product of the choreography

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

**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 access to the Unit is at the discretion of the centre, it is recommended that candidates have successfully completed:

F1LL 34	<i>Dance: Classical Ballet Techniques: Intermediate</i>
F1R6 34	<i>Dance: Graham-based Techniques: Intermediate</i>
F1NP 34	<i>Dance: Cunningham-based Techniques: Intermediate</i>
F1NS 34	<i>Dance: Choreographic Skills</i>
F1NE 35	<i>Choreographic Practice</i>

or other equivalent qualifications.

Core Skills: There are opportunities to develop the Core Skill of Working with Others and Problem Solving 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.

General information for centres

Unit title: Choreographing for Peers

Assessment: Assessment of this Unit is a combination of plans, report, mentor observation and discussion between mentor and choreographer. The assessment of Outcome 2 will include a record of development of a minimum 300 words. The assessment of Outcome 4 will be by written report of 600 words.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards

Unit title: Choreographing for Peers

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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

Plan a production for peers

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Scheduling ability
- ◆ Choreographic planning
- ◆ Presentation skills
- ◆ Production planning
- ◆ Research
- ◆ Choreography creation

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ Liaise with the mentor to create a realistic rehearsal and production schedule that recognises the limited time available and details three distinct phases, creation, rehearsal and production, and their completion deadline.
- ◆ Create a choreographic plan detailing initial ideas including theme and style that is achievable in terms of the dancers' abilities and time constrictions
- ◆ Present plans to peers in a confident and assured manner
- ◆ Create a production plan detailing ideas that must include costume, sound and set, and the option of props
- ◆ Create initial choreography prior to rehearsals

For assessment a rehearsal schedule, production plan, and choreographic plan detailing initial ideas must be produced prior to rehearsal. The tutor/mentor will observe the candidate's preparedness and presentation to participants.

Assessment Guidelines

Observation of candidates may be by observation checklist when assessing initial choreography has been prepared prior to rehearsal.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Choreographing for Peers

Outcome 2

Create and expand choreography through rehearsal

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Choreography approach
- ◆ Directing skills
- ◆ Creative decisiveness
- ◆ Health and safety
- ◆ Use of time
- ◆ Recording

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ Display choreographic approach which encourages an atmosphere of willing co-operation and exchange of ideas
- ◆ Direct the work of peers ensuring that it is appropriate to their skills and encourage artistic development
- ◆ Deliver definitive artistic decisions in an unequivocal manner
- ◆ Ensure the safety of peers at all times by considering the possible dangers involved in every request and decision prior to experiment and implementation
- ◆ Recognise the time available and achieve completed tasks in accordance with agreed schedule
- ◆ Record a personal account of developments in a dated logbook detailing all work undertaken, progress, positive aspects, and difficulties.

A record of developments during the process must be produced and should be a minimum of 300 words or equivalent.

Assessment Guidelines

The tutor/mentor may observe all practical aspects of this Outcome using an observation checklist.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Choreographing for Peers

Outcome 3

Direct a performance of the developed choreography

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Directing
- ◆ Feedback
- ◆ Decisiveness

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ Direct final rehearsals and liaise with technical staff covering all technical issues related to the work, ensuring that instructions are clear and unequivocal. This must be demonstrated at a minimum of two final rehearsals
- ◆ Effectively communicate crucial verbal feedback to peers at crucial final rehearsals ensuring that a balance is struck between seeking improvements through criticism and confidence through positive re-enforcement
- ◆ Make realistic decisions regarding the production within given constraints in the best interests of the performers and the integrity of the project

Assessment Guidelines

The tutor/mentor may assess the candidate by observation and during discussion.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Choreographing for Peers

Outcome 4

Evaluate the process and end product of the choreography

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Opportunities and constraints
- ◆ Choreography contribution
- ◆ Group performance
- ◆ Future development

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ Evaluate three opportunities and three constraints encountered during the process
- ◆ Evaluate the choreographers contribution realistically and accurately in terms of strengths and weaknesses by identifying and discussing three of each
- ◆ Evaluate the groups performance realistically and accurately in terms of the groups strengths and weaknesses by identifying and discussing at least one of each
- ◆ Evaluate the whole process in terms of recommendations for future choreographic development by making two recommendations derived from this process.

Assessment of this Outcome will be by the production of a report of at least 600 words or equivalent

Assessment Guidelines

It is recommended that each aspect is given equal importance

Administrative Information

Unit code: F1NC 35
Unit title: Choreographing for Peers
Superclass category: LB
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History of changes:

Version	Description of change	Date

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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Choreographing for Peers

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 designed to offer the opportunity to use previously learned choreographic skills and practice choreography within a structure of mentored support and to exercise the mantle of choreographer. This Unit is designed to give candidates the opportunity to work with peers by practising and experiencing choreographic practice with a structured and mentored process.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

Discussion at the outset to ensure a positive approach towards being directed by a peer is essential. Maintenance of positive contribution is also advised. It is important that dancers are encouraged to be supportive of the choreographer. Preparation as both candidate and dancer to understand the difficulty of accepting a peer in a position of authority is essential.

Assessment of this Unit is a combination of plans, reports, mentor observation and discussion between mentor and choreographer. The assessment of Outcome 2 will include a record of development of a minimum of 300 words. The assessment of Outcome 4 will be by a report of 600 words or equivalent.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

There may be opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Problem Solving and Working with Others at SCQF level 5 in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components. Problem Solving skills particularly in the area of evaluation are developed through regular self review which is recommended for candidates to continually improve their performance given the cumulative nature of dance. Choreography offers many opportunities but also many decisions in virtually all its aspects and in all knowledge and skills which may contribute to the development of Problem Solving skills. The Core Skill of Working with Others may be developed through the complexity of becoming the choreographer and working with peers and developing a working relationship with the mentor.

Open learning

This Unit is not suited to delivery by open learning because it requires candidates to be observed and questioned by a qualified practitioner to meet health and safety requirements and professional proficiency requirements.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Choreographing for Peers

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: Choreographing for Peers

This Unit is designed to allow you to choreograph and direct devised work with your peers. This will involve you in a complete process from planning through to performance and evaluation.

The Unit offers you the opportunity to use previously learned choreographic skills and exercise the mantle of choreographer. The Unit will allow you to work together with your peers by practising and experiencing choreography within a structured and mentored process. Regular discussion with your mentor may contribute to the creative process and aid your development.

The following areas will be covered:

Outcome 1 — Plan a production for peers

- ◆ Scheduling ability
- ◆ Choreographic planning
- ◆ Presentation skills
- ◆ Production planning
- ◆ Research
- ◆ Choreography creation

Outcome 2 — Create and expand choreography through rehearsal

- ◆ Choreographic approach
- ◆ Directing skills
- ◆ Creative decisiveness
- ◆ Health and safety
- ◆ Use of time
- ◆ Recording

Outcome 3 — Work with a mentor in a professional manner

- ◆ Response
- ◆ Discussion

Outcome 4 — direct a performance of the developed choreography

- ◆ Directing
- ◆ Feedback
- ◆ Decisiveness

Outcome 5 — Evaluate the process and end product of the choreography

- ◆ Opportunities and constraints
- ◆ Choreographer contribution
- ◆ Group performance
- ◆ Future development

General information for candidates (cont)

During the course of the Unit there may be opportunities for you to develop important Core Skills in the areas of Problem Solving and Working with Others.