

## Higher National Unit specification

### General information for centres

**Unit title:** Dance: Freelance Working Skills for Contemporary Dancers

**Unit code:** F1NL 34

**Unit purpose:** This Unit has been designed to provide candidates with the knowledge and skills required to work within the dance profession. It will prepare them for work by investigating employment opportunities and funding bodies, as well as looking at audition preparation and the presentation of CVs.

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

- 1 Describe the employment potential for contemporary dancers in the UK.
- 2 Research relevant funding bodies and sponsorship for Contemporary dance.
- 3 Prepare for auditions and job applications.

**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:** Entry to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre. It is recommended that candidates have successfully completed NQ Communication at SCQF level 5 or equivalent.

**Core Skills:** There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Communication (Written Communication) and Information Technology 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:** Outcome 1 is assessed by a report. Outcome 2 is assessment by a research project. Outcome 3 is assessed by the production of a CV and evaluation of audition participation. The mock/real interview will be carried out under supervised conditions.

## **Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards**

**Unit title:** Dance: Freelance Working Skills 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**

Describe the employment potential for contemporary dancers in the UK

#### **Knowledge and/or Skills**

- ◆ Freelance work in Scotland
- ◆ Employment opportunities in Scotland
- ◆ Freelance work in the rest of the UK
- ◆ Employment opportunities in the rest of the UK

#### **Evidence Requirements**

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

- ◆ Freelance opportunities for dancers in Scotland.
- ◆ Employment opportunities for dancers in Scotland.
- ◆ Freelance opportunities for dancers in the UK out with Scotland.
- ◆ Employment opportunities for dancers in the UK out with Scotland.

#### **Assessment Guidelines**

Evidence may be in the form of a report of 1,000 words or equivalent.

### **Outcome 2**

Research relevant funding bodies and sponsorship for contemporary dance

#### **Knowledge and/or Skills**

- ◆ Identification of funding bodies
- ◆ The role of funding bodies
- ◆ Methods for sourcing funding
- ◆ Funding applications
- ◆ Running a small scale company

## **Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)**

**Unit title:** Dance: Freelance Working Skills for Contemporary Dancers

### **Evidence Requirements**

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by showing that they can, with reference to a research project:

- ◆ Identify relevant funding bodies for dance.
- ◆ Outline the role of relevant funding bodies for dance.
- ◆ Describe a range of methods for attracting funding and sponsorship for a dance organisation.
- ◆ Explain the priorities of applications for funding and sponsorship.
- ◆ Describe the issues around the running of a small scale dance company.

### **Assessment Guidelines**

Evidence should show that candidates have adopted a clear and concise approach to the project. Evidence may be in the form of a report of 1,000 words or equivalent.

## **Outcome 3**

Prepare for auditions and job applications

### **Knowledge and/or Skills**

- ◆ Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- ◆ Audition etiquette
- ◆ Audition participation

### **Evidence Requirements**

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

- ◆ Present their CV in a clear and concise format that relates to their relevant skills. This must include a personal profile, key achievements, and a brief history of training and performance background. The CV should be accompanied by a covering letter to the prospective employer.
- ◆ Understand audition etiquette by demonstrating interview techniques, providing relevant information, and presenting themselves appropriately.
- ◆ Apply for and attend at least one audition which is appropriate and related to their future plans and prospects.

### **Assessment Guidelines**

Evidence should be in the form of a curriculum vitae and covering letter. Audition etiquette may be evidenced by mock/real interviews. Candidates should provide an evaluation of the audition process — this could be presented and assessed as a report of 300 words or equivalent.

## Administrative Information

**Unit code:** F1NL 34

**Unit title:** Dance: Freelance Working Skills for Contemporary Dancers

**Superclass category:** AE

**Original date of publication:** November 2006

**Version:** 01

### History of changes:

Version	Description of change	Date

**Source:** SQA

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## **Higher National Unit specification: support notes**

### **Unit title:** Dance: Freelance Working Skills 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**

This Unit is intended to give candidates opportunities to develop knowledge and skills relating to freelance working within the profession, to give a realistic appraisal of the working life of a dancer and to equip candidates with the knowledge and skills necessary to pursue a career in dance.

It would be useful to give the candidates examples of types of freelance work/opportunities within Scotland/UK.

Candidates could be given guidance regarding funding methods, methods of attracting funding and running a small dance company.

### **Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit**

This Unit is designed to be delivered within a Higher National Award related to contemporary dance.

Outcome 1 is assessed by a report on the employment potential for contemporary dancers in the UK.

Outcome 2 is assessed by a research project.

Evidence, of 1,000 words or equivalent for each Outcome, can be presented in the form of a report. Assessors may give regular feedback on the assessments for Outcomes 1 and 2.

In Outcome 3, candidates will produce a CV and covering letter, with an evaluative report of their audition of 300 words or equivalent.

#### ***Opportunities for developing Core Skills***

There may be opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Communication (Written Communication) and Information Technology at SCQF level 5 in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification at Core Skills or Core Skills components. Information Technology skills may be developed in the research elements of Outcome 1 and 2 by carrying out research using the internet.

### **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.

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](http://www.sqa.org.uk)**.

## **Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)**

**Unit title:** Dance: Freelance Working Skills for Contemporary Dancers

### **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](http://www.sqa.org.uk)).

## General information for candidates

### Unit title: Dance: Freelance Working Skills for Contemporary Dancers

The Unit is designed to equip you with the skills and knowledge necessary to enable you to pursue a career in the dance profession.

**Outcome 1** looks at the employment potential for dancers in the UK.

In **Outcome 2** you will research relevant funding bodies and sponsorship for dance. This will include:

- ◆ Identification of funding bodies
- ◆ The role of funding bodies
- ◆ Methods for sourcing funding
- ◆ Funding applications
- ◆ Running a small scale company

In **Outcome 3** you will prepare for auditions and job applications by looking at:

- ◆ CV Writing
- ◆ Audition etiquette
- ◆ Audition preparation

For Outcomes 1 and 2 you will be required to produce a report for each Outcome of 1,000 words or equivalent.

In addition, for Outcome 3 you will need to produce a CV and covering letter, and a report of an audition experience of around 300 words or equivalent.