



Higher National Unit specification

General information

Unit title: Dance Technique for Commercial Performance 2

Unit code: H4RD 35

Superclass: LB

Publication date: August 2013

Source: Scottish Qualifications Authority

Version: 01

Unit purpose

The purpose of this Unit is to enable learners to develop their dance ability for the commercial industry to an improved level and understand its place within the global dance industry. It is designed to provide learners with opportunities to develop knowledge and improved dance technique for use within the commercial dance industry. It will enable learners to apply their knowledge about current trends in commercial dance based on the television, music video, film and stage industries to choreography and performance.

Outcomes

On successful completion of the Unit the learner will be able to:

- 1 Demonstrate complex dance classwork relevant to the commercial dance industry.
- 2 Demonstrate complex dance sequences relevant to the commercial dance industry.
- 3 Perform a choreographed dance piece.
- 4 Choreograph and direct a dance group piece.

Credit points and level

2 Higher National Unit credits at SCQF level 8: (16 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 8)

Higher National Unit specification: General information (cont)

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Recommended entry to the Unit

While entry to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, it would be beneficial if learners have gained the following or equivalent:

H4RL 34	<i>Jazz Dance Techniques 1</i>
H4RM 35	<i>Jazz Dance Techniques 2</i>
H4RE 34	<i>Dance: Classical Ballet Techniques 1</i>
H4RF 35	<i>Dance: Classical Ballet Techniques 2</i>
F1NS 34	<i>Dance: Choreographic Skills</i>
H4RC 34	<i>Dance Technique for Commercial Performance 1</i>

Core Skills

Opportunities to develop aspects of Core Skills are highlighted in the Support Notes for this Unit specification.

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skill components in this Unit.

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.

Equality and inclusion

This Unit specification has been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to learning or assessment. The individual needs of learners should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment methods or considering alternative evidence.

Further advice can be found on our website www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements.

Higher National Unit specification: Statement of standards

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Acceptable performance in this Unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the Unit specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to SQA.

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. Learners 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 complex dance classwork relevant to the commercial dance industry.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Energy
- ◆ Musicality
- ◆ Technique
- ◆ Sharpness
- ◆ Accuracy

Outcome 2

Demonstrate complex dance sequences relevant to the commercial dance industry.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Movement phrases
- ◆ Timing in response to music and tempi
- ◆ Spatial awareness
- ◆ Freestyle response to music
- ◆ Performance

Outcome 3

Perform a choreographed dance piece.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Reproduction of choreography
- ◆ Performance qualities
- ◆ Stagecraft

Higher National Unit specification: Statement of standards (cont)

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Outcome 4

Choreograph and direct a dance group piece.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Choreographic skills
- ◆ Music/sound
- ◆ Communication
- ◆ Rehearsal management

Evidence Requirements for this Unit

Outcome 1

Learners will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can perform advanced classwork exercises specific to dance for the commercial industry.

- ◆ Isolations — these must use: head, arms, legs, trunk, hands, fingers and pelvis
- ◆ Complex arm combinations
- ◆ Complex coordination exercises
- ◆ Complex directional change exercises

Evidence of tutor taught classwork will be gathered under supervised conditions at appropriate points in the Unit.

Performance evidence supported by a video/DVD recording and an assessor observation checklist is required for this Outcome.

Outcome 2

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

- ◆ accurately reproduce two contrasting two minute long movement phrases that combine the advanced commercial dance skills developed in Outcome 1. A minimum of 16 counts of freestyle movement must be included in each sequence.
- ◆ execute these movement phrases in time to music demonstrating understanding of rhythm and tempo.
- ◆ demonstrate spatial awareness in relation to the studio space and other dancers.
- ◆ demonstrate advanced understanding of performance elements. These must incorporate projection to the audience, artistic interpretation of the movement, use of dynamics, eyeline, use of space and musicality.

Higher National Unit specification: Statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Dance Technique for Commercial Performance 2

Evidence of tutor taught sequences will be gathered under supervised conditions at appropriate points in the Unit.

Performance evidence supported by a video/DVD recording and an assessor observation checklist is required for this Outcome.

Outcome 3

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

- ◆ accurately reproduce tutor taught choreography. This will be a tutor-led group dance piece of approximately four minutes in length.
- ◆ demonstrate performance qualities throughout the choreographed piece. This must incorporate projection to the audience, artistic interpretation of the movement, use of dynamics and musicality.
- ◆ demonstrate use of stagecraft through the knowledge and application of awareness of exits and entrances, eye line, size of performance space, and type of performance event.

Evidence will be generated by the performance of the tutor choreographed group dance piece under supervised conditions.

Performance evidence supported by a video/DVD recording and an assessor observation checklist is required for this Outcome.

Outcome 4

Learners will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by creating a dance piece relevant for the commercial industry showing that they can:

- ◆ choreograph a two to three minute dance piece for a minimum of three performers, excluding the choreographer.
- ◆ plan and research an idea/theme for the dance piece.
- ◆ apply basic choreographic devices: unison, canon, repetition, levels, use of space, etc.
- ◆ use music which is appropriate to the style of the dance piece.
- ◆ communicate with the performers in the dance piece and tailor the demands of the choreography to the physical capabilities of the performers.
- ◆ plan and timetable rehearsals to ensure the dance piece is ready for assessment.

Evidence will be generated through a supervised performance of the learner choreographed group dance piece.

Performance evidence supported by a video/DVD recording and an assessor observation checklist is required for this Outcome.



Higher National Unit Support Notes

Unit title: Dance Technique for Commercial Performance 2

Unit Support Notes are offered as guidance and are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 80 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

This Unit is designed to develop the learner's skills and knowledge within the commercial dance industry and to gain skills within musicality and performance.

The origins of commercial dance work developed from many styles but it has ultimately grown into its own style. Its defining characteristics are the rhythmic response to music and extreme performance quality.

Different styles can be used in the commercial industry and can be seen in music videos, concerts, live shows, movies, industry events, and, obviously, commercials. There are many different styles of dance that can be incorporated into the commercial category, however, fundamentally dance in the commercial industry is subject to changing trends and doesn't remain the same from year to year. Its continuous evolution has been demonstrated in many incarnations as a fusion between different dance styles. It is reliant on the individual's style and due to the continually changing trends in this field, centres should select and incorporate appropriate current styles based on current dance industry trends and directions.

At this level, learners are acquiring the skills to demonstrate existing commercial styles, yet they should also be encouraged to interpret these and create personal styles.

At this level, learners are advancing their skills to demonstrate existing styles used in the commercial industry, yet they should also be encouraged to interpret these and create their own personal styles.

Guidance on approaches to delivery of this Unit

This Unit has been developed as part of the HNC/HND Professional Dance Performance Group Award. It is a mandatory Unit of the HND and should be delivered in the second year of the HND.

Lessons should involve mainly practical work which includes classwork, sequences and rehearsals although it is recommended that as many examples of current commercial dance work be shown, discussed and evaluated to enable full understanding of the style by the learners.

Higher National Unit Support Notes (cont)

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Guidance on approaches to assessment of this Unit

Evidence can be generated using different types of assessment. The following are suggestions only. There may be other methods that would be more suitable to learners.

Centres are reminded that prior verification of centre-devised assessments would help to ensure that the national standard is being met. Where learners experience a range of assessment methods, this helps them to develop different skills that should be transferable to work or further and higher education.

Assessments will be recorded in order to ensure authentication of learner work. This should be done by use of video recording.

Due to the Unit structure it is recommended that the assessment for each Outcome is taught in chronological order and is assessed before moving onto the next Outcome.

Assessment Guidelines

Outcome 1

Evidence should be generated by a group performance of dance classwork relevant to the commercial dance industry.

Outcome 2

Evidence should be generated by learners performing three one minute tutor-led complex dance sequences in small groups of three to five learners. Each sequence should be of different tempo and include different rhythms and appropriate to the commercial dance field.

Outcome 3

Evidence should be generated by learners performing a four to five minute dance group piece.

Outcome 4

Evidence should be generated by learners choreographing a two to three minute dance piece for three or more dancers. The piece should be performed live for assessment. Learners should also present a brief three to five minute presentation/viva voce about their piece including information on:

- ◆ Theme
- ◆ Inspiration and influencing current practitioners
- ◆ Movement creation
- ◆ Choreographic structure and devices used
- ◆ Rehearsal process
- ◆ Costume
- ◆ The relationship and relevance of their work to the commercial dance industry.

Higher National Unit Support Notes (cont)

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Opportunities for e-assessment

E-assessment may be appropriate for some assessments in this Unit. By e-assessment we mean assessment which is supported by Information and Communication Technology (ICT), such as e-testing or the use of e-portfolios or social software. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all learner evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the Evidence Requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. The most up-to-date guidance on the use of e-assessment to support SQA's qualifications is available at www.sqa.org.uk/e-assessment.

Opportunities for developing Core and other essential skills

There are many opportunities to develop aspects of the Core Skill of *Working with Others* in this Unit. Outcome 2 demands a minimum level of co-operation from the learners whilst they are demonstrating their movement sequences, as they are also required to show spatial awareness in relation to the other dancers around them. In Outcome 3, learners must work together during their reproduction of a tutor-led choreographed piece and maintain spatial awareness. In Outcome 4 learners must demonstrate a good understanding of leadership qualities while directing dancers in their choreographed piece.

There are opportunities to develop the component Planning and Organising of the Core Skill *Problem Solving* across the Outcomes of this Unit but specifically in Outcome 4 where they must plan, organise and produce pieces of their own choreography.

History of changes to Unit

Version	Description of change	Date

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General information for learners

Unit title: Dance Technique for Commercial Performance 2

This section will help you decide whether this is the Unit for you by explaining what the Unit is about, what you should know or be able to do before you start, what you will need to do during the Unit and opportunities for further learning and employment.

This Unit is designed to develop your skills and knowledge within the commercial dance industry and to gain skills within musicality and performance.

The origins of commercial dance work developed from many styles but it has ultimately grown into its own style. Its defining characteristics are the rhythmic response to music and extreme performance quality.

Different styles can be used in the commercial industry and can be seen in music videos, concerts, live shows, movies, industry events, and, obviously, commercials. There are many different styles of dance that can be incorporated into the commercial category, however, fundamentally dance in the commercial industry is subject to changing trends and doesn't remain the same from year to year. Its continuous evolution has been demonstrated in many incarnations as a fusion between different dance styles. It is reliant on the individuals style and due to the continually changing trends in this field, centres should select and incorporate appropriate current styles based on current dance industry trends and directions.

The purpose of this Unit is to enable you to further develop your dance ability for commercial dance work and understand its place within the global dance industry. It is designed to provide you with improved dance sequencing and performance. It will enable you to apply your knowledge about current trends in commercial dance based on the television, music video, film and stage industries. You will also develop knowledge and improved technique and advance on individual creativity through further free styling and dance choreography for the commercial industry.

In Outcome 1 you will develop specific skills through complex classwork to develop, refine and execute dance styles for the commercial field. Strength and stamina will be developed through participation in regular studio-based classes.

In Outcome 2 you will explore and implement the skills developed in Outcome 1 within complex dance sequences. These sequences will be taught to promote spatial awareness and to improve movement memory, geared towards the participation in a taught piece of choreography.

Outcome 3 enables you to synthesise learning from Outcomes 1 and 2 by performing in a tutor choreographed dance piece in a style suitable to the commercial dance industry. This will enable you to combine their technical and performance skills.

Outcome 4 enables you to synthesise the skills developed in the first three Outcomes and allows you to build on your own style by creating, choreographing and directing a dance piece for three or more dancers. This will give you opportunities to build good working relationships and encourage you to engage with your peers in a professional working environment and demonstrate your knowledge of the commercial dance industry.

All assessment will take place under supervised conditions and be recorded by appropriate means to ensure authenticity of your work.

There are opportunities to in this Unit to develop Core Skills in the areas of *Working with Others* and *Problem Solving*.