



Higher National Unit specification

General information

Unit title: Dance: Classical Ballet Techniques 2

Unit code: H4RF35

Superclass: LB

Publication date: August 2013

Source: Scottish Qualifications Authority

Version: 01

Unit purpose

This Unit is designed to develop the learner's skills in classical ballet techniques to an advanced level. It will also enhance their knowledge and understanding of the application of classical ballet vocabulary.

Outcomes

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

- 1 Demonstrate advanced technical ability and control.
- 2 Apply and demonstrate knowledge and understanding of classical ballet vocabulary.
- 3 Demonstrate enhanced musical awareness and interpretative sensitivity in classical ballet.
- 4 Demonstrate a well-developed sense of performance.
- 5 Analyse technical ability and control.

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)

Unit title: Dance: Classical Ballet Techniques 2

Recommended entry to the Unit

Whilst access to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, it is recommended that learners have previous experience of ballet techniques. Other appropriate qualifications or experience may include:

- ◆ D72P 13 *Dance: Classical (Advanced Higher)*
- ◆ F1LL 34 *Dance: Classical Ballet Techniques 1*
- ◆ A ballet qualification awarded by an examining board.
- ◆ Classes at a private dance school or at another teaching institution.

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

Unit title: Dance: Classical Ballet Techniques 2

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 advanced technical ability and control.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Placement and control
- ◆ Strength and stamina
- ◆ Co-ordination
- ◆ Line
- ◆ Concentration and focus
- ◆ Spatial awareness

Outcome 2

Apply and demonstrate knowledge and understanding of classical ballet vocabulary.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Classical ballet terminology and vocabulary
- ◆ Response to instruction

Outcome 3

Demonstrate enhanced musical awareness and interpretative sensitivity in classical ballet.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Rhythmical and dynamic awareness
- ◆ Musical interpretation

Higher National Unit specification: Statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Dance: Classical Ballet Techniques 2

Outcome 4

Demonstrate a well-developed sense of performance.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Integration of technique and expression
- ◆ Projection and communication
- ◆ Interpretation and expression

Outcome 5

Analyse technical ability and control.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Self analysis
- ◆ Peer Analysis

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:

- ◆ demonstrate well developed placement and control through the consistent and correct use of turnout, posture and core stability throughout all sections of an advanced ballet class.
- ◆ demonstrate well developed strength and stamina throughout the duration of complex and physically demanding movement sequences of sufficient length to increase endurance and strength levels, lasting between 16 and 32 bars. Adage sections should be sustained and include substantial work with the height of the learner's leg extensions aiming to achieve 90 degrees. Allegro sequences should develop stamina and elevation through a minimum of 16 bars.
- ◆ demonstrate harmonious co-ordination of the whole body whilst performing complex exercises.
- ◆ demonstrate an enhanced aesthetic sense of line.
- ◆ maintain concentration and focus maturely and consistently throughout the performance of advanced classical ballet techniques.
- ◆ demonstrate confident and effective use of peripheral and performance space.

Evidence should be generated through assessment undertaken in supervised conditions and recorded.

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

Higher National Unit specification: Statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Dance: Classical Ballet Techniques 2

Outcome 2

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

- ◆ respond to and correctly interpret tutor direction using advanced classical ballet terminology with and without tutor demonstration.
- ◆ apply and demonstrate through performance a sound and thorough knowledge and understanding of advanced classical ballet technique.
- ◆ perform complex and varied unseen movement sequences accurately and consistently according to the tutor's instructions without demonstration and using classical ballet terminology.

Evidence should be generated through assessment undertaken in supervised conditions.

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:

- ◆ demonstrate a developed and mature musical awareness through appropriate response to a complex and varied range of rhythmical structures, melodies, accents and timings.
- ◆ demonstrate a developed and mature understanding of musical interpretation through phrasing, texture, dynamics and mood within complex classical ballet sequences.

Evidence should be generated through practical assessment undertaken in supervised conditions.

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

Higher National Unit specification: Statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Dance: Classical Ballet Techniques 2

Outcome 4

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

- ◆ integrate learned advanced technique and skills with physical expression whilst performing sustained and complex sequences.
- ◆ demonstrate a confident and assured performance with the ability to engage appropriately and maturely with the audience.
- ◆ demonstrate through performance a well-developed appreciation and understanding of the varied and contrasting qualities required for advanced classical ballet — lyrical and sustained adage, sharp and dynamic pirouettes, quick, lively allegro performed with light ballon, expansive and well elevated grand allegro performed with bravura.

Evidence should be generated through practical assessment undertaken in supervised conditions.

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

Outcome 5

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

- ◆ analyse their own technical ability and control.
- ◆ analyse the technical ability and control of two peers.

For each analysis, six positive and six areas for development should be raised with specific ideas for remedies of any areas requiring development.

Written and/or oral evidence will be produced under open-book conditions at appropriate points within the Unit.



Higher National Unit Support Notes

Unit title: Dance: Classical Ballet Techniques 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 intended for learners who wish to develop their classical ballet skills to an advanced level.

The main aims of each Outcome are summarised as follows:

Outcome 1: The development of classical ballet techniques incorporating exercises and practical class work. The Outcome covers barre work, port de bras, centre practice, adage studies, petit allegro, allegro and grand allegro enchainments.

Outcome 2: The development of a level of understanding and knowledge of the range of movement required at advanced level. This should involve the demonstration of steps, sequences and directions alongside a thorough understanding of the mechanics and purpose of the vocabulary.

Outcome 3: The development of technique with regards to artistic interpretive requirements. The Outcome further develops the ability to use technique as directed whilst demonstrating appropriate musical interpretation and response.

Outcome 4: The establishment and extension of techniques with a focus on presentation and projection and the integration of these skills and techniques to produce a high level of expression, communication and artistry.

Outcome 5: This analysis exercise is designed to encourage the learner to analyse by observation and relate findings to their own strengths and weaknesses. Evidence for self-analysis could be in the form of a written report of no less than 150 words. For peer analysis, a report of 150 words or equivalent delivered orally to peers is suggested. For each aspect a format of six positive and six areas for development should be raised with specific ideas for remedies of areas for development.

Higher National Unit Support Notes (cont)

Unit title: Dance: Classical Ballet Techniques 2

Guidance on approaches to delivery of this Unit

This Unit has been developed as part of the HNC/HND Professional Dance Performance.

The range of technique required at this level should include vocabulary learnt previously with the addition of the following, which should be delivered in the traditional order:

- Barre:** circular port de bras, piqués, rond de jambe jeté, petit battement serré, penché, fouetté and rotation en l'air.
Centre: circular port de bras, sustained adage with working leg at 90 degrees, temps lié en l'air, pivots, fouetté and rotation en l'air.
Allegro: pas de bourrée en tournant, ballonné simple & composé, pas de basque sauté, ballotté sauté, sissonne doublé, assemblé battu and de côté, temps de cuisse, failli, grand jeté en tournant.
Pirouette: attitude en dedans, posé pirouettes en dehors and en dedans.
- Batterie:** entrechat trois & cinq, brisé, cabriole, sissone battu, jeté battu.
- Grand Allegro:** grand jeté, grand jeté en tournant, sissone double, saut de basque, cabriole, fouetté sauté.

Révérence

Centres should note that the above list is not exhaustive. It is expected that learners would understand and be able to demonstrate this range at advanced level and that a varied programme of adage, petit allegro, pirouettes, batterie and grand allegro would be achieved in class building towards advanced technique and performance.

Qualities developed throughout the Unit and required for assessment are: precision, co-ordination, consistent use of turnout, flexibility, core stability, correct weight placement, alignment, ballon, épaulement, an aesthetic sense of line, musicality, expression, projection, communication, interpretation and self-evaluation.

Exposition and demonstration should be followed by practical exercises. The learner will respond to tutor observation and corrections to develop knowledge of weaknesses, faults and remedies. In relation to Outcome 2, the learner will perform unseen allegro and grand allegro sequences according to the tutor's instructions and without demonstration. Teaching and learning will take place through individual, small and whole group activities. With respect to Outcomes 5, learners may submit written responses but other evidence may be gathered by observation checklists.

Given the specialist nature of the Unit and the danger of injury, it is essential that specialist tutors are present at all times. Progress in this specialism requires repetition and intense tutor correction of individuals and the group as a whole.

This Unit should be delivered in suitable and safe conditions. This would include a dance studio equipped with adequate space, mirrors, wall fitted barre at correct height, sprung floor and warmth.

Higher National Unit Support Notes (cont)

Unit title: Dance: Classical Ballet Techniques 2

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.

Assessment Guidelines

Practical assessment must demonstrate the learner's ability through a varied range of techniques and should comprise comprehensive advanced dance classes that include barre work, centre practice and pirouettes, port de bras, sustained adage, petit allegro, allegro and grand allegro sections.

Assessment for Outcomes 1, 2, 3 and 4 may be integrated. It is likely that Outcome 5 would be assessed discretely at appropriate points in the Unit.

Outcome 1

It is recommended that learners have an opportunity to be assessed throughout the delivery of the Unit through ongoing assessment.

The assessment may be recorded on an observation checklist and video.

Outcome 2

Evidence for this Outcome may be assessed on a sample basis by tutor observation of response to instruction and questions. Learners will be asked to perform an unprepared allegro sequence and grand allegro sequence according to tutor instructions and without tutor demonstration.

The assessment may be recorded on an observation checklist and video.

Outcome 3

The assessment may be recorded on an observation checklist and video.

Outcome 4

The assessment may be recorded on an observation checklist and video.

This may be evidence in a rehearsal or performance of a short dance and/or throughout extensive classwork.

Higher National Unit Support Notes (cont)

Unit title: Dance: Classical Ballet Techniques 2

Outcome 5

An appropriate instrument of assessment could be a short report or oral presentation/response to question under open-book conditions. Self-analysis may be evidenced by the production of a report of 150 words or equivalent.

Peer analysis may involve opportunities to observe and then comment orally on strengths and weaknesses, including suggested remedies for these, and/or a report of 150 words or equivalent.

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 opportunities to develop the Core Skills of *Working with Others*, *Communication* (Oral Communication) and *Communication* (Written Communication), and also *Problem Solving* (Reviewing and Evaluating) in this Unit.

All Outcomes, with particular reference to Outcome 5, offer opportunities for learners to review and evaluate their own work by assessing how well they are integrating different classical ballet techniques into their individual performances. Outcome 5 specifically asks learners to be involved in the review and evaluation of the work of their peers. As part of the evaluation learners need to communicate and discuss difficulties and solutions for performance with their peers, which as well as facilitating the development of *Problem Solving* (Reviewing and Evaluating) also provides opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Oral Communication and *Working with Others*.

Outcome 5 may be assessed via a report on the subject of the strengths and weaknesses of peer performance which potentially offers opportunities in both Oral and Written *Communication*.

History of changes to Unit

| Version | Description of change | Date |
|---------|-----------------------|------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

© Scottish Qualifications Authority 2013

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.

Additional copies of this Unit specification can be purchased from the Scottish Qualifications Authority. Please contact the Business Development and Customer Support team, telephone 0303 333 0330.

General information for learners

Unit title: Dance: Classical Ballet Techniques 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 in classical ballet techniques to an advanced level. This Unit will help you improve technical ability, acquire skills in interpretation and expression and in choreography. You will also enhance your understanding of classical ballet vocabulary and apply this in your practical sessions. Some of the areas covered by the Unit include the following:

Outcome 1 — Technical ability:

- ◆ Placement and control
- ◆ Strength and stamina
- ◆ Co-ordination
- ◆ Line
- ◆ Concentration and focus
- ◆ Spatial awareness
- ◆ Control and placement

Outcome 2 — Classical Ballet Vocabulary

Your knowledge and understanding of Classical ballet vocabulary and French ballet terminology will be assessed by response to instruction with and without tutor demonstration in class.

Outcome 3 — Sensitivity and understanding of form:

- ◆ Rhythmical and dynamic awareness
- ◆ Musical interpretation

Outcome 4 — Performance quality:

- ◆ Projection and communication
- ◆ Interpretation and expression

Outcome 5 — Analysis of technique:

- ◆ Self analysis
- ◆ Peer analysis

Assessment may involve a written report for each analysis or peer analysis may include oral reporting to peers.