

Draft National Unit Specification



Unit title: Dance: Technical Skills (Higher)

SCQF: level 6 (9 SCQF credit points)

Unit code: to be advised

Unit outline

The general aim of this Unit is to develop complex technical skills in a range of dance styles for solo and/or group dance performances. Dance techniques will be explored before being applied in performance. In addition, learners will also develop their knowledge and understanding of dance styles and practitioners by applying critical thinking skills. Learners will apply their knowledge of safe dance practice to aid in the performance of their dance techniques. They will evaluate their own work and that of others.

Learners who complete this Unit will be able to:

- 1 Develop complex technical skills in different dance styles
- 2 Apply dance techniques in two different dance styles
- 3 Develop knowledge and understanding of a chosen dance style and practitioner

This Unit is a mandatory Unit of the Higher Dance Course and is also available as a free-standing Unit. The Unit specification should be read in conjunction with the *Unit Support Notes* which provides advice and guidance on delivery, assessment approaches and development of skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work. Exemplification of the standards in this Unit is given in the *National Assessment Resource*.

The Course Assessment Specification for the Higher Dance Course gives further mandatory information on Course coverage for learners taking this Unit as part of the Higher Dance Course.

Recommended entry

Entry to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre. However learners would normally be expected to have attained the skills, knowledge and understanding required by one or more of the following or equivalent qualifications and/or experience:

- ◆ Dance: Technical Skills (National 5) Unit

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. For further information please refer to the *Unit Support Notes*.

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Standards

Outcomes and assessment standards

Outcome 1

The learner will:

1 Develop complex technical skills in different dance styles by:

- 1.1 Exploring a range of dance styles
- 1.2 Physically demonstrating complex technical skills of two different dance styles
- 1.3 Applying knowledge of the use of safe dance practice when demonstrating technical skills

Outcome 2

The learner will:

2 Apply dance techniques in two different dance styles by:

- 2.1 Performing a complex dance sequence in two different dance styles
- 2.2 Demonstrating performance skills showing dynamic quality, timing and musicality
- 2.3 Evaluating the use of technical skills in their own work and that of others

Outcome 3

The learner will:

3 Develop knowledge and understanding of a chosen dance style and practitioner by:

- 3.1 Identifying a key practitioner of a chosen dance style, and describing how the practitioner influenced the development of the dance style
- 3.2 Investigating the historic context of a chosen dance style
- 3.3 Researching and describing key dance skills and model performance of a chosen dance style

Evidence Requirements for the Unit

Assessors should use their professional judgement, subject knowledge and experience, and understanding of their learners, to determine the most appropriate ways to generate evidence and the conditions and contexts in which they are used.

Evidence will be a combination of written and/or oral and performance evidence. Evidence may be presented for individual Outcomes or it may be gathered for the Unit as a whole by combining assessment holistically in one single activity. If the latter approach is used, it must be clear how the evidence covers each Outcome.

Learners will be required to provide evidence of:

- ◆ the ability to demonstrate complex technical skills shown in two different dance styles by participation in structured dance classes

- ◆ the ability to apply technical skills when performing complex dance sequences, of around 1 minute in length, in two different dance styles
- ◆ the ability to evaluate technical dance skills used in their own performance and/or other's performance
- ◆ their knowledge and understanding of the historic context, key dance skills and model performance of a chosen dance style
- ◆ identifying a key practitioner of their chosen dance style and describing the practitioner's influence on the development of that style

Exemplification of assessment will be provided in the *National Assessment Resource*. Advice and guidance on possible approaches to assessment is provided in the *Unit Support Notes*.

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Development of skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work

(Note: The information given below reflects the initial thinking on significant opportunities for development of skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work. These may be subject to change as the development process progresses.)

It is expected that learners will develop broad, generic skills through this Unit. The skills that learners will be expected to improve on and develop through the Unit are based on SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work* and drawn from the main skills areas listed below. These must be built into the Unit where there are appropriate opportunities.

3 Health and wellbeing

- 3.1 Personal learning
- 3.3 Physical wellbeing

4 Employability, enterprise and citizenship

- 4.3 Working with others

5 Thinking skills

- 5.3 Applying
- 5.4 Analysing and evaluating
- 5.5 Creating

Amplification of these is given in SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work*. The level of these skills should be at the same SCQF level of the Unit and be consistent with the SCQF level descriptor. Further information on building in skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work is given in the *Unit Support Notes*.

Administrative information



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Superclass: to be advised

History of changes

Version	Description of change	Authorised by	Date

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