



Higher National Unit specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Dance: Choreographic Skills: Advanced

Unit code: F1LJ 35

Unit purpose: This Unit is designed to further develop candidates' choreographic skills through complex task-driven practical sessions. Candidates will develop a deeper understanding of the creative process in choreography and will be encouraged to develop their own choreographic voice through the creation of a group dance. Candidates will be given the opportunity to create a dance piece and analyse the work of two contrasting choreographers.

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

- 1 Use advanced choreographic skills.
- 2 Evaluate the work of two contrasting choreographers.
- 3 Create, present and evaluate a group dance.

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: Candidates should possess the HN Unit:

F1NS 34 *Dance: Choreographic Skills*

Core Skills: There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Communication (Written Communication: Writing) at SCQF level 4, Communication (Oral Communication) at SCQF level 6, Working with Others at SCQF level 6 and Problem Solving (Planning and Organising) at SCQF level 6 and Problem Solving (Reviewing and Evaluating) 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: Outcomes 1 and 3 will be assessed by practical assessments carried out in studio settings under supervised conditions and supported by written/oral log books. Outcome 2 is assessed by an evaluative report.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards

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The sections of the Unit stating the Outcomes, Knowledge and/or Skills, and Evidence Requirements are mandatory.

Outcome 1

Use advanced choreographic skills

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Space
- ◆ Timing
- ◆ Post-Modern choreography
- ◆ Contact improvisation

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by showing that they can, through a series of short choreographed tasks set by the lecturer:

- ◆ Demonstrate effective use of space
- ◆ Manipulate the timing of the choreography to create a rhythmic impact on the movement
- ◆ Explore at least two Post-Modern choreographic ideas
- ◆ Use contact improvisation skills to explore and develop duets
- ◆ Produce a log book/record of choreographic tasks

Evidence should be generated through practical assessment carried out in a studio setting under supervised conditions.

The practical evidence should be supported by a record of the choreographic tasks and reflection on the candidate's personal development.

Assessment Guidelines

Outcome 1 could be assessed in a studio setting where candidates can demonstrate their choreographic skills and techniques. The practical evidence may be recorded on an assessment checklist and/or by video.

This evidence may be presented via a written/oral log book.

The log book of choreographic tasks, processes and personal development for Outcomes 1 and 3 may be combined. The written or oral logbook (the equivalent of 1,000 words) should chart the candidates' experiences during the choreography sessions.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Dance: Choreographic Skills: Advanced

Outcome 2

Evaluate the work of two contrasting choreographers

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Choreographic devices
- ◆ Structure
- ◆ Stimuli/themes
- ◆ Evaluation

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by evaluating the work of **two** contrasting choreographers, showing that they can:

- ◆ Analyse at least three choreographic devices used by each choreographer
- ◆ Analyse at least three choreographic structures used by each choreographer
- ◆ Discuss and research either the stimuli or themes used by each choreographer
- ◆ Evaluate the choreography in terms of stimuli, music, set, costume and choreographic content

Assessment Guidelines

Outcome 2 should be assessed by a written/oral investigative assignment. The evidence should be submitted as a written presentation of approximately 750 words or equivalent or an oral presentation of a minimum of 10 minutes.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Dance: Choreographic Skills: Advanced

Outcome 3

Create, present and evaluate a group dance

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Planning and research skills
- ◆ Stimulus, theme and narrative
- ◆ Choreographic skills and techniques
- ◆ Music/sound
- ◆ Costume/set
- ◆ Evaluation skills

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ Plan and research stimulus for a group dance using either a theme or narrative
- ◆ Utilise choreographic skills and techniques in the creation of a group dance
- ◆ Use appropriate music or sound and costume or set in relation to the theme of the choreography
- ◆ Keep a record of choreographic process and reflect on personal development through a written/oral log book
- ◆ Evaluate the dance piece making reference to: strengths and weaknesses as a choreographer, use of choreographic devices, structure, music/sound and costume/set, the dancers' performance and recommendations for future work

Practical evidence should be generated through studio based assessment undertaken in supervised conditions. The presentation of the group dance should be 4-6 minutes in length.

The practical assessment will be supported by a log book detailing the choreographic processes and candidate's personal development. The evaluation of the dance piece should be incorporated into the log book.

Assessment Guidelines

Outcome 3 could be assessed in a studio setting where candidates can demonstrate their choreographic skills and techniques gained in Outcome 1 in the group dance. The practical evidence may be recorded on an assessment checklist and/or by video.

The log book of choreographic tasks, processes and personal development for Outcomes 1 and 3 may be combined. The written/oral log book (the equivalent of 1,000 words) should chart the candidate's experiences during the choreography sessions and evaluate the performance of the group dance.

Administrative Information

Unit code:	F1LJ 35
Unit title:	Dance: Choreographic Skills: Advanced
Superclass category:	LB
Original date of publication:	June 2007
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History of changes:

Version	Description of change	Date
02	Outcome 3 — Evidence Requirements — Deleted (the candidate should not be in their own piece).	30/09/09

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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Dance: Choreographic Skills: Advanced

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

The Unit is designed to give candidates the skills to create group choreography. Through a series of task-based exercises and the analysis of the work of two contrasting choreographers candidates will be prepared for the task of choreographing a group dance piece. Candidates are required to keep a log book of their experiences.

Candidates should be encouraged to work by themselves, in groups and as choreographer.

Outcome 1 focuses on skills and techniques used to manipulate choreographic material through exploration of the following: space, timing, contact improvisation and Post-Modern choreographic skills, for instance - dance by chance, pedestrian movement, and music or sound. Candidates should be led through a series of workshops that develop their choreographic skills.

Outcome 2 focuses on the analysis of the choreography of two contrasting choreographers, ideally chosen by the tutor.

Outcome 3 requires candidates to create a short group choreography for performance in the dance studio. It is essential that candidates do not perform in their own dance. In order to be able to look at their work objectively they must act as their own 'outside eye'. Candidates are expected to bring together all the skills they have acquired in Outcomes 1 and 2 and work closely with their dancers through communication and scheduling of work.

Log Books

When producing their log book, candidates should be encouraged to include appendices, which cover the following: floor patterns, dancers' positioning, research on themes and ideas, costume and lighting ideas, photographic/video evidence of own choreographic process, reports on performances, bibliography etc.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

This Unit has been developed as part of the HND Dance Artists Group Award. It is recommended that this Unit is delivered in the second year of the HND Group Award.

Assessment for Outcomes 1, 2 and 3 should be conducted separately. There is a mixture of practical and written/oral assessments through studio based assignments and log books and a report. It is recommended that assessment evidence is recorded by a combination of checklists and video.

It is recommended that candidates choreograph on their peers and candidates from HNC/first year HND programmes.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Dance: Choreographic Skills: Advanced

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

Although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills in this Unit there are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Communication (Written Communication: Writing) at SCQF level 4, Communication (Oral Communication) at SCQF level 6, Working with Others at SCQF level 6 and Problem Solving (Planning and Organising) at SCQF level 6 and Problem Solving (Reviewing and Evaluating) at SCQF level 5. These Core Skills will be developed throughout the Unit as candidates build log books, discuss in groups, research and analyse the works of choreographers. Candidates will also devise their own choreography and work with performers in tailoring the dance piece and plan and organise a timetable for rehearsals.

Open learning

This Unit is not suitable for delivery by distance learning because it requires candidates to take part in regular studio based practical sessions which are required to be led and observed by a qualified practitioner to meet:

Health and safety requirements
and
Evidence Requirements

Disabled candidates and/or those with additional support needs

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering whether any reasonable adjustments may be required. Further advice can be found on our website
www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements

General information for candidates

Unit title: Dance: Choreographic Skills: Advanced

This Unit will extend your choreographic skills and techniques. You will use these skills in the creation of a group dance piece. You will also analyse the work of two established choreographers.

In **Outcome 1** you will develop complex choreographic skills. This will involve:

- ◆ Using space effectively
- ◆ Manipulating timing to create a rhythmic impact
- ◆ Using the principles of Post-Modern ideas
- ◆ Using contact improvisation to explore and develop duets

Outcome 2 involves the analysis and evaluation of the work of two contrasting choreographers.

In **Outcome 3** you will create, present and evaluate a group dance.

Outcomes 1 and 3 are assessed by practical studio based assignments supported by log books.
Outcome 2 is assessed by a written/oral presentation.