

Higher National Unit specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Dance: Pas de deux

Unit code: F1LR 35

Unit purpose: This Unit has been designed to develop Pas de deux skills and techniques in a chosen dance style. Candidates will develop technical elements combined with performance.

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

- 1 Demonstrate fundamental Pas de deux skills and techniques.
- 2 Execute Pas de deux within dance sequences and phrases.
- 3 Perform Pas de deux sequences in a choreographed dance piece.

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: Access to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre. However, it would be beneficial if candidates had prior knowledge of F1M1 34 *Jazz Dance Techniques*, F1LL 34 *Dance: Classical Ballet Techniques: Intermediate* and *Current Trends in Commercial Dance* at SCQF level 7.

Core Skills: There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Communication (Oral) at SCQF level 5, Working with Others at SCQF level 5 and Problem Solving (Critical Thinking) at SCQF level 4 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: The assessment of Outcomes 1 and 2 should be combined into one practical studio based assessment.

Outcome 3 will be assessed by a studio/theatre performance of a choreographed Pas de deux dance piece.

Both assessments will be undertaken in supervised, controlled conditions.

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.

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

Demonstrate fundamental Pas de deux skills and techniques

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Correct alignment
- ◆ Control
- ◆ Core stability
- ◆ Coordination
- ◆ Communication
- ◆ Creativity
- ◆ Contact, content and methods

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ Demonstrate correct alignment of the spine, use of control and core stability in relation to their own body.
- ◆ Coordinate **three** Pas de deux elements effectively to achieve precision and unity with partner/class member.
- ◆ Set up effective channels of communication with partner/class member.

Evidence should be generated through assessment undertaken in supervised, controlled conditions, within a studio setting, and be recorded by appropriate means.

Assessment Guidelines

Assessment of this Outcome could be combined with Outcome 2 and carried out under supervised, controlled conditions.

It is recommended that all mirrors are removed or covered to ensure the authenticity of the candidate's work. An observation checklist could be completed by the Assessor to ensure a record of communication between candidates is recorded and that candidates have shared responsibility for the dance piece.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Dance: Pas de deux

Candidates should be assessed on Outcomes 1 and 2 before progressing to Outcome 3.

The assessment may be recorded by means of an assessment checklist and/or by video.

Outcome 2

Execute Pas de deux within dance sequences and phrases

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Short movement phrases
- ◆ Control and coordination
- ◆ Musicality in response to accompaniment
- ◆ Observation and communication skills
- ◆ Stamina
- ◆ Sense of line
- ◆ Balance
- ◆ Choreography

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ Demonstrate appropriate contact, content and methods in short movement phrases, in order to achieve creative combinations which could not be achieved without the aid of a partner.
- ◆ Demonstrate enhanced control and coordinated movement whilst working with a partner, incorporating different dynamics in either fast or slow Pas de deux movement phrases. Candidates have to show a minimum of **four** Pas de deux elements.
- ◆ Perform fundamental Pas de deux technique in a minimum of **two** short movement phrases demonstrating elements of adage and allegro movements. Candidates have to show a minimum of **one** balance, **one** pirouette, **one** support and **one** lift.
- ◆ Accurately execute the steps in time with the music and/or accompaniment.
- ◆ Demonstrate effective channels of communication with partner/class member, as set up in Outcome 1.
- ◆ Combine principal steps of adage and allegro, including **four** Pas de deux elements to produce combinations and enchainments which would be impossible without the aid of a partner.

Evidence should be generated through assessment undertaken in supervised, controlled conditions, within a studio setting, and be recorded by appropriate means.

Assessment Guidelines

Assessment of this Outcome could be combined with Outcome 1.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Dance: Pas de deux

It is recommended that all mirrors are removed or covered to ensure the authenticity of the candidate's work. An observation checklist should be completed by the Assessor to ensure a record of communication between candidates is recorded and that candidates have shared responsibility for the dance piece.

Candidates could be assessed on Outcomes 1 and 2 before progressing to Outcome 3.

The assessment may be recorded by means of an assessment checklist and/or by video.

Outcome 3

Perform Pas de deux sequences in a choreographed dance piece

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Interpreting
- ◆ Choreography
- ◆ Technique
- ◆ Performance qualities
- ◆ Presentation of style
- ◆ Interpretative sensitivity
- ◆ Spatial awareness
- ◆ Stage craft
- ◆ Musicality

Evidence Requirements

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge and/or skills by showing that they can, with reference to Pas de deux choreography:

- ◆ Reproduce the dance piece accurately using control and coordination.
- ◆ Demonstrate secure technical ability, combining all elements from Outcomes 1 and 2.
- ◆ Demonstrate performance qualities and put these into practice throughout the dance. This should include projection to both partner and the audience, artistic interpretation of the movement and sensitivity to the mood of the dance piece.
- ◆ Use floor space and spatial awareness in relation to the room/space and in relation to their partner.
- ◆ Demonstrate stage craft through the awareness and application of entrances and exits, eye line, and size of performances space.
- ◆ Execute the movement phrases in time with the music and/or accompaniment.

Evidence should be generated through assessment undertaken in controlled, supervised conditions within a studio setting, and be recorded by appropriate means. The dance piece should last a minimum of two minutes and be performance within a studio/theatre setting.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Dance: Pas de deux

Assessment Guidelines

The assessment should be carried out at the end of the delivery of the Unit. All the elements of Outcome 3 can be assessed in a choreographed dance piece, performed within either a studio or theatre. The candidates will be rehearsed for the assessment and will know the content of the piece before the assessment.

It is recommended that all mirrors are removed or covered to ensure the authenticity of the candidate's work.

The assessment may be recorded by means of an assessment checklist and/or by video.

Administrative Information

Unit code: F1LR 35
Unit title: Dance: Pas de deux
Superclass category: LB
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History of changes:

Version	Description of change	Date

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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Dance: Pas de deux

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 for candidates wishing to develop Pas de deux skills in a chosen dance style. The centre is required to select an appropriate dance technique on which to base this Unit eg Classical, Jazz, Contemporary, Commercial, etc. It will develop the skills which will underpin Pas de deux techniques in performances.

Selection of appropriate dance material should be considered, incorporating elements such as adage and allegro movements in which the dancer balances, pirouettes, supports or is supported, lifts or is lifted. Selection of appropriate music, creative material and stimuli are developed in regular studio based classes.

At this level, it is recommended that candidates should be studying the following elements of Pas de deux techniques:

Outcome 1

Elements:

- ◆ Balances
- ◆ Preparation for pirouettes
- ◆ Supports
- ◆ Lifts

Outcome 2

Elements:

- ◆ Line
- ◆ Poise
- ◆ Balances
- ◆ Poses
- ◆ Pirouettes
- ◆ Suspension
- ◆ Fall

Outcome 3

Elements:

- ◆ Balances
- ◆ Supports
- ◆ Lifts
- ◆ Line
- ◆ Poise
- ◆ Poses
- ◆ Pirouettes
- ◆ Suspension
- ◆ Fall
- ◆ Poses

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Dance: Pas de deux

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

This Unit has been developed as part of the HNC/D Professional Stage Dance Group Awards. It is recommended that this Unit be delivered in the second year of the HND.

Assessment will be conducted through ongoing practical, studio based sessions and a recorded assessment combining Outcomes 1 and 2. Evidence for Outcome 3 should be generated through a performance, either studio or theatre based.

The importance of communication skills should be emphasised throughout the delivery of this Unit.

Authentication of candidate work will be made through the use of assessment checklists and/or video evidence.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

It is expected that candidates will engage in regular informal and ongoing discussion with their tutor throughout this Unit concerning all aspects Pas de deux techniques, allowing for the development of Oral Communication at SCQF level 5.

Outcomes 1, 2 and 3 may provide opportunities to develop candidates' Core Skills in the area of Working with Others at SCQF level 5. This Core Skill may be developed through candidates' involvement in the performance of a choreographed dance piece, where the Outcome depends on candidates showing awareness in relation to other dancers working in the same piece with them, and utilising the same performance space.

Problem Solving (Critical Thinking) at SCQF level 4 is developed in Outcomes 1, 2 and 3, when candidates perform lifts and dances, taking account of and working with their partners' strengths and weaknesses.

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
- ◆ Outcomes of 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**.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Dance: Pas de deux

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).

General information for candidates

Unit title: Dance: Pas de deux

In this Unit you will develop Pas de deux skills and techniques in a chosen dance style. These skills and techniques will be demonstrated within a dance performance.

In Outcome 1 you will look at fundamental Pas de deux skills and techniques:

- ◆ Correct alignment
- ◆ Control
- ◆ Core Stability
- ◆ Coordination
- ◆ Communication
- ◆ Creativity
- ◆ Contact, content and methods

In Outcome 2 you will demonstrate Pas de deux skills within dance sequences and phrases. This will incorporate:

- ◆ Short movement phrases
- ◆ Control and coordination
- ◆ Musicality in response to accompaniment
- ◆ Observation and communication skills
- ◆ Stamina
- ◆ Sense of line
- ◆ Balance
- ◆ Choreography

Your practical skills for Outcomes 1 and 2 will be assessed by means of a studio based assessment.

In Outcome 3 you will bring your Pas de deux skills and techniques together in a choreographed dance piece.

All assessments will take place under controlled, supervised conditions. Evidence will be recorded. This may be done on assessment checklists and/or videoed.

There may be opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Communication (Oral), Working with Others and Problem Solving (Critical Thinking) in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.