

Higher National Unit specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Current Trends in Contemporary Dance Techniques

Unit code: F1NF 35

Unit purpose: This Unit is designed to engage candidates in the study and practice of innovative and dynamic contemporary dance techniques at advanced level. It will enable candidates to practise current trends and incorporate them into their existing repertoire

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

- 1 Demonstrate a movement vocabulary combining new and existing skills appropriate to the dance form
- 2 Execute designated tasks using new and existing skills and techniques
- 3 Execute a dance which utilises new and existing skills and techniques appropriate to the dance form

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: While access to the Unit is at the discretion of the centre, it is recommended that candidates have successfully completed:

- ◆ F1LL 34 *Dance: Classical Ballet Techniques: Intermediate*
- ◆ F1R6 34 *Dance: Graham-based Techniques: Intermediate*
- ◆ F1NP 34 *Dance: Cunningham-based Techniques: Intermediate*
- ◆ F1NK 34 *Dance: Release-based Techniques: Intermediate*

or other equivalent qualifications.

Core Skills: There may be opportunities to develop the Core Skill of Working with Others and the component 'Reviewing and Evaluating' of the Core Skill Problem Solving to 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.

General information for centres (cont)

Unit title: Current Trends in Contemporary Dance Techniques

Assessment: Evidence for this Unit will be by tutor observation recorded on an observation checklist throughout the delivery of the Unit. For Outcomes 1 and 2 assessment should be integrated. Outcome 3 should be assessed near completion of the Unit.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards

Unit title: Current Trends in Contemporary Dance Techniques

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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 a movement vocabulary combining new and existing skills appropriate to the dance form

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ New skills
- ◆ Movement quality
- ◆ Dynamic range
- ◆ Extended movement phrases
- ◆ Existing skills

Evidence Requirements

Candidates must provide evidence of their knowledge and/or skills by showing that they can demonstrate:

- ◆ New skills in directed classes
- ◆ Movement qualities appropriate to the dance form
- ◆ Movement phrases through the application of a broad dynamic range
- ◆ Extended movement phrases incorporating new skills, qualities and a broad dynamic range lasting a minimum of two minutes
- ◆ Existing skills to be used in combination with new skills will be drawn from and include a minimum of two from the following: classical ballet — Intermediate, Graham-based — Intermediate, Cunningham-based — Intermediate, Release-base — Intermediate.

Assessment Guidelines

Evidence may be by tutor observation recorded on an observation checklist throughout the delivery of the Unit. This Outcome could be integrated with Outcome 2.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Current Trends in Contemporary Dance Techniques

Outcome 2

Execute designated tasks clearly using new and existing skills and techniques

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Response
- ◆ Correction
- ◆ Exploration
- ◆ Existing skills

Evidence Requirements

Candidates must provide evidence of their knowledge and/or skills by showing that they can demonstrate:

- ◆ Response to tutor instruction through a detailed execution in extended sequences lasting a minimum of two minutes in duration.
- ◆ Individual self-evaluation and correction through focused application
- ◆ A willingness to engage in the exploration of new concepts
- ◆ Existing skills to be used in combination with new skills will be drawn from and include a minimum of two from the following: classical ballet — Intermediate, Graham-based — Intermediate, Cunningham-based — Intermediate, Release-base — Intermediate.

Assessment Guidelines

Evidence may be by tutor observation recorded on an observation checklist throughout the delivery of the Unit. This Outcome could be integrated with Outcome 1.

Outcome 3

Execute a dance which utilises new and existing skills appropriate to the dance form

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Projection
- ◆ Control
- ◆ Observation
- ◆ Performance
- ◆ Existing skills

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Current Trends in Contemporary Dance Techniques

Evidence Requirements

Candidates must provide evidence of their knowledge and/or skills by showing that they can demonstrate:

- ◆ A dance lasting a minimum of three minutes demonstrating, projection of style, physical control, spatial awareness by maintaining spacing when dancing with others, performance of new and existing skills at advanced level.
- ◆ Existing skills to be used in combination with new skills will be drawn from and include a minimum of two from the following: classical ballet — Intermediate, Graham-based — Intermediate, Cunningham-based —Intermediate, Release-base — Intermediate.

Assessment Guidelines

Evidence for this may be by tutor observation recorded on an observation checklist and should be assessed near the end of the Unit.

Administrative Information

Unit code: F1NF 35

Unit title: Current Trends in Contemporary Dance Techniques

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: Current Trends in Contemporary Dance Techniques

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 allows for new developments in contemporary dance, which by its nature is an ever-changing genre of dance. Detail of new skills is therefore difficult to predict and requires the deliverer to create detailed plans of the new skills/techniques to be delivered. The new skills/techniques need to be substantial and significant to provide a balance and allow for the combination of existing and new skills to be explored.

Candidates will be required to be open to new ideas and techniques and to respond positively to new concepts.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

Outcomes 1 and 2 involve ongoing integrated assessment by tutor observation. Outcome 3 should be assessed at the end of the Unit to allow maximum opportunity for candidates to develop skills. The dance in Outcome 3 could be assessed through a small group dance.

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

There may be opportunities to develop the Core Skill of Working with Others and the component 'Reviewing and Evaluating' of the Core Skill Problem Solving at SCQF level 5 in this Unit. Problem Solving Skills may be developed as candidates integrate their generic contemporary dance skills with a new technique and with the cumulative nature of dance learning, continually seek to improve their performance. Outcome 3 in particular offers candidates significant opportunities to carry out self-review and self evaluation to ensure their performance reflects the desired qualities. All candidates would normally be expected to carry out self-review and evaluation as a daily exercise in every practical session. Learning new skills in small groups, practising combinations and spacing for performances with frequent dialogue and discussion will allow for the development of *Working with Others* to SCQF level 5

Open learning

This Unit is not suited to delivery by distance learning because it requires candidates to be observed and questioned by a qualified practitioner to meet health and safety requirements and professional proficiency requirements.

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: Current Trends in Contemporary Dance Techniques

This Unit will introduce you to develop new skills allied to current trends in contemporary techniques.

You will need to have an open and positive attitude to new concepts which are unfamiliar.

The Unit will cover the following:

Demonstrate a new vocabulary combined with existing skills/techniques.

- ◆ New skills
- ◆ Movement quality
- ◆ Dynamic range
- ◆ Extended movement phrases
- ◆ Existing skills

Execute designated tasks using new skills

- ◆ Response
- ◆ Correction
- ◆ Exploration
- ◆ Existing skills

Execute a dance

- ◆ Projection
- ◆ Control
- ◆ Observation
- ◆ Performance
- ◆ Existing skills

During the course of this Unit there may be opportunities for you to develop important Core Skills in the areas of Working with Others and Problem Solving (Reviewing and Evaluating)