

## Higher National Unit specification

### General information for centres

**Unit title:** Dance: Advanced Performance and Production

**Unit code:** F1NW 35

**Unit purpose:** This Unit is designed to provide candidates with the opportunity to perform in a devised production. It prepares them for the advanced level of professionalism and discipline required during the rehearsal and planning stages of performance. The Unit allows candidates to develop advanced choreographic and performance skills through direction, and encourages personal development through critical evaluation of the production process.

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

- 1 Co-operate with a choreographer to stage a devised production.
- 2 Demonstrate advanced performance skills.
- 3 Dance in a devised production.
- 4 Evaluate the process and end product of a devised production.

**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 entry to this Unit will be at the discretion of the centre, it is recommended that candidates have completed the Higher National Unit:

F1LD 34 *Dance: An Introduction to Performance and Production.*

**Core Skills:** There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Communication, Working with Others, and Problem Solving to SCQF level 6 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:** This Unit can be assessed by means of a holistic instrument of assessment. Candidates are required to perform in a devised performance which will be accompanied by a personal record and evaluation of the process.

## **Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards**

**Unit title:** Dance: Advanced Performance and Production

**Unit code:** F1NW 35

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**

Co-operate with a choreographer to stage a devised production

#### **Knowledge and/or Skills**

- ◆ Rehearsals/workshops
- ◆ Positive working relationships
- ◆ Personal response to direction
- ◆ Etiquette
- ◆ Record of production

#### **Evidence Requirements**

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

- ◆ attend at least 80% of scheduled rehearsals/workshops demonstrating commitment and punctuality, appropriate to the requirements of the production
- ◆ contribute to the rehearsal process, demonstrating effective development of positive working relationships with choreographer, performers and production team
- ◆ contribute to the rehearsal process, demonstrating effective development of personal response to direction
- ◆ demonstrate appropriate etiquette throughout the rehearsal/planning stages of the devised production, to ensure the smooth running of the performance
- ◆ produce a personal record of the rehearsal process including: directorial notes, personal response to direction, research and choreographic processes, and personal development of role within the production team

#### **Assessment Guidelines**

The assessment for this Outcome can be combined with Outcomes 2, 3, and 4 as a single assessment for the Unit. The candidate will perform in a devised production, and accompany this performance with a personal record.

## **Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)**

**Unit title:** Dance: Advanced Performance and Production

### **Outcome 2**

Demonstrate advanced performance skills

#### **Knowledge and/or Skills**

- ◆ Underlying intention of dance work
- ◆ Utilisation of personal experience and observation
- ◆ Director/choreographer interpretation
- ◆ Response to direction
- ◆ Rehearsal

#### **Evidence Requirements**

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

- ◆ appropriate research is undertaken to increase awareness and understanding of the underlying intention of the dance work and the function of own contribution
- ◆ relevant personal experience and observation are drawn on to assist the choreographer
- ◆ performer development is appropriate to the requirements of the production and the interpretation of the director/choreographer
- ◆ response to direction is positive in terms of willing co-operation and exchange of ideas
- ◆ demonstrate the development of advanced performance skills through rehearsal

#### **Assessment Guidelines**

The assessment for this Outcome can be combined with Outcomes 1, 3, and 4 as a single assessment for the Unit. The candidate will perform in a devised production, and accompany this performance with a personal record.

### **Outcome 3**

Dance in a devised performance

#### **Knowledge and/or Skills**

- ◆ Choreography
- ◆ Discipline and professionalism
- ◆ Spatial awareness
- ◆ Stagecraft

## **Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)**

**Unit title:** Dance: Advanced Performance and Production

### **Evidence Requirements**

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

- ◆ perform choreography with expression, showing appropriate emotions in accordance with the agreed interpretation
- ◆ maintain discipline, concentration and focus throughout the performance
- ◆ demonstrate use of projection showing an awareness of space; respond sensitively and maintain spatial relationship with other performers on stage
- ◆ interact with the audience, appropriate to the context of the performance

### **Assessment Guidelines**

The assessment for this Outcome can be combined with Outcomes 1, 2, and 4 as a single assessment for the Unit. The candidate will perform in a devised production, and accompany this performance with a personal record.

It is recommended that the assessment of the practical performance is recorded for evidence purposes.

## **Outcome 4**

Evaluate the process and end product of a devised production

### **Knowledge and/or Skills**

- ◆ Opportunities and constraints in staging a production
- ◆ Personal performance review
- ◆ Group performance review

### **Evidence Requirements**

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

- ◆ identify and evaluate the opportunities and limitations within the production and performance process
- ◆ evaluate their own contribution realistically and accurately in terms of individual strengths and weaknesses
- ◆ evaluate their own contribution to the performance of the group

### **Assessment Guidelines**

The assessment for this Outcome can be combined with Outcomes 1, 2, and 3 as a single assessment for the Unit. The candidate will perform in a devised production, and accompany this performance with a personal record.

## Administrative Information

**Unit code:** F1NW 35

**Unit title:** Dance: Advanced Performance and Production

**Superclass category:** LB

**Original date of publication:** June 2007

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### History of changes:

Version	Description of change	Date

**Source:** SQA

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## **Higher National Unit specification: support notes**

### **Unit title: Dance: Advanced Performance and Production**

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 primarily designed to prepare candidates for performance, and can be approached as an ongoing assessment from the beginning of the rehearsal process, culminating in the devised performance. Throughout the planning stages, rehearsals and performance, candidates are required to keep a record of personal experience and development. A dated diary can be used to aid the production of a personal record which should include a critical evaluation.

Outcome 1 looks at the initial rehearsal process and the candidate's response to direction. The candidate should have an advanced knowledge of choreographic devices and stage directions to assist with this process. The candidate is encouraged to positively develop their personal contribution within the dance work, influencing the development of the piece.

A personal record should be maintained by the candidate detailing directorial notes, choreographic devices employed and an outline of the development of their role within the performance. This record will be maintained throughout Outcomes 1–4 and may be word processed.

Outcome 2 encourages the candidate to observe the choreographer and discuss and exchange ideas and give a positive response to the director/choreographer's needs and direction. Outcome 2 also emphasises the importance of the rehearsal process in development.

Their personal record should be a continuous development from Outcome 1 and should include where appropriate, information on contextualisation, motif development, investigation evidence of stimulus and choreographic structure.

Outcome 3 is predominantly performance based, where candidates must demonstrate the ability to perform choreographic material accurately. The candidate must possess the ability to demonstrate performance skills such as: use of projection, spatial awareness and stagecraft to enhance their performance.

Outcome 4 presents the candidate with the opportunity to analyse their own skills and techniques, identifying areas of strength and weakness within their development. Through evaluation of the whole production process, the candidate is able to analyse and discuss personal and group contribution to the performance. The critical evaluation should be a continuation of the personal record maintained in Outcomes 1 to 3.

### **Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit**

This Unit has been developed as part of the HNC/HND Dance Artists Group Award. It is recommended that this Unit be delivered in the second year of the HND, allowing progression from the Higher National Unit Dance: an Introduction to Performance and Production.

## Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

### Unit title: Dance: Advanced Performance and Production

Assessment for Outcomes 1, 2, 3 and 4 should be conducted as one single assessment for the Unit and will take the form of a practical performance accompanied by a personal record detailing planning, involvement, personal development, and critical evaluation. It is recommended that assessment evidence of practical performance is recorded. This recorded evidence can be used as an aid for candidates' personal analysis and critical evaluation.

#### *Opportunities for developing Core Skills*

There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of Communication, Working with Others, and Problem Solving to SCQF level 6 in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

Working with Others and Problem Solving (Planning and Organising) may be developed through the candidate's contribution to the devised production, from the early stages of planning and rehearsal through to participation in the performance itself.

As well as being involved in the planning, organising and completion of the performance, candidates will be required to complete a degree of analysis, particularly in Outcome 4. As part of this Outcome candidates will identify areas of strength and weakness within their development, will be involved in analysing and discussing personal and group contribution to the performance, and will evaluate the complete production process. This facilitates development of the Core Skills of Problem Solving (Reviewing and Evaluating) and of Communication to SCQF level 6. The personal record maintained throughout Outcomes 1 to 4 by the candidate detailing directorial notes, choreographic devices employed and an outline of the development of their role within the performance may also aid development of the Core Skill of Communication.

### Open learning

This Unit is not suitable for delivery by distance learning because it requires candidates to take part in regular practical sessions which are required to be led and observed by a qualified practitioner to meet Health and safety requirements and 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](http://www.sqa.org.uk).

### 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](http://www.sqa.org.uk)).

## **General information for candidates**

### **Unit title:** Dance: Advanced Performance and Production

This Unit has been designed to enhance your knowledge and skills in Dance Production.

This Unit is primarily designed to prepare you for performance, and will take the form of an ongoing assessment from the planning stages, and rehearsal process, culminating in a devised performance.

The Unit will cover the following areas:

#### **Outcome 1**

Co-operate with a choreographer to stage a devised production

- ◆ Attendance at rehearsals/workshops
- ◆ Development of positive working relationships
- ◆ Personal response to direction
- ◆ Appropriate etiquette
- ◆ Record of production

Through individual and group choreographic tasks set by the choreographer, you will be encouraged to develop your skills and personal contribution within the dance work, influencing the development of the piece.

#### **Outcome 2**

Demonstrate advanced performance skills

- ◆ Research underlying intention of the dance work
- ◆ Utilisation of personal experience and observation
- ◆ Development appropriate to director/choreographers interpretation
- ◆ Positive response to direction

During the rehearsal period you will have the chance to develop your performance skills and work collaboratively with the choreographer.

#### **Outcome 3**

Dance in a devised performance

- ◆ Choreography
- ◆ Discipline and professionalism
- ◆ Spatial awareness
- ◆ Stagecraft



## **General information for candidates (cont)**

### **Unit title:** Dance: Advanced Performance and Production

Through your performance in the devised production, you will demonstrate the ability to perform choreographic material accurately. Within the performance, you will demonstrate skills such as use of projection, spatial awareness and stage craft to enhance performance.

#### **Outcome 4**

Evaluate the process and end product of a devised production

- ◆ Identification of opportunities and constraints in staging the production
- ◆ Personal performance review
- ◆ Group performance review

Throughout the planning stages, rehearsals and performance, you will be required to keep a record of personal experience and development. The personal record may include such detail as directorial notes, devices employed, and should include an outline of the development of your personal contribution within the performance. This record will be maintained throughout Outcomes 1 to 4 and could be word processed for assessment.