



Higher National Unit specification: general information

Unit title: Movement for Musical Theatre 1

Unit code: H4JY 34

Superclass: LB

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Unit purpose

The purpose of this Unit is to enable learners to develop skills in basic dance technique and apply them to choreography and performance for Musical Theatre. It will enable learners to learn about general dance technique whilst developing coordination, sequencing and performance. Learners will also develop Knowledge and Understanding of applying the skills to Musical Theatre performance.

On completion of this Unit the learner should be able to:

- 1 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of fitness for movement in Musical Theatre.
- 2 Demonstrate basic dance technique.
- 3 Demonstrate basic travelling and movement sequences for Musical Theatre.
- 4 Perform a taught, choreographed Musical Theatre dance piece.

Recommended prior knowledge and skills

Entry is at the discretion of the centre.

Credit points and level

2 Higher National Unit credits at SCQF level 7: (16 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7*)

**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.*

General information (cont)

Core Skills

Opportunities to develop aspects of Core Skills are highlighted in the Support Notes of this Unit specification.

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skill components in this Unit.

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.

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. Learners 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 knowledge and understanding of fitness for movement in Musical Theatre.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Posture
- ◆ Cardiovascular Fitness
- ◆ Flexibility
- ◆ Strength
- ◆ Stamina and Endurance

Evidence Requirements

Learners will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can demonstrate the following in a condensed fitness warm up and exercise class lasting approximately 20 minutes:

- ◆ Demonstrate correct posture
- ◆ Demonstrate muscle stamina and sustained cardiovascular activity
- ◆ Perform stretching techniques and exercises

Learners must also produce a personal fitness plan which will include: areas for development, strategy for improvement, time frame and goal setting. The plan should be approximately 1000 words in total, or an oral presentation of approximately 10 minutes.

Outcome 2

Demonstrate basic dance technique.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Musicality
- ◆ Technique
- ◆ Muscle Control

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

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Evidence Requirements

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

Perform dance classwork exercises in either parallel or turned out positions appropriate to Musical Theatre, showing that they have an accurate understanding of the practical methods of executing each move. The following must be covered in classwork exercises:

- ◆ Pliés
- ◆ Footwork
- ◆ Alignment
- ◆ Extension
- ◆ Turns
- ◆ Elevation

Outcome 3

Demonstrate basic travelling and movement sequences for Musical Theatre.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Use of space
- ◆ Spatial awareness
- ◆ Coordination
- ◆ Timing in response to music and tempi

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ Accurately reproduce a range of three travelling sequences that combine the fitness skills acquired in Outcome 1 and the dance skills acquired in Outcome 2.
- ◆ Execute these movement phrases in time to music demonstrating understanding of rhythm and tempo.
- ◆ Demonstrate spatial awareness in relation to the studio space and other dancers.

Outcome 4

Perform a taught, choreographed Musical Theatre dance piece.

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Reproduction of choreography
- ◆ Performance qualities
- ◆ Acting through dance/movement
- ◆ Stagecraft

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Movement for Musical Theatre 1

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ Accurately reproduce tutor-led choreography. This will be a tutor-led piece of a minimum of three minutes in length.
- ◆ Demonstrate performance qualities throughout the choreographed piece. This must incorporate projection to the audience, character interpretation of the movement, use of dynamics and musicality.
- ◆ Demonstrate use of stagecraft through the knowledge and application of awareness of exits and entrances, eye line, interaction with other character in the piece, size of performance space, and type of performance event.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Movement for Musical Theatre 1

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 80 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

This Unit is designed to develop the learner's skills and knowledge of dance and movement in Musical Theatre.

Due to the extremely wide variety of styles within Musical Theatre it is evident that the dance styles used are also very varied. Therefore it is essential that Musical Theatre learners without a previous knowledge in dance are able to learn, develop and incorporate dance technique and performance fluidly into their practice.

At this level, learners are acquiring the skills to demonstrate existing Musical Theatre styles, and they should also be encouraged to interpret these and create character styles.

Outcome 1 equips learners with the relevant technical and/or professional knowledge and skills to condition their body as part of Musical Theatre training. Strength, stamina and flexibility will be developed through participation in regular studio-based classes and knowledge of the implications for the individual learner will be demonstrated through their production of an individual fitness plan.

Outcome 2 equips learners with specific skills through generic dance classwork, performed in either parallel or turned out positions, to appropriately improve and execute Musical Theatre dance styles.

Outcome 3 enables learners to explore and implement Outcomes 1 and 2 within Musical Theatre travelling sequences. These sequences will be taught to promote spatial awareness, improve movement memory and incorporate stylistic understanding geared towards the participation in a taught piece of choreography.

Outcome 4 enables learners to synthesis learning from Outcomes 1 to 3 by performing in a tutor choreographed dance piece. This will enable the learners to combine their technical and performance skills.

Guidance on the delivery of this Unit

This Unit has been developed as part of the HNC/D *Musical Theatre* Group Award. It is required that this Unit be delivered in the first year of the HND.

Lessons should involve mainly practical work which includes classwork, sequences and rehearsals. It is recommended that as many examples of Musical Theatre movement and dance work be shown, discussed and evaluated to enable learner's understanding of the plethora of styles.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Movement for Musical Theatre 1

Guidance on the assessment of this Unit

Assessments will be recorded in order to ensure authentication of learner work. This could be done by use of assessment checklists and/or video.

Due to the Unit structure it is required that the assessment for each Outcome is conducted subsequent or concurrently to the previous one and that Outcome 1 is conducted first. Outcome 4 provides an opportunity for collaborative Unit work and cross assessment. This is recommended to enable a holistic understanding of the place of movement and dance in Musical Theatre for the learner.

Assessment Guidelines

Outcome 1

Evidence should be generated by the performance of a condensed fitness warm up and exercise class lasting approximately 20 minutes and the submission of a personal fitness plan.

Outcome 2

Evidence should be generated by the performance of dance technique classwork exercises.

Outcome 3

Evidence should be generated by learners performing a minimum of three travelling sequences, each of different tempo and musical theatre styles.

Outcome 4

Evidence should be generated by learners performing a three minute Musical Theatre dance piece. This can be solely a dance piece or a production piece that incorporates evidence from both acting and singing Units.

Online and Distance Learning

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

- ◆ Evidence Requirements
- ◆ Health and Safety Requirements

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Movement for Musical Theatre 1

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

There is opportunity to develop the component Planning and Organising of the Core Skill *Problem Solving* across the Outcomes of this Unit but specifically in Outcome 1 where they must plan, organise and produce their fitness program.

Outcome 3 demands a minimum level of cooperation from the learners whilst they are demonstrating their movement sequences, as they are also required to show spatial awareness in relation to the other dancers around them. In Outcome 4, learners must work together during their reproduction of a tutor-led choreographed piece and maintain spatial awareness. This presents an opportunity to develop aspects of the Core Skill of *Working with Others*.

Disabled learners and/or those with additional support needs

The additional support needs of individual learners 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

History of changes to Unit

Version	Description of change	Date

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General information for learners

Unit title: Movement for Musical Theatre 1

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Due to the extremely wide variety of styles within Musical Theatre it is evident that the dance styles used in this arena are also varied. Therefore it is essential that Musical Theatre learners are able to learn, develop and incorporate dance technique and performance fluidly into their practice.

At this level, you will acquire the skills to demonstrate existing Musical Theatre styles, and you will also be encouraged to interpret these and create character styles.

Outcome 1 educates you with the relevant technical and professional knowledge and skills to condition your body as part of Musical Theatre training. Strength, stamina and flexibility will be developed through participation in regular studio-based classes and knowledge of the implications for you will be demonstrated through the production of an individual fitness plan.

Outcome 2 equips you with specific skills through dance classwork, performed in both parallel and turned out positions, to appropriately improve and execute Musical Theatre dance styles.

Outcome 3 enables you to explore and implement Outcomes 1 and 2 within Musical Theatre travelling sequences. These sequences will be taught to promote spatial awareness, improve movement memory and incorporate stylistic understanding geared towards the participation in a taught piece of choreography.

Outcome 4 enables you to synthesis learning from Outcomes 1 to 3 by performing in a tutor choreographed dance piece. This will enable you to combine your technical and performance skills.