



## Higher National Unit specification

### General information

**Unit title:** Jazz Dance Techniques 1

**Unit code:** H4RL 34

**Superclass:** LB

**Publication date:** August 2013

**Source:** Scottish Qualifications Authority

**Version:** 01

### Unit purpose

This Unit is designed to develop jazz dance techniques. The Unit allows the learner to develop the necessary knowledge and skills to understand and participate in a structured jazz dance class. The learner is also given the opportunity to perform in a choreographed jazz dance piece.

### Outcomes

On successful completion of the Unit the learner will be able to:

- 1 Demonstrate jazz dance techniques.
- 2 Perform jazz dance sequences and phrases.
- 3 Perform in a choreographed dance piece.

### Credit points and level

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

### Recommended entry to the Unit

While entry to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, it would be beneficial if the learner had previous experience of jazz dance techniques. This may be evidenced by the possession of a Higher (SCQF level 6), or Advanced Higher (SCQF level 7), in jazz dance or equivalent.

## **Higher National Unit Specification: General information (cont)**

**Unit title:** Jazz Dance Techniques 1

### **Core Skills**

Opportunities to develop aspects of Core Skills are highlighted in the Support Notes for 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.

### **Equality and inclusion**

This Unit specification has been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to learning or assessment. The individual needs of learners should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment methods or considering alternative evidence.

Further advice can be found on our website [www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements](http://www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements).

## Higher National Unit specification: Statement of standards

### Unit title: Jazz Dance Techniques 1

Acceptable performance in this Unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the Unit specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to SQA.

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 jazz dance techniques.

#### Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Alignment
- ◆ Pliés
- ◆ Footwork
- ◆ Isolations
- ◆ Adage
- ◆ Kicks
- ◆ Pirouettes
- ◆ Facility
- ◆ Travelling and allegro

### Outcome 2

Perform jazz dance sequences and phrases.

#### Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Movement phrases
- ◆ Timing
- ◆ Accompaniment
- ◆ Spatial awareness
- ◆ Control of body movements

### Outcome 3

Perform in a choreographed dance piece.

#### Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Choreography
- ◆ Performance qualities
- ◆ Spatial awareness
- ◆ Stage craft

## Higher National Unit specification: Statement of standards (cont)

**Unit title:** Jazz Dance Techniques 1

### Evidence Requirements for this Unit

#### Outcome 1

Evidence for Learning Outcome 1 should be generated through assessment undertaken in controlled, supervised conditions. Learners will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills across all Outcomes by showing that they can:

- ◆ correct body alignment, and apply to jazz dance.
- ◆ pliés in turned out positions — 1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th.
- ◆ accurate footwork in parallel and turned out positions: tendu; glissé; and transfer of weight; in turned out and parallel positions.
- ◆ an isolation combination.
- ◆ technique through a short adage phrase combining at least one développée, at least one penché and at least one element of floor work.
- ◆ a kick combination.
- ◆ single and double pirouettes en dehors and en dedans in a short movement sequence.
- ◆ degree of facility in a stretching combination.
- ◆ a travelling exercise which combines a minimum of three different allegro elements.

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

#### Outcome 2

Evidence for Learning Outcome 2 should be generated through assessment undertaken in controlled, supervised conditions. Learners will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills across all Outcomes by showing that they can:

- ◆ reproduce a range of movement phrases that combine jazz technique elements.
- ◆ reproduce a range of movement phrases that combine jazz technique elements in time with music/accompaniment.
- ◆ demonstrate use of the floor space and spatial awareness in relation to the room/space.
- ◆ demonstrate control of body movements in either fast or slow movement phrases through use of jazz dance skills.

Phrases and sequences will be taught to promote spatial awareness and movement memory, aiming towards the participation in a lecturer-choreographed performance piece.

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

## Higher National Unit specification: Statement of standards (cont)

**Unit title:** Jazz Dance Techniques 1

### Outcome 3

Evidence for Learning Outcome 3 should be generated through assessment undertaken in controlled, supervised conditions. Learners will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills across all Outcomes by showing that they can:

- ◆ replicate a choreographed piece, lasting a minimum of two minutes.
- ◆ demonstrate knowledge of performance qualities and put these into practice throughout the choreographed dance: projection to the audience, artistic interpretation of the movement, use of dynamics and sensitivity to the mood of the piece.
- ◆ demonstrate spatial awareness in relation to other dancers.
- ◆ demonstrate stage craft through the awareness and application of entrances and exits, eye line, size of performance space.

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



## Higher National Unit Support Notes

**Unit title:** Jazz Dance Techniques 1

Unit Support Notes are offered as guidance and 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

The Unit is designed to develop learners' skills with an emphasis on the use of alignment, pliés, footwork, isolations, adage, kicks, pirouettes, stretching sequences, travelling and allegro.

At this level, it is recommended that learners should be studying the following elements of jazz dance technique:

- ◆ Pliés: 1, 2, 4 and 5 in turned out position
- ◆ Footwork: tendu, glissé, and transfer of weight, in turned out and parallel positions
- ◆ Isolations: head, shoulders, upper and lower body
- ◆ Adage: développés at 45°, penché, and floor work
- ◆ Kicks: grand battement in parallel and turned out positions, preparation front, back and side kicks, and hitch kicks
- ◆ Pirouettes: single and double pirouettes en dehors and en dedans
- ◆ Stretching: parallel and turned out positions
- ◆ Travelling: sautés, jeté, stag jumps, front and side leaps

Strength, stamina and control will be developed through participation in regular studio-based classes.

Phrases and sequences will be taught to promote spatial awareness and movement memory, aiming towards the participation in a lecturer-choreographed performance piece.

### Guidance on approaches to delivery of this Unit

This Unit has been developed as part of the HNC/HND Dance Artists and HNC/HND Professional Dance Performance Awards, and is expected to be delivered in the HNC.

In this Unit, learners are expected to learn new skills and techniques in the area of improve Jazz Dance, enabling them to participate in a tutor-led, choreographed work. The skills gained will prepare learners for participation in the creation of original choreography in the Unit, *Jazz Dance Techniques 2*.

Authentication of learner work will be made through means of an observation assessment checklist and/or by video.

## Higher National Unit Support Notes (cont)

**Unit title:** Jazz Dance Techniques 1

### Guidance on approaches to assessment of this Unit

Evidence can be generated using different types of assessment. The following are suggestions only. There may be other methods that would be more suitable to learners.

Centres are reminded that prior verification of centre-devised assessments would help to ensure that the national standard is being met. Where learners experience a range of assessment methods, this helps them to develop different skills that should be transferable to work or further and higher education.

Mirrors should not be used during assessment to ensure the authenticity of the learners' work.

#### Outcome 1

The assessment for Outcome 1 should be in a studio setting where learners demonstrate their skills and techniques by participating in a jazz dance class. The assessment should encompass warm-up exercises and travelling sequences and be carried out under supervised, controlled conditions.

Learners should achieve Outcome 1 before progressing onto Outcomes 2 and 3.

#### Outcome 2

The assessment of this Outcome could be combined with Outcome 3 to form a single assessment. The assessment could be taken at a single assessment event and be carried out under supervised, controlled conditions. The assessment should be carried out at the end of the delivery of the Unit.

#### Outcome 3

The assessment for this Outcome could be combined with Outcome 2 to form a single assessment. This would be taken at one single assessment event and be carried out under supervised, controlled conditions. The assessment would be carried out at the end of the delivery of the Unit.

The assessment should take the form of a performance, either studio or theatre based. All the elements of Outcomes 2 and 3 can be assessed in a choreographed dance piece. The learners should be rehearsed for the assessment and know the content of the piece beforehand.

## Higher National Unit Support Notes (cont)

**Unit title:** Jazz Dance Techniques 1

### Opportunities for e-assessment

E-assessment may be appropriate for some assessments in this Unit. By e-assessment we mean assessment which is supported by Information and Communication Technology (ICT), such as e-testing or the use of e-portfolios or social software. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all learner evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the Evidence Requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. The most up-to-date guidance on the use of e-assessment to support SQA's qualifications is available at [www.sqa.org.uk/e-assessment](http://www.sqa.org.uk/e-assessment).

### Opportunities for developing Core and other essential skills

There may be opportunities to develop Core Skills in *Communication* (Oral Communication) and *Working with Others* at SCQF level 4 in this Unit. It is expected that learners will engage in regular informal and ongoing discussion with their tutor throughout this Unit concerning all aspects of jazz dance and jazz dance techniques, allowing for the development of Oral Communication.

Outcome 3 (and additionally Outcome 2 if both are assessed together) may provide opportunities to develop learners' Core Skills in the area of *Working with Others*. This Core Skill may be developed through learners' involvement in the performance of a choreographed dance piece, where the Outcome depends on learners showing awareness in relation to other dancers working in the same piece with them, and utilising the same performance space.



## History of changes to Unit

Version	Description of change	Date

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## General information for learners

### Unit title: Jazz Dance Techniques 1

This section will help you decide whether this is the Unit for you by explaining what the Unit is about, what you should know or be able to do before you start, what you will need to do during the Unit and opportunities for further learning and employment.

This Unit has been designed to provide you with knowledge of, and skills in, Jazz Dance Techniques.

You will study the following:

- ◆ alignment
- ◆ pliés
- ◆ footwork
- ◆ isolations
- ◆ adage
- ◆ kicks
- ◆ pirouettes
- ◆ facility
- ◆ travelling and allegro

After the completion of the first assessment on the topics above, you will build on these technical skills. Knowledge of the following will enable you to perform short movement sequences and phrases:

- ◆ movement phrases
- ◆ timing
- ◆ accompaniment
- ◆ spatial awareness
- ◆ control of body

In the final part of the Unit you will take part in a choreographed piece which will combine the following elements:

- ◆ choreography
- ◆ performance qualities
- ◆ spatial awareness
- ◆ stage craft

Your practical skills will be assessed by means of a studio based assessment for the initial skills and techniques of jazz dance. The final part of the assessment will take place at the end of the Unit in a choreographed dance piece. All assessments will take place under supervised conditions.

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

There may be opportunities for you to develop Core Skills in *Communication* (Oral Communication) and *Working with Others* at SCQF level 4 in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.