



Arrangements for:

HNC Professional Stage Dance

Group Award Code: G8LV 15

HND Professional Stage Dance

Group Award Code: G8LW 16

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Acknowledgement

SQA acknowledges the valuable contribution that Scotland's colleges have made to the development of Higher National qualifications.

History of changes

It is anticipated that changes will take place during the life of the qualification, and this section will record these changes. This document is the latest version and incorporates the changes summarised below.

Version number	Description	Date
04	Revision of Unit: DK2K 34 Getting Started in Business <i>has been revised by</i> H7VK 34 Preparing to Start a Business <i>and will finish on</i> 31/07/2016.	15/12/14
03	Revision of Unit: F21Y 34 Professional Stage Dance: Graded Unit 1 has been revised by H4T3 34. F220 35 Professional Stage Dance: Graded Unit 2 has been revised by H4T4 35. F1YD 34 Dance: Current Trends in Commercial Dance has been revised by H4RC 34. F1YE 35 Dance: Current Trends in Commercial Dance Advanced has been revised by H4RD 35. F1LL 34 Dance: F1LM 35 Dance: Classical Ballet Classical Ballet Techniques has been revised by H4RE 34. Techniques Advanced has been revised by H4RF 35. F1LT 34 Tap Dance Techniques has been revised by H4RH 34. F1LW 35 Tap Dance Techniques: Advanced has been revised by H4RG 35. F1LS 34 dance Contemporary Dance Techniques has been revised by H4RJ 34. F1LV 35 Dance: Contemporary Dance Techniques: Advanced has been revised by H4RK 35. F1M1 34 Jazz dance Techniques has been revised by H4RL 34. F1M2 35 Jazz Dance Techniques: Advanced has been revised by H4RM 35. F1LN 35 Audition and Portfolio Skills has been revised by H4T1 35. All Units will finish on 31/07/2016.	26/09/13
02	Change to code: Singing Skills for the Actor 2 from DG4C 35 (lapse date 31/07/2012, finish date 31/07/2014) to H1LF 35*.	13/09/12

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1 Introduction

This is the Arrangements Document for the revised Group Awards in Professional Stage Dance which were validated in February 2007. This document includes: background information on the development of the Group Awards, their aims, guidance on access, details of the Group Award structures, and guidance on delivery.

These revised awards replace the previous Professional Stage Dance HND (G5DD 16).

2 Rationale for the revision of the Group Awards

The framework and Units were revised for the following reasons:

- ◆ to benchmark against private provision
- ◆ to improve possible approaches to learning and teaching, including better opportunities for integration
- ◆ to ensure consistency of approach across all mandatory and optional Units
- ◆ to update Units to reflect current industry practice

2.1 Market research and consultation

Extensive consultation was carried out at all stages of the review process to ascertain the relevance of the framework and the individual Units, which informs the content of the Group Awards. The consultation took the form of questionnaires and interviews.

This consultation involved:

- ◆ Centres offering the current HN Professional Stage Dance Group Awards
- ◆ Employers and industry bodies in the field of Dance/Musical Theatre
- ◆ Students who had recently completed the award
- ◆ Higher Education institutions to which successful candidates could articulate
- ◆ Current candidates on the award

Higher Education Institutes consulted included:

- ◆ London Studio Centre
- ◆ Performers College
- ◆ Laine Theatre Arts
- ◆ Birds College

Feedback on consultation

The consultation confirmed the usefulness of the Group Awards to candidates entering the profession or Higher Education. Employers also recognised the multi-skilled aspects of the HNC and HND. Specifically in response to feedback received in the consultation, the frameworks include:

- ◆ F1LS 34 *Contemporary Dance Techniques* in the optional section of the HNC
- ◆ F1LS 34 *Contemporary Dance Techniques* in the mandatory section of the HND

- ◆ acknowledgement of musical theatre in the content of F1M3 34 *Dance History: An Introduction*

The revised HNC and HND frameworks reflect the skills in demand for professional stage dance performers in the modern performance industry.

With regard to employment prospects, some responses to the consultation observed that formal qualifications, whilst being of use in showing a possession of the basic skills required by employers, are of less importance than demonstrable talent. Also, the nature of the employment market is such that performers are very often self-employed, or employed for short periods on specific projects. To gain such employment, the appropriate characteristics and aptitudes must be proven on demand. The HNC and HND have therefore been designed to reflect the unusual nature of the jobs market for dancers by integrating skills in Graded Units, based on an audition.

The review process for the revised Group Awards was overseen by a Qualifications Design Team (QDT) comprising of representatives from centres.

3 Aims of the Group Awards

The HNC and HND awards have a range of general aims as well as some specific aims.

3.1 General aims of the Group Awards

The general aims of both the HNC and HND are:

- ◆ to develop communication and interpersonal skills
- ◆ to develop candidates' skills as dancers and performers
- ◆ to develop self-presentation skills
- ◆ to develop self-evaluative skills, enabling professional development
- ◆ to develop analytical skills
- ◆ to develop the ability to work independently
- ◆ to develop the confidence to perform to potential
- ◆ to develop professional attitudes
- ◆ to enhance employment prospects and/or facilitate progression to degree or Higher Education
- ◆ to enable progression within the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF)

3.2 Specific aims of the Group Awards

HNC Professional Stage Dance

The specific aims of the HNC are:

- 1 To develop dance performance supported by singing and acting
- 2 To develop the ability to integrate these skills in performance at intermediate level
- 3 To develop the skill of working with music
- 4 To develop innovative and creative approaches to work in rehearsal and performance
- 5 To develop co-operative team working skills

- 6 To develop adaptability
- 7 To develop an understanding of dance practice
- 8 To develop the ability to respond to direction
- 9 To develop exploration and development of an awareness of the self
- 10 To prepare candidates to present themselves for audition
- 11 To prepare candidates for progression to further study
- 12 To develop candidates as performers

The table below shows how each of the Units meets the specific aims of the HNC.

Unit	Aims											
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Dance: Classical Ballet Techniques: Intermediate (F1LL 34)	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Jazz Dance Techniques (F1M1 34)	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Tap Dance Techniques (FILT 34)	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Singing Skills for the Actor 1 (DG4W 34)	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Acting for Dancers (F1VA 34)	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
Dance: An Introduction to Performance and Production (F1LD 34)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Dance: Anatomy and Injury Prevention for Dancers (F1LE 34)						X	X	X		X	X	
Professional Stage Dance: Graded Unit 1 (F21Y 34)	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X

HND Professional Stage Dance

Taking the depth and breadth of the HNC as a starting point, the specific aims of the HND are:

- 1 To develop advanced dance performance supported by singing and acting
- 2 To develop a thorough working knowledge of the processes involved in preparing for production and the ability to integrate superior performance skills in production
- 3 To further develop the skill of working confidently with music to a professional level
- 4 To further develop co-operative team working skills

- 5 To further develop innovative and creative approaches to work in rehearsal and performance
- 6 To further develop adaptability
- 7 To further develop the ability to respond to direction to a professional level
- 8 To further develop exploration and development of a deeper awareness of the self
- 9 To prepare candidates to audition for employment and places at Higher Education establishments
- 10 To provide candidates with the knowledge and skills needed to sell themselves in the industry and to work as a freelance operator
- 11 To allow a choice of optional Units which would develop personal strengths and facilitate progression to industry, degree or Higher Education

The table below shows how each of the Units meets the specific aims of the HND.

Aims											
Units	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Dance: Classical Ballet Techniques: Advanced (F1LM 35)	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Jazz Dance Techniques: Advanced (F1M2 35)	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Tap Dance Techniques: Advanced (F1LW 35)	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	
Singing Skills for the Actor 2 (H1L3 35)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Acting for Dancers: Advanced (F1VB 35)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Dance: Advanced Performance and Production (F1NW 35)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Audition and Portfolio Skills (F1LN 35)	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Dance: Contextual Studies (F1R4 35)						X	X			X	
Professional Stage Dance: Graded Unit 2 (F220 35)	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X

3.3 Target groups

The awards are designed for those who wish to pursue a career in dance, commercial dance and musical theatre and seek the relevant training in Professional Stage Dance. The HNC is aimed at those who have some previous experience of dance and performance, perhaps through a lower level course or interest developed through NC Dance course (or equivalent dance course at SCQF level 6), Royal Academy of Dance (RAD) Ballet at Intermediate level or equivalent, dance schools, youth theatre or amateur dramatics, or who show potential and demonstrate a strong interest in performance and who seek to develop their skills in order to progress to Higher Education institutions or to the HND in Professional Stage Dance.

3.4 Employment opportunities

Candidates studying these Group Awards will gain the necessary skills to enable them to pursue a career in dance in the following areas:

- ◆ Commercial dance
- ◆ Cabaret
- ◆ Musicals
- ◆ Music videos

3.5 Articulation

The HND Professional Stage Dance is a development of the HNC. As such it is intended to facilitate progression to employment within the industry, degree or to Higher Education.

If any particular skills gaps are identified, additional Units from the revised framework should be undertaken. Aptitudes lacking could include soft skills such as planning, problem solving, and team working, or specific dance knowledge. The use of the optional Unit DE3R 34 *Personal Development Planning* is one possible way of addressing these.

4 Access to Group Awards

As with all SQA qualifications, access will be at the discretion of the centre and the following recommendations are for guidance only.

4.1 Prior Qualifications for entry to HNC/1st year HND

Potential candidates may demonstrate suitability for both Group Awards by possessing any of the following:

- ◆ Relevant Units from an appropriate SQA NQ programme eg D72P 12 *Higher Dance: Classical*, D72T 12 *Higher Dance: Jazz*, D72R 12 *Higher Dance: Contemporary*, D72N 12 *Higher Dance: Alternative*, D646 12 *Higher Dance: Choreography*
- ◆ C03D 12 *Higher Dance Practice*
- ◆ Relevant industry experience
- ◆ Evidence of appropriate practical skills at audition
- ◆ Possession of two Highers in any subject

For entry onto HNC and HND first year however, formal academic achievements will not in themselves represent adequate course entry criteria. A more accurate prediction of candidate attainment may be achieved through appraisal, which includes an element of guidance. This would normally include a formal audition, in which candidates participate in a one hour ballet class, one hour jazz class, perform a prepared song and an interview. The following attributes should be assessed at audition: posture/alignment, strength, stamina, flexibility, coordination, timing, musicality, singing and the ability to pick up phrases and sequences equivalent to intermediate RAD standard. This enables an appropriately subtle and realistic assessment of suitability for the course.

If a candidate is unable to attend the audition in person it is recommended that they provide evidence by electronic means, eg video or DVD.

A pre-entry guidance interview may also be carried out. This informally structured, adaptive interview process will allow the prospective candidate to form a realistic perception of the course and its demands in terms of work load, content and assessment methods. This will improve retention and allow for earlier career planning and development.

Centres may wish to consider Accreditation of Prior Learning where appropriate.

4.2 Entry to 2nd year HND

While articulation into the second year of the HND course will be at the discretion of the centre it is envisaged that candidates would have achieved 15 SQA credits (120 SCQF credit points) before entering the second year of the course. This would normally include all of the mandatory Units for the HNC.

Where a candidate has achieved the HNC Professional Stage Dance but does not have 15 SQA credits (120 SCQF credit points) required for progression to year 2, it is recommended that an individual learning plan is drawn up for each candidate so that it is clear to the candidate on entry, where they would gain the Units required to make up a full HND. These arrangements will cater for the needs of those who have achieved the HNC at day release or evening class.

4.3 Core Skills entry level

The recommended Core Skills entry profile for the awards is:

Core Skills — HNC

Core Skill	Recommended Entry level
Communication	
Written Communication component	SCQF level 5
Oral Communication component	SCQF level 4
Numeracy	SCQF level 4
IT	SCQF level 4
Problem Solving	SCQF level 4
Working with Others	SCQF level 4

Core Skills — HND

Core Skill	Recommended Entry level
Communication	SCQF level 5
Numeracy	SCQF level 4
IT	SCQF level 4
Problem Solving	SCQF level 5
Working with Others	SCQF level 5

4.4 Work Experience

Mature candidates with suitable work experience will be accepted for entry provided the enrolling centre believes the candidate is likely to benefit from undertaking the award.

4.5 English as an Additional Language

For candidates where English is not their first language it is recommended that they possess English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) SCQF level 5 or a score of 5.5 in IELTS.

5 Group Award structures

Both Group Awards adhere to the design principles given below.

Design Principles for HNCs and HNDs

SCQF level and credit points

- ◆ HNCs shall be designed to be at SCQF level 7 and shall comprise 96 SCQF credit points
- ◆ HNDs shall be designed to be at SCQF level 8 and shall comprise 240 SCQF credit points
- ◆ HNCs should incorporate at least 48 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7
- ◆ HNDs should incorporate at least 64 credit points at SCQF level 8

Core Skills

- ◆ HNC and HND programmes shall incorporate opportunities for candidates to develop Core Skills
- ◆ HNCs and HNDs should clearly include opportunities for candidates to develop Core Skills to levels required by the occupations or progression pathways the HNs support. This would mean that all five Core Skills should be developed in every HN programme

◆

Mandatory Section

- ◆ HNCs should include a mandatory section of at least 48 SCQF credit points including a Graded Unit
- ◆ HNDs should include a mandatory section of at least 96 SCQF credit points, including Graded Units

Graded Units

- ◆ HNCs should include one Graded Unit of 8 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7
- ◆ HNDs should include one Graded Unit of 8 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7, plus 16 SCQF credit points of Graded Unit(s) at SCQF level 8

Performance skills are developed across the vast majority of individual Units, a number of which include the requirement for formal and informal demonstration of skills, before an assessor and/or appropriate audience. This helps to develop candidates as performers, and develops their awareness of how to improve self-presentation, as well as building confidence.

Self-evaluative skills are developed through an integrated approach to evaluation. This includes the use of personal progress records/log books which are monitored/assessed and aim to provide candidates with the skills and discipline necessary to identify areas of strength and weakness in their performance, and opportunities to produce strategies and targets for improvement.

Choreographic skills are integrated into the various mandatory dance technique and performance and production Units. There are further opportunities to develop choreographic skills in the optional Units, should candidates wish.

5.1 Frameworks

Professional Stage Dance HNC

For a candidate to achieve the HNC Professional Stage Dance, they would require to attain all of the 11 mandatory credits (88 SCQF credit points) plus 1 optional credit (8 SCQF credit points).

Mandatory Units

Unit title	SQA credits	SCQF credit points	SCQF level
Dance: Classical Ballet Techniques: Intermediate* (H4RE 34)	2	16	7
Jazz Dance Techniques* (H4RL 34)	2	16	7
Tap Dance Techniques 1* (H4RH 34)	2	16	7
Singing Skills for the Actor 1 (DG4W 34)	1	8	7
Acting for Dancers (F1VA 34)	1	8	7
Dance: An Introduction to Performance and Production (F1LD 34)	1	8	7
Dance: Anatomy and Injury Prevention for Dancers (F1LE 34)	1	8	7
Professional Stage Dance: Graded Unit 1* (H4T3 34)	1	8	7

*Refer to History of Changes for revision details.

Optional Units

Unit title	SQA credits	SCQF credit points	SCQF level
Sound Editing for Choreograph (F1R3 34)	1	8	7
Dance History: An Introduction (F1M3 34)	1	8	7
Dance Teaching Skills (F1M0 35)	1	8	8
Theatre Gymnastics (F1LY 34)	1	8	7
Dance: Contemporary Dance Techniques* (H4RJ 34)	2	16	7
Theatrical Make-up (DP92 34)	1	8	7
Dance: Choreographic Skills (F1NS 34)	1	8	7
Dance: Current Trends in Commercial Dance (H4RC 34)	1	8	7
Dance: Body Conditioning (F1LF 34)	2	16	7
Dance: Choreography for Screen (F1VR 34)	1	8	7
Dance: Pas de deux (F1LR 35)	1	8	8
Theatre Gymnastics: Advanced (F1LK 35)	1	8	8
Dance: Current Trends in Commercial Dance: Advanced* (H4RD 35)	1	8	8
Dance: Body Conditioning: Advanced (F1LG 35)	2	16	8
Getting Started in Business* (DK2K 34)	1	8	7
Personal Development Planning (DE3R 34)	1	8	7
Work Experience (DV0M 34)	1	8	7

HND Professional Stage Dance

For a candidate to achieve the HND Professional Stage Dance, they would require to attain 28 mandatory credits (224 SCQF credit points) plus further Units from the optional section equivalent to 2 SQA credits (16 SCQF credit points).

Mandatory Units

Unit title	SQA credits	SCQF credit points	SCQF level
Dance: Classical Ballet Techniques: Intermediate* (H4RE 34)	2	16	7
Jazz Dance Techniques* (H4RL 34)	2	16	7
Tap Dance Techniques 1* (H4RH 34)	2	16	7
Singing Skills for the Actor 1 (DG4W 34)	1	8	7
Acting for Dancers (F1VA 34)	1	8	7
Dance: An Introduction to Performance and Production (F1LD 34)	1	8	7
Dance: Anatomy and Injury Prevention for Dancers (F1LE 34)	1	8	7

Unit title	SQA credits	SCQF credit points	SCQF level
Professional Stage Dance: Graded Unit 1* (H4T3 34)	1	8	7
Dance: Contemporary Dance Techniques (F1LS 34)	2	16	7
Dance: Classical Ballet Techniques: Advanced* (H4RF 35)	2	16	8
Jazz Dance Techniques: Advanced* (H4RM 35)	2	16	8
Tap Dance Techniques 2* (H4RG 35)	2	16	8
Singing Skills for the Actor 2 (H1L3 35*)	1	8	8
Acting for Dancers: Advanced (F1VB 35)	1	8	8
Dance: Contemporary Dance Techniques 1* (H4RJ 34)	2	16	7
Dance: Advanced Performance and Production (F1NW 35)	1	8	8
Audition and Portfolio Skills* (H4T1 35)	1	8	8
Dance: Contextual Studies (F1R4 35)	1	8	8
Dance: Contemporary Dance Techniques: Advanced* (H4RK 35)	2	16	8
Professional Stage Dance: Graded Unit 2* (H4T4 35)	2	16	8

Optional Units

Unit Title	SQA credits	SCQF credit points	SCQF level
Sound Editing for Choreography (F1R3 34)	1	8	7
Dance History: An Introduction (F1M3 34)	1	8	7
Dance Teaching Skills (F1M0 35)	1	8	8
Theatre Gymnastics (F1LY 34)	1	8	7
Theatrical Make-up (DP92 34)	1	8	7
Dance: Choreographic Skills (F1NS 34)	1	8	7
Dance: Current Trends in Commercial Dance* (H4RC 34)	1	8	7
Dance: Body Conditioning (F1LF 34)	2	16	7
Dance: Choreography for Screen (F1VR 34)	1	8	7
Dance: Pas de deux (F1LR 35)	1	8	8
Theatre Gymnastics: Advanced (F1LK 35)	1	8	8
Dance: Current Trends in Commercial Dance: Advanced* (H4RD 35)	1	8	8

Unit title	SQA credits	SCQF credit points	SCQF level
Dance: Body Conditioning: Advanced (FILG 35)	2	16	8
Getting Started in Business* (DK2K 34)	1	8	7
Personal Development Planning (DE3R 34)	1	8	7
Work Experience (DV0M 34)	1	8	7

*Refer to History of Changes for revision details.

5.1.1 Graded Units

All HNCs and HNDs include Graded Units. The purposes of the Graded Units are to:

- ◆ assess the candidate's ability to retain, integrate and reapply knowledge and/or skills gained in the identified underpinning mandatory Units
- ◆ grade candidate achievement in the Graded Unit — A, B or C
- ◆ assess whether candidates have met the principal aims of the Group Award

Candidates will complete one single credit Graded Unit at SCQF level 7 in an HNC (8 SCQF credit points) and an additional 2 credits of Graded Unit(s) at SCQF level 8 at HND level (16 SCQF credit points).

Type of Graded Units

Both Graded Units are Project based Graded Units as they allow candidates to demonstrate their achievement of the principal aims of the Group Award(s) in a manner which is appropriate for the discipline. The choice of practical assignments involves candidates in planning, carrying out and evaluating a practical performance.

Rationale for Graded Unit Assessments

As a stage dance performer, it is extremely important to be versatile, as stage dance can require many different skills. Performers need competence in dancing, singing and acting in order to have the best possible chance of gaining employment. The most common method of gaining employment as a performer is through audition and interview. This is also the case in progressing to Higher Education in the stage dance field. As a result, in Graded Unit 1 candidates individually prepare and present an audition, consisting of a dance piece, song, and monologue to a panel consisting of a minimum of two people.

Personal performance is at the forefront in these circumstances. Graded Unit 2 is designed to provide an opportunity for candidates to integrate the knowledge and skills gained in the mandatory HND Units in the form of a piece of stage dance theatre. Through performance, candidates will show integration of dance, acting, and singing skills, incorporating choreography and creativity in staging the piece.

The Graded Units will provide an ideal opportunity for candidates to integrate the knowledge and skills gained in the mandatory Units as listed below:

Graded Unit 1:

F1M1 34	<i>Jazz Dance Techniques</i>
F1LL 34	<i>Dance: Classical Ballet Techniques: Intermediate</i>
F1LT 34	<i>Tap Dance Techniques</i>
F1VA 34	<i>Acting for Dancers</i>
DG4W 34	<i>Singing Skills for the Actor 1</i>
F1LD 34	<i>Dance: An Introduction to Performance and Production</i>

Graded Unit 2:

F1M2 35	<i>Jazz Dance Techniques: Advanced</i>
F1LM 35	<i>Dance: Classical Ballet Techniques: Advanced</i>
F1LW 35	<i>Tap Dance Techniques: Advanced</i>
F1LV 35	<i>Dance: Contemporary Dance Techniques: Advanced</i>
F1VA 34	<i>Acting for Dancers</i>
H1L3 35	<i>Singing Skills for the Actor 2</i>
F1NW 35	<i>Dance: Advanced Performance and Production</i>

5.1.2 Core Skills — recommended Entry/Exit levels

The following tables show the recommended entry/exit profiles for Core Skills in the HNC and HND frameworks.

Core Skills —HNC

Core Skill	Recommended Entry level	Recommended Exit level
Communication: Written Communication component	SCQF level 5	SCQF level 6
Oral Communication component	SCQF level 4	SCQF level 5
Numeracy	SCQF level 4	SCQF level 5
IT	SCQF level 4	SCQF level 5
Problem Solving	SCQF level 4	SCQF level 5
Working with Others	SCQF level 4	SCQF level 5

Core Skills — HND

Core Skill	Recommended Entry level	Recommended Exit level
Communication (both components)	SCQF level 5	SCQF level 6
Numeracy	SCQF level 4	SCQF level 5
IT	SCQF level 4	SCQF level 5
Problem Solving	SCQF level 5	SCQF level 6
Working with Others	SCQF level 5	SCQF level 6

Further information on the signposting and development of Core Skills can be found in Appendix 2.

5.2 Mapping information

All the mandatory Units of the HNC and HND Professional Stage Dance have been mapped to the specific aims of the Group Awards. This information is contained within the tables in Section 3.2.

5.3 Articulation, professional recognition and credit transfer

The design of the Professional Stage Dance HNC and HND fully takes account of the need for the qualifications to contain relevant technical and transferable skills to enable immediate entry to employment whilst at the same time allowing for articulation (eg to degree courses).

Onward destinations of candidates may include:

- ◆ Commercial and corporate enterprises
- ◆ Higher Education at degree level
- ◆ Dance facilitators in schools, colleges, and the private dance sector.

Entry to degree and post-graduate level courses in dance/musical theatre subjects are usually by audition only. There are no formal articulation agreements but many candidates have auditioned and been accepted into second or third year at Middlesex University, Sunderland University, and Liverpool's John Moore's University.

The HNC is regarded as the first year of a professional dance training course, and although candidates leaving with an HNC will have gained new skills and enhanced existing skills, the extent of these may be somewhat limited. For example, in the HNC the candidates will study and should gain skills in dance technique, singing, and acting. However, it is recommended that candidates progress to the HND to fully exploit the merits of the Professional Stage Dance qualification and be fully equipped both to enter the dance profession and to continue onto further study.

Credit transfer

It is anticipated that during the transition period that some candidates may wish to transfer from an old (1988) design rule HNC Professional Stage Dance into the new HND Professional Stage Dance (developed under the 2003 design principles). To facilitate this, it has been agreed that such candidates need only achieve the HND Graded Unit of 16 SCQF credit points at level 8, and that they are not required to also achieve the HNC Graded Unit of SCQF credit points at level 7.

The following arrangements show the alternative route to certification, which will **only** be available to candidates who have already completed a 'predecessor' HNC/first year HND and should **not** be offered to any new candidates. Candidates should:

- ◆ be given credit transfer between HNC/HND Units (developed using 1988 design rules) and the new HN Units (developed using 2003 design principles)
- ◆ achieve a Graded Unit(s) of 16 SCQF credit points at level 8
- ◆ be given opportunities to develop Core Skills

Credit transfer can be given where there is broad equivalence between subject related content of the Unit (or combination of Units).

Candidates who are given credit transfer between current HNC/HND Units and the new HN Units are still required to meet the conditions of award for the revised HND. This means that a candidate transferring can gain the revised HND by achieving:

- ◆ the mandatory Units (either by credit transfer or normal study) within the revised HND framework
- ◆ a Graded Unit or Graded Units of 16 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 8
- ◆ the remaining SCQF credit points at the SCQF level required (either by credit transfer or normal study)
- ◆ development of the Core Skills required by the end-users of the Group Award

Details of Credit Transfer Arrangements which have been audited and verified by an External Verifier, are given in Appendix 3:

6 Approaches to delivery and assessment

The HNC Professional Stage Dance is a specialised award, which allows candidates to gain skills and knowledge in the core areas of dance technique and performance and to integrate these in performance. The HNC is aimed at those who wish to embark on a career as a professional stage dance performer and who wish to develop the necessary skills to progress to further training or employment.

The HND Professional Stage Dance seeks to further advance and develop the skills base of the HNC and allow for greater breadth in the skills base by the selection of optional Units, which will enhance employment prospects and facilitate progression to degree or Higher Education.

Although Units are designed to be delivered as part of the Group Award it is possible for them to be delivered as standalone qualifications.

6.1 Delivery and assessment

In both Group Awards, the aim of the curriculum design is to provide a balance between awareness and understanding of the Professional Stage Dance profession and the role and application of performance skills within the context of integrated productions.

Although centres can choose in what order to teach the Units within the Group Awards, it is essential that dance technique and performance, supported by singing and acting, are embarked upon before production is delivered. In all cases it is important that the mandatory Units have been delivered before the Graded Units are assessed, although in some centres some elements of the mandatory Units may be delivered concurrently with the Graded Units. See Appendix 1 for suggested Delivery Schedule.

There are no opportunities to integrate the teaching and assessment of Units at HNC/HND level. Each Unit has its own assessment with Outcomes within the Unit being assessed either individually or holistically. The Graded Unit should always be assessed towards the end of the Group Award.

Each Unit specification details the Evidence Requirements and Assessment Guidelines for each Unit.

Appendix 2 provides specific information on which Core Skills may be developed within the Units.

Open Learning

Opportunities for open/distance learning are limited as throughout the awards, there is an emphasis on live observed performance, the value of group interaction, and real time feedback. However, distance learning may be feasible for some Outcomes within some Units. These opportunities are highlighted within the individual Unit specifications.

7 General information for centres

Disabled candidates and/or those with additional support needs

The additional support needs of individual candidates 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.

Internal and external verification

All instruments of assessment used within this/these Group Award(s) should be internally verified, using the appropriate policy within the centre and the guidelines set by SQA.

External verification will be carried out by SQA to ensure that internal assessment is within the national guidelines for these qualifications.

Further information on internal and external verification can be found in *SQA's Guide to Assessment* (www.sqa.org.uk).

8 General information for candidates

The knowledge and skills provided by the Group Awards

The revised Professional Stage Dance HNC and HND are specifically designed to equip you with the knowledge and skills required for professional stage dance performers to succeed in a number of areas within the modern performance industry.

Performance skills are developed across the vast majority of Units, and both Group Awards also develop choreographic skills, communication and interpersonal skills, presentation skills, analytical skills, professional attitudes and other soft skills which will enhance your employment prospects and enable you to progress within the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF).

In many of the Units you will be required to demonstrate your skills before an appropriate audience. This will help you to develop as a performer, will heighten your awareness of self-presentation, and help to build your confidence.

The structure of the awards

The HNC Professional Stage Dance consists of 11 mandatory credits (88 SCQF credit points) plus 1 optional credit (8 SCQF credit points).

The HND Professional Stage Dance consists of 28 mandatory credits (224 SCQF credit points) plus further Units from the optional section equivalent to 2 SQA credits (16 SCQF credit points).

The Group Awards include Graded Units. These are designed to assess your ability to retain and integrate the knowledge and skills gained in the award and also to grade your achievement within the Graded Unit.

For both the HNC and HND, the assessment instrument for the Graded Unit consists of a project in the form of a practical assignment. In Graded Unit 1 (HNC and HND) this involves going through the audition process. In Graded Unit 2 (HND only), this will involve the creation of a piece of stage dance theatre.

Possible employment pathways

The Professional Stage Dance HNC and HND will equip you with the skills to gain employment in a variety of areas. Having studied these Group Awards you will gain the knowledge and skills enabling you to pursue a career in dance areas such as:

- ◆ Commercial dance
- ◆ Cabaret
- ◆ Musicals
- ◆ Music videos

Progression

The HND Professional Stage Dance is a development of the HNC. As such it is intended to facilitate progression to employment within the industry, degree or to Higher Education.

You should approach individual centres regarding possible articulation options to Higher Education.

9 Glossary of terms

SCQF: This stands for the Scottish Credit and Qualification Framework, which is a new way of speaking about qualifications and how they inter-relate. We use SCQF terminology throughout this guide to refer to credits and levels. For further information on the SCQF visit the SCQF website at www.scqf.org.uk

SCQF credit points: One HN credit is equivalent to 8 SCQF credit points. This applies to all HN Units, irrespective of their level.

SCQF levels: The SCQF covers 12 levels of learning. HN Units will normally be at levels 6–9. Graded Units will be at level 7 and 8.

Subject Unit: Subject Units contain vocational/subject content and are designed to test a specific set of knowledge and skills.

Graded Unit: Graded Units assess candidates' ability to integrate what they have learned while working towards the Units of the Group Award. Their purpose is to add value to the Group Award, making it more than the sum of its parts, and to encourage candidates to retain and adapt their skills and knowledge.

Dedicated Core Skill Unit: This is a Unit that is written to cover one or more particular Core Skills, eg HN Units in Information Technology or Communications.

Embedded Core Skills: This is where the development of a Core Skill is incorporated into the Unit and where the Unit assessment also covers the requirements of Core Skill assessment at a particular level.

Signposted Core Skills: This refers to the opportunities to develop a particular Core Skill at a specified level that lie outwith automatic certification.

Qualification Design Team: The QDT works in conjunction with a Qualification Manager/Development Manager to steer the development of the HNC/D from its inception/revision through to validation. The group is made up of key stakeholders representing the interests of centres, employers, universities and other relevant organisations.

Consortium-devised HNCs and HNDs are those developments or revisions undertaken by a group of centres in partnership with SQA.

Specialist single centre and specialist collaborative devised HNCs and HNDs are those developments or revisions led by a single centre or small group of centres who provide knowledge and skills in a specialist area. Like consortium-devised HNCs and HNDs, these developments or revisions will also be supported by SQA.

10 Appendices

Appendix 1: Delivery Planner

Appendix 2: Core Skills Development

Appendix 3: Credit Transfer Arrangements

See following pages for appendices.

Appendix 1: Programme delivery planner for HNC/HND

Programme delivery planner for HNC/HND

Name of course: **HNC Professional Stage Dance**

Year of study: **1**

Mode of study: **Full Time**

Unit Code	Unit Name	SCQF level	M/O	SCQF credit points	Hours per block		Member of Staff	Preferred room	Special Resources
					Semester 1	Semester 2			
F1LL 34	Dance: Classical Ballet Techniques: Intermediate	7	F/T	16	40	40	Specialist lecturer in Ballet	Dance studio	Mirrors, Barres, sprung floor, sound system
F1M1 34	Jazz Dance Techniques	7	F/T	16	40	40	Specialist lecturer in Jazz Dance	Dance studio	Mirrors, Barres, sprung floor, sound system
F1LT 34	Tap Dance Techniques	7	F/T	16	40	40	Specialist lecturer in Tap Dance	Dance studio	Mirrors, Barres, sprung floor, sound system
DG4W 34	Singing Skills for the Actor 1	7	F/T	8	20	20	Specialist lecturer in Singing	Dance studio	Mirrors, piano, sprung floor, sound system
F1VA 34	Acting for Dancers	7	F/T	8	20	20	Specialist lecturer in Acting	Dance studio	Mirrors, sprung floor, sound system
FILE 34	Dance: Anatomy and Injury Prevention for Dancers	7	F/T	8	20	20	Dance or specialist lecturer	Classroom	Interactive whiteboard, whiteboard, computer access, skeleton
F1LD 34	Dance: An Introduction to Performance and Production	7	F/T	8		40	Dance lecturer	Dance studio/ Theatre	Mirrors, Barres, sprung floor, sound system
F21Y 34	Professional Stage Dance: Graded Unit 1	7	F/T	8	15	25	Dance lecturer	Classroom/ Dance studio	Interactive whiteboard, whiteboard, computer access, Mirrors, Barres, sprung floor, sound system
Totals			F/T	88	195	245			

Check that your proposed delivery plan meets the requirements of the HN Design principles.

NB: HNC candidates require 1 optional credit to be included in the above programme in order to gain the Group Award.

HND candidates require 4 optional credits to progress to second year. These optional credits must include F1LS 34 *Dance; Contemporary Dance Techniques*.

Programme delivery planner for HNC/HND

Name of course: **HND Professional Stage Dance**

Year of study: **2**

Mode of study: **Full Time**

Unit No	Unit Name	SCQF level	M/O	SCQF credit points	Hours per block		Member of Staff	Preferred room	Special Resources
					Semester 1	Semester 2			
F1LM 35	Dance: Classical Ballet Techniques: Advanced	8	F/T	16	40	40	Specialist lecturer in Ballet	Dance studio	Mirrors, Barres, sprung floor, sound system
F1M2 35	Jazz Dance Techniques: Advanced	8	F/T	16	40	40	Specialist lecturer in Jazz Dance	Dance studio	Mirrors, Barres, sprung floor, sound system
F1LW 35	Tap Dance Techniques: Advanced	8	F/T	16	40	40	Specialist lecturer in Tap Dance	Dance studio	Mirrors, Barres, sprung floor, sound system
F1LV 35	Dance: Contemporary Dance Techniques: Advanced	8	F/T	16	40	40	Specialist lecturer in Contemporary Dance	Dance studio	Mirrors, Barres, sprung floor, sound system
H1L3 35	Singing Skills for the Actor 2	8	F/T	8	20	20	Specialist lecturer in Singing	Dance studio	Mirrors, piano, sprung floor, sound system
F1VB 35	Acting for Dancers: Advanced	8	F/T	8	20	20	Specialist lecturer in Acting	Dance studio	Mirrors, sprung floor, sound system
F1LN 35	Audition and Portfolio Skills	8	F/T	8		40	Dance or specialist lecturer	Dance studio	Mirrors, piano, sprung floor, sound system
F1NW 35	Dance: Advanced Performance and Production	8	F/T	8	20	20	Dance lecturer	Dance studio/ Theatre	Mirrors, Barres, sprung floor, sound system
F1R4 35	Dance: Contextual Studies	8		8	20	20	Dance lecturer	Classroom	Interactive whiteboard, whiteboard, computer access, DVD/video player
F220 35	Professional Stage Dance: Graded Unit 2	8	F/T	16	40	40	Dance lecturer	Classroom/ Dance studio	Interactive whiteboard, whiteboard, computer access, Mirrors, Barres, sprung floor, sound system
Totals			F/T	120	280	320			

Check that your proposed delivery plan meets the requirements of the HN Design principles.

NB: HND candidates should take the Unit F1LS 34 *Dance: Contemporary Dance Techniques* as an optional Unit within the first year of the course.

Appendix 2: Core Skills Development

Core Skills Development

Title	Unit Code	Numeracy	Problem Solving	Working With Others	Communication	IT
Mandatory Units						
Dance: Classical Ballet Techniques: Intermediate	F1LL 34		5 Signposted			
Jazz Dance Techniques	F1M1 34			4 Signposted	4 Signposted	
Tap Dance Techniques	F1LT 34			4 Signposted	4 Signposted	
Acting for Dancers	F1VA 34		6 Signposted	6 Signposted	5 Signposted	
Singing Skills for the Actor 1	DG4W 34					
Dance: An Introduction to Performance and Production	F1LD 34		5 Signposted	5 Signposted	5 Signposted	
Dance: Anatomy and Injury Prevention for Dancers	F1LE 34		5 Signposted		5 Signposted	5 Signposted
Dance: Contemporary Dance Techniques	F1LS 34		5 Signposted	5 Signposted	5 Signposted	
Dance: Classical Ballet Techniques: Advanced	F1LM 35		6 Signposted	5 Signposted	5 Signposted	
Jazz Dance Techniques: Advanced	F1M2 35		5 Signposted	5 Signposted	5 Signposted	
Tap Dance Techniques: Advanced	F1LW 35		5 Signposted	5 Signposted	5 Signposted	
Dance: Contemporary Dance Techniques: Advanced	F1LV 35		6 Signposted	6 Signposted		
Acting for Dancers: Advanced	F1VB 35		6 Signposted	6 Signposted	6 Signposted	
Audition and Portfolio Skills	F1LN 35		5 Signposted		5 Signposted	5 Signposted
Dance: Contextual Studies	F1R4 35			5 Signposted	6 Signposted	
Dance: Advanced Performance and Production	F1NW 35		6 Signposted	6 Signposted	6 Signposted	
Singing Skills for the Actor 2	H1L3 35					
Dance Teaching Skills	F1M0 35		6 Signposted	6 Signposted	6 Signposted	
Professional Stage Dance: Graded Unit 1	F21Y 34		5 Signposted		5 Signposted	5 Signposted
Professional Stage Dance: Graded Unit 2	F220 35		6 Signposted		6 Signposted	
Optional Units						
Dance Choreographic Skills	F1NS 34		5 Signposted	5 Signposted	5 Signposted	
Dance: Choreography for Screen	F1VR 34		5 Signposted	4 Signposted	5 Signposted	5 Signposted
Dance: Pas de deux	F1LR 35		4 Signposted	5 Signposted	5 Signposted	
Theatrical Make-up	DP92 34					
Dance History: An Introduction	F1M3 34				5 Signposted	5 Signposted
Sound Editing for Choreography	F1R3 34		5 Signposted	5 Signposted		6 Signposted
Theatre Gymnastics	F1LY 34		4 Signposted	4 Signposted	4 Signposted	
Theatre Gymnastics: Advanced	F1LK 35		5 Signposted	6 Signposted	6 Signposted	
Dance: Current Trends in Commercial Dance	F1YD 34		5 Signposted	4 Signposted		
Dance: Current Trends in Commercial Dance: Advanced	F1YE 35		6 Signposted	5 Signposted		
Dance: Body Conditioning	F1LF 34		6 Signposted		6 Signposted	
Dance: Body Conditioning: Advanced	F1LG 35		6 Signposted		6 Signposted	
Personal Development Planning	DE3R 34		6 Signposted		5 Signposted	4 Signposted
Getting Started in Business	DK2K 34	5 Signposted	6 Signposted		5 Signposted	5 Signposted
Work Experience	DVOM 34		6 Certificated			

Appendix 3: Credit Transfer Arrangements

Full credit transfer can be given for the undernoted Units

Predecessor Units			New Units			
Unit title	Unit code	SQA credits	Unit title	Unit code	SQA credits	SCQF level
Classical Ballet Techniques Classical Ballet Techniques 2	A716 04 D5Y6 04	1 1.5	Dance: Classical Ballet Techniques: Intermediate	F1LL 34	2	7
Jazz Dance Techniques Jazz Dance Techniques 2	D5Y7 04 D27J 04	1 1.5	Jazz Dance Techniques	F1M1 34	2	7
Contemporary Dance Techniques Contemporary Dance Techniques 2	A718 04 D5Y3 04	1 1.5	Dance: Contemporary Dance Techniques	F1LS 34	2	7
Commercial Dance Techniques	A717 04	1	Dance: Current Trends in Commercial Dance	F1YD 34	1	7
Dance Production	A719 04	1.5	Dance: An Introduction to Performance and Production	F1LD 34	1	7
Anatomy and Physiology for Dancers Basic First Aid and Injury Prevention	D3CG 04 A6T3 04	1 0.5	Dance: Anatomy and Injury Prevention for Dancers	F1LE 34	1	7
Introduction to Singing Music Performance: Aural and Rhythmic Perception	A4W9 04 D5GA 04	1 1	Singing Skills for the Actor 1	DG4W 34	1	7
Musical Theatre Physical Theatre Skills	A724 04 A720 04	2 1	Acting for Dancers	F1VA 34	1	7
Dance Training Fundamentals Introduction to Pilates — Mat Based Work	D27F 04 D27C 04	1 1	Dance: Body Conditioning	F1LF 34	2	7