

Advanced Vocational Training (AVT) Certificate

COURSE TITLE	Advanced Vocational Training Certificate – 3 Year Dance
AWARDING INSTITUTION	Italia Conti

AVT RATIONALE

Advanced Vocational Training (**AVT**) offers BA (Hons) and FdA students the opportunity to experience an enhanced conservatoire-style training environment alongside their higher education studies. It provides an extended programme of classes, projects, and performance opportunities designed to mirror professional practice and enhance technical, creative, and collaborative skills.

AVT runs in parallel with your degree but is entirely separate from your University of Chichester-validated qualification. AVT carries no university credit and does not contribute to your academic marks, progression, or classification. Participation in AVT is **optional** and contracted directly with Italia Conti; however, it is strongly encouraged as a valuable enhancement to your vocational and professional development.

The AVT programme is available in all three years of training with each stage building on the previous one. Each year of study is a pre-requisite for the next year of training i.e. only students who enrol in the AVT programme in both Year 1 and Year 2 are able to access Year 3 of the AVT programme

AVT content, tutors, and timetables are subject to change in response to professional standards, staffing, or cohort needs, ensuring training remains current and of high quality. When you join AVT, you commit to the full year's programme and fees.

Upon completion, students receive an Italia Conti Advanced Vocational Training Certificate at the Italia Conti Graduation ceremony. This certificate, issued by Italia Conti, formally recognises your participation in a conservatoire-level training programme.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Year 1 & Year 2

As a first year AVT student, you will take part in exciting extracurricular activities to prepare skills for industry. This includes a weekly guest workshop with an industry guest, and an end of year Musical Theatre and Dance showcase to friends and family. You will also further hone your skills by taking additional skills classes such as Jazz Styles, Commercial, Pointe and Virtuosity. AVT students will also receive biweekly 1:1 Singing lessons and undertake an intensive project with Matthew Bourne's New Adventures Company in Year 2.

Year 3

As a third year AVT student, you will continue to take part in exciting extracurricular activities to prepare skills for industry, including a biweekly 1:1 singing lesson, a weekly guest workshop and weekly mock audition with an industry guest.

AVT students will have an additional public performance opportunity our Dance Film Project and an Industry Showcase in a West End Theatre. These enhanced opportunities provide networking opportunities with industry that are beyond the standard requirements of a degree programme

Students studying on a dance degree-only course at Italia Conti study a core timetable of classes. Although all core competencies are addressed within the degree course to meet the learning outcomes, this does not guarantee their inclusion in the timetable throughout the entire academic year. For example, all students will study Tap in term 1 of year 1, and AVT students will have the option to continue to further build upon their tap dance skills in terms 2 and 3.

COURSE AIMS

The *Advanced Vocational Training (AVT)* programme aims to extend and deepen your professional skillset in Dance. Specifically, the programme aims to:

1. Build upon and extend the skills developed within the degree programme across covered dance styles (ballet, jazz, tap, contemporary, commercial, tricks, and aerial), ensuring year-round development and sustained technical and artistic progression.
2. Extend and reinforce students' individual strengths, artistic identity, and versatility through additional skills-based classes and one-to-one coaching tailored to meet professional, industry demands.
3. Provide additional and structured exposure to current industry practice through regular guest workshops, public performances, and networking opportunities with industry professionals.
4. Offer enhanced opportunities for advanced-level performance experiences including showcases, extended project work, and public productions that replicate professional expectations and promote resilience, adaptability, and confidence in live performance settings.
5. Extend and reinforce professional behaviours, self-management, and awareness of industry standards, ensuring graduates are equipped with the knowledge, discipline, and self-presentation skills required for sustained employability.
6. Offer enhanced industry-focused opportunities, such as the *AVT Industry Showcase* and Dance Film Project, positioning students for entry into the performing arts industry with confidence, visibility, and refined craft.

	GROUP LEARNING HOURS
YEAR 1	350
YEAR 2	350
YEAR 3	350

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Students are required to audition for the three-year training courses at Italia Conti. Upon meeting entry criteria for a degree programme, an automatic offer is raised for the **optional** AVT Certificate that may sit alongside the course.

If a student was to fail a level of study or intermit their studies on a degree programme, this enrolment status will automatically affect their respective place on the AVT Certificate.

Students must be enrolled on the relevant BA (Hons) / FdA programme to be eligible for enrolment on the respective AVT. Students are unable to study the AVT certificate in isolation.

PROGRAMME COSTS AND FUNDING

In line with our Terms and Conditions (<https://www.italiaconti.com/about-us/policies>), programme costs are set each year for the AVT Certificate.

Costs are payable directly to Italia Conti upon receipt of an invoice, as annual or termly payments.

Fees are payable directly to Italia Conti once you receive an invoice. Payment is usually made:

- Years 1 and 2: termly in advance, or one single annual payment, if preferred.
- Year 3: in two instalments before Terms 1 and 2, or one single annual payments, if preferred.

Payment plans are available upon request, at the discretion of Italia Conti.

If you wish to continue AVT into the next academic year, you will receive a renewal notice by 31 March confirming the next year's fees and any updates. You can opt out for the following year by giving written notice by the last working day of April.

If you withdraw after teaching begins, the full year's fees remain payable as set out in the Terms and Conditions.

A range of scholarships and bursaries are available to support full or part funding of AVT fees. Scholarships are awarded at audition, and bursaries can be applied for after you receive an offer of study.

ACCREDITATION AND REGULATION

This course is designed by Italia Conti and overseen by our Quality Assurance and Course Management Teams. This training does not form part of any formal qualifications, and the AVT is not registered with Ofqual.

The hours studied as part of this programme form part of the student's eligibility for Spotlight and Equity membership. Students study 550 hours on a degree programme, and with the additional 350 hours on the AVT certificate, they will meet the entry criteria for Spotlight and Equity.

ENGAGEMENT AND PROGRESSION

Students are expected to observe the Student Code of Conduct for both their enrolment on the validated degree-only course, and the AVT Certificate. Attendance and engagement rules and regulations are in place across all areas of study.

Students are expected to maintain a minimum 90% attendance on the AVT programme to be eligible for progression and to continue into the next year of study.

In Year 3 of the AVT programme, there are two enhanced industry-focused performance opportunities – the industry showcase and the variety-style performance. Year 1 and Year 2 of the AVT Certificate are pre-requisites for participation in Year 3 of the AVT Certificate and the two industry-focused performance opportunities.