ITALIA CONTI

Course Specification

Level 6 Diploma in Professional Dance

Academic Year 2026/27

Course validated by Trinity College London

TRINITY COLLEGE LONDON

Italia Conti is a Validated Course Provider of Trinity College London Professional Performing Arts Diplomas

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Professional Performing Arts Diplomas:

Level 5 & 6 Diplomas in Professional Dance

Syllabus – from September 2011

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Foreword

It gives me great pleasure to introduce this revised syllabus for the Trinity Professional Performing Arts Diplomas.

These qualifications give formal recognition of the skills, knowledge and understanding that are acquired in training to prepare students to become professional actors, dancers, musical theatre performers or technical theatre practitioners. We believe that these revised qualifications truly reflect the requirements of professional performing arts training at the beginning of the 21st century.

The qualifications are awarded to students who successfully complete a course at a professional training provider that is validated by Trinity College London and who are successfully assessed in their final year by a Trinity assessor. Assessment is undertaken by professional actors, dancers and directors.

They are the only qualifications attached to the UK Government's Dance and Drama Awards funding scheme.

I sincerely hope that any student undertaking these diplomas, or any provider offering a course leading towards them, will find them stimulating, challenging and relevant for the professional performer today. The standards and expectations are high, but students attaining this qualification will be well prepared for a full and successful career in acting, dance, musical theatre or production skills.

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Head of Drama and Performance

Introduction to the Professional Performing Arts Diplomas

Overview

Trinity College London's Professional Performing Arts Diplomas have been developed, with government support, to ensure that students possess the vocational competences required for employment as professional performers with skills in acting, musical theatre and dance. There is also a diploma in production skills. Any Course Provider wishing to deliver a course leading to these Professional Performing Arts Diplomas must obtain validation from Trinity College London. These qualifications are the only ones which are required for students who are given funding under the government's Dance and Drama Awards scheme. Some institutions choose to offer them even though they are not part of the scheme as their vocational relevance is widely recognised.

The following qualifications are accredited at Level 6 on the Qualifications and Credit Framework:

- Level 6 Diploma in Professional Dance (420 credits)
- Level 6 Diploma in Professional Musical Theatre (420 credits)
- Level 6 Diploma in Professional Acting (420 credits)
- Level 6 Diploma in Professional Production Skills (255 credits).

The following qualifications are accredited at Level 5 on the Qualifications and Credit Framework:

- Level 5 Diploma in Professional Dance (Classical Ballet or Contemporary Dance) (255 credits)
- Level 5 Diploma in Professional Acting (150 credits).

The Trinity College London website at www.trinitycollege.co.uk gives details of the formal name and reference number of qualifications approved within the Qualifications and Credit Framework by Ofqual (Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation).

The primary aim of each qualification

Objectives

The Professional Performing Arts Diplomas require the candidate to attain a high level of imaginative, expressive and technical skills, combined with the creative application of strong analytical and critical skills. Candidates will be required to appreciate relationships across a broad range of complex contexts and apply their skills, knowledge and understanding in order to achieve maximum effect in performance. They are also required to demonstrate their ability to respond flexibly across a range of conditions and styles, translating original intentions into persuasive performance.

Level 6 Diploma in Professional Dance

This is a three year vocational qualification, with the emphasis of the course on the artistic, creative, technical and professional skills that a dancer needs in order to prepare for a sustainable, varied and high-level performing career. Course work will include a minimum of three dance disciplines and/or choreography plus supporting studies. Candidates need to audition successfully for a course that has been validated to provide the Diploma by Trinity College London. Each validated course has its own unique identity and will provide the Diploma within its own curriculum.

Level 6 Diploma in Professional Musical Theatre

This is a three year vocational qualification, with the emphasis of the course on the artistic, creative, technical and professional skills that a performing artist needs in order to prepare for a varied and high-level career in musical theatre. Course work will include singing, acting, dance and supporting professional studies. Candidates need to audition successfully for a course that has been validated to provide the Diploma by Trinity College London. Each validated course has its own unique identity and will provide the Diploma within its own curriculum.

Level 6 Diploma in Professional Acting

This is a three year vocational qualification, with the emphasis of the course on the artistic, creative, technical and professional skills that an actor needs in order to prepare for a varied and high-level performing career. Course work will include acting in both live and recorded media, voice, movement, integrated studies and professional development. Candidates need to audition successfully for a course that has been validated to provide the Diploma by Trinity College. Each validated course has its own unique identity and will provide the Diploma within its own curriculum.

Level 6 Diploma in Professional Production Skills

This is a two year vocational qualification, with the emphasis of the course on the creative, technical and professional skills that are needed in order to prepare for a varied and high-level production career in performing arts. Course work will include stage management, prop making, sound, electronics, scenic construction, stagecraft and professional practice. Candidates need to have successfully interviewed for a course that has been validated to provide the Diploma by Trinity College London. Each validated course has its own unique identity and will provide the Diploma within its own curriculum.

Level 5 Diploma in Professional Dance (Classical Ballet or Contemporary Dance)

This is a two year vocational qualification, with the emphasis of the course on the artistic, creative, technical and professional skills that a dancer needs to fully prepare for a career in professional dance. Course work will aim for a highly skilled level in either classical ballet or contemporary dance and at least one other dance discipline, with choreography and other supporting professional studies. Candidates need to have auditioned successfully for a course that has been validated to provide the Diploma by Trinity College London. Each validated course has its own unique identity and will provide the Diploma within its own curriculum.

Level 5 Diploma in Professional Acting

This is typically a one year vocational course with the emphasis of the course on the artistic, creative, technical and professional skills that an actor needs in order to prepare for a varied and high-level performing career. Course work will include acting in both live and recorded media, voice, movement, integrated studies and professional development. Candidates need to audition successfully for a course that has been validated to provide the Diploma by Trinity College London. Each validated course has its own unique identity and will provide the Diploma within its own curriculum.

Qualification structure

Each Diploma contains some compulsory units comprising a number of components. Candidates must achieve a pass in every unit to obtain the qualification.

Each component covers the skills and knowledge required to facilitate entry to, and sustain employment in, the performing arts and entertainment industry. However, passing the Diploma is not a guarantee of employment. Learning outcomes are indicative of the standards required to pass the unit, while assessment objectives describe the breadth and depth of study necessary to achieve the outcomes.

The Diplomas are accredited by Ofqual and are recognised on the Qualifications and Credit Framework.

Funding and progression routes

These Diplomas are the only qualifications attached to the government's Dance and Drama Awards scheme, administered and managed through the Education Funding Agency. Students may be able to access financial help towards the cost of their training through this scheme. More information can be found at www.direct.gov.uk/danceanddrama

These qualifications are designed primarily for students wishing to progress directly into professional performing careers or into professional performance production. The Professional Performing Arts Diplomas also provide an APEL (Approved Prior Experience and Learning) route onto the BA(Hons) Professional Practice (BAPP) designed by Middlesex University for students who have been awarded one of the Professional Performing Arts Diplomas. The 120-credit course gives participants the opportunity to study for a BA(Hons) while continuing with their professional performing activities. In addition, the Professional Performing Arts Diplomas provide an APEL route into some MA programmes.

Regulations

Course Providers

Course Providers are validated to provide these qualifications in their entirety to candidates registered with Trinity. These Providers undergo a validation process to ensure qualifications are delivered at the appropriate standard, and Trinity maintains ongoing scrutiny of Course Providers to ensure students are achieving at appropriate levels. For more information on becoming a validated Provider please contact dada@trinitycollege.co.uk

Validation, course delivery and the Course Provider's Handbook

Any Course Provider wishing to deliver a course leading to the award of a Professional Diploma must obtain validation from Trinity College London. Trinity College London will provide every validated Course Provider with a Course Provider's Handbook, which contains information and guidance on the content and delivery of validated courses. Course Providers will need to follow the guidelines laid down in the handbook carefully in order to ensure courses are administered and delivered correctly.

Entry requirements and APEL (Approved Prior Experience and Learning)

Candidates applying to study for a Professional Performing Arts Diploma should be able to demonstrate talent and potential for future employment in the performing arts and the curiosity, intelligence and stamina required to benefit from intensive training. Though there are no formal qualification requirements for entry, typically, this qualification can provide a progression route for students who have undertaken GCSE, A Level, BTEC or graded exams in Drama, Dance, Music or the Performing Arts. Potential will be assessed by audition and interview at a college validated to provide the Diploma by Trinity College London.

Assessment

Assessment and moderation

Internal assessment

Course Providers' internal assessment procedures are scrutinised during the validation process in order to ensure that procedures are fair, rigorous and clear. Providers are only required to assess students at a Pass/Fail level. However, Trinity considers it good practice for the students to be given a clear indication of the level of their attainment by the Provider. Students must be assessed formally at least once annually, and must pass their assessments in all core subjects and integrated professional studies in order to proceed onto the next year of the course. Usually students will be assessed and have feedback on their progress at several points during each year. Where students fail an area, an opportunity to re-take the subject should be offered. Detailed guidance on assessment procedures and weighting are given in the Course Provider's Handbook. Attainment descriptors for each component are detailed in each Diploma and may be a useful guide to Course Providers when assessing student skills.

Trinity assessment and moderation

Trinity moderates the Provider's internal assessment of first, second and third year students and externally assesses students in their final year performances. Trinity will send assessors to a range of events, performances and internal assessments. It is the responsibility of the Provider to inform Trinity when assessment and performances take place. Without this information Trinity cannot fulfil its moderation or assessment responsibilities. Further information on the arrangement of visits can be found in the Course Provider's Handbook.

Awarding of the qualification

The final approval of the awarding of the Professional Performing Arts Diplomas rests with the Trinity College London Diploma Board. The Diploma Board consists of Senior Trinity assessors and meets as and when necessary to advise and adjudicate on all matters relating to the course content and delivery of the Diplomas. The aims and responsibilities of the Board are to review the relevance, validity, reliability and working conduct of any and all assessments. All meetings are minuted, and the Head of Drama and Performance is informed of any recommendations which they are advised to respond to and report back on.

Trinity assessors

Trinity assessors are professional performers, or former performers who often also have extensive experience in performing arts teaching and/or performing arts administration. The Trinity assessors' major role is moderation of the Course Provider's own assessment procedures to ensure the school is applying fair, rigorous and transparent procedures. Assessors moderate either class or performance assessment occasions, and assess students in their final year performances. All assessors attend an annual conference which involves additional training and standardisation exercises.

A proportion of Trinity assessors are senior assessors who have additional roles to the general assessors. These include moderating assessors, validation and pre-validation of new Course Providers, re-validation of current Providers, and involvement in the creation of new materials and handbooks. Senior assessors also form the Diploma Board, which meets to moderate and adjudicate all matters relating to course delivery.

Guided learning hours

As each Provider delivers the qualification in its own unique way, it is not possible to require specific guided learning hours (GLH). However these qualifications are by nature very intensive in taught hours. These GLH are approximate only and Providers may have different intensities of guided time depending on where the student is in the course. Generally the GLH are between 1,000–1,250 per year and do not include self-directed projects. Practical units of the qualification are much more intensive in contact time than Integrated Professional Skills. Please see the tables on pages 10 and 23 for the specific guided learning hours for each unit.

Please note: the guided learning hours of each Provider will be agreed with Trinity at the time of validation. It is also important for Providers to note that some components or parts of components will be delivered through the provision of other units. For example some elements of the health and safety component will be delivered through practical units of the qualification.

Special needs

Trinity College London welcomes candidates with special needs. Successful candidates with special needs should communicate their requirements to the Provider in order that their needs may be met and special arrangements made as and where possible. Students with special needs should also make their GP aware of the nature of the course they are undertaking and be prepared to present a clearance note from their GP approving their participation.

Special needs and Provider responsibility

Each Provider is validated separately and within this procedure the Provider needs to show that they are making reasonable adjustments to adapt their course and assessments to provide for students with special needs. Course Providers should inform Trinity regarding the special needs of individual students so that assessors are appropriately informed prior to visits.

Reasonable adjustments and special consideration

By regularly reviewing the way in which we provide our services, Trinity aims to identify the barriers or impediments to access.

Malpractice

When schools are validated to provide the Trinity Professional Performing Arts Diplomas they make a commitment to abide by the guidelines set out in the Provider's Handbook and the Qualifications Handbook. Where a Provider does not keep to these guidelines, Trinity will advise them on any changes they need to make and a deadline by which to make them. If the deadlines given are not met Trinity will consider this as malpractice. Malpractice may result in the withdrawal of validation.

Fees

Qualification fees are printed on a separate fee sheet. Details are available from Trinity's London office (dada@trinitycollege.co.uk).

Appeals

Appeals procedure for Providers

Entry for Trinity qualification is deemed to constitute acceptance of the professional judgement of the assessor(s). Course Providers and students who wish to question the outcome of their qualifications should use the procedure set out at www.trinitycollege.co.uk/appeals

Allowable grounds for appeal.

Two broad categories of appeal will be considered:

- Claims of irregular procedure on the part of the assessor
- A clear mismatch between the comments of one or more reports and the final result awarded to a student at the end of their course, in relation to the published criteria.

Full details of the appeal levels can be found in the Course Provider's Handbook.

Appeals procedure for students

All Course Providers must have a published Appeals Procedure.

Trinity considers appeals against overall awards of fail where candidates provide information or evidence that courses were possibly not delivered in line with the Course Provider's publicity and course information and/or Trinity's validation requirements and that therefore they were deprived of appropriate training and/or an appropriate assessment procedure. Appeals may also relate to inappropriate assessment practice or behaviour.

Trinity does not enter into disputes between candidates and Course Providers relating to payment or refund of fees or other charges, or financial compensation for delivery of services. If an appeal is accompanied by a written or verbal proposal of legal action, then Trinity does not pursue the normal appeals procedures but refers the matter to its solicitors. Full details of the appeal levels can be found in the Course Provider's Handbook.

Guidance for delivery of qualifications

The following is guidance for provision of some aspects of the Professional Performing Arts Diplomas. These guidelines are not compulsory but offer some suggestions to Providers in the delivery of the qualifications. Each Provider delivers the qualifications in their own unique way. Full guidance for Course Providers on the administration and delivery of these qualifications is given in the Course Provider's Handbook which is available for all Validated Course Providers.

Integrated Professional Studies (IPS)

Integrated Professional Studies develop the thinking, imaginative, self-reliant performer and incorporate key and transferable skills. IPS can be evidenced by 3 separate files which are supportive of the practical work of the Diploma.

The Personal File – kept across the three years of study

The Information File – kept across the three years of study

The Performance Project File – a record of a 3rd year project

Detailed guidance on the content of these files and suitable pro-formas for use in them are given in the Course Provider's Handbook. Providers are able to adapt and change the formats to suit their own provision.

Course Providers should provide relevant internal assessment records for IPS for all candidates. Trinity assessors should be given access to all Personal Files and Performance Project Files where necessary.

Transferable Skills

Transferable skills are an implicit and valuable part of performing arts training and equip candidates with knowledge and capabilities that can be used in another profession/workplace. The acquisition of transferable skills should be assessed in everyday practice across the course and also evidenced in the candidates' Personal File and 3rd year Performance Project File.

Level 5 Diploma in Professional Dance

The Trinity Level 5 Diploma in Professional Dance is a two year vocational qualification. The emphasis of the qualification is on the artistic, creative, technical and professional skills that a dancer needs in order to fully prepare for a varied, sustainable and high level performing career in professional dance. Course work will require candidates to major in either classical ballet or contemporary dance, with a secondary dance discipline as a minor subject, plus supporting studies. Candidates need to audition successfully for a course that has been validated to provide the Diploma by Trinity College London. Each validated course has its own unique identity and will provide the Diploma within its own curriculum.

Structure

The Diploma is a unit-based qualification in which candidates are required to have passed EITHER Units 1 or 2 (optional choice) AND Units 3, 4 and 5. Units 1, 2 and 4 comprise the core techniques and performance skills needed to become a professional dancer and Unit 3 provides supporting technical skills. Unit 5 contains the professional supporting studies which underpin the other units. These develop the skills to enable candidates to become informed practitioners who are well prepared to secure and maintain employment.

Diploma at a glance

Unit	Unit title	Required/optional	GLH*	NLH**	Credits	Level
1	Technical Skills in Professional Classical Ballet	Optional – Candidate must choose either Unit 1 or Unit 2	800	100	90	5
2	Technical Skills in Professional Contemporary Dance					
3	Supporting Technical Skills for Professional Dance	Required	200	50	25	5
4	Performance in Professional Dance (Classical Ballet or Contemporary Dance)	Required	600	200	80	5
5	Additional Professional Skills and Practice in Professional Dance	Required	400	200	60	5
Totals			2,000	550	255	5

* Guided learning hours ** Notional learning hours

The units

- Unit 1 – Technical Skills in Professional Classical Ballet, 90 credits at Level 5

Or

- Unit 2 – Technical Skills in Professional Contemporary Dance, 90 credits at Level 5

- Unit 3 – Supporting Technical Skills for Professional Dance, 25 credits at Level 5

- Unit 4 – Performance in Professional Dance (Classical Ballet or Contemporary Dance), 80 credits at Level 5

- Unit 5 – Additional Professional Skills and Practice in Professional Dance, 60 credits at Level 5

The integration of all units is an essential concept of this qualification and is central to the delivery of the Diploma.

Overall assessment of the Diploma

Units 1, 2, 3 and 5 are internally assessed by the Course Provider and moderated by Trinity College London. Unit 4, the performance unit, is externally assessed by Trinity College London. However, it is expected that the Course Provider will also assess Unit 4 internally.

Course Providers should use the following criteria across all units to evidence the learning outcomes and to ensure that learners integrate the practical, theoretical and creative elements of the course.

Methodology

In assessment, the Course Provider should take into account:

- technical accomplishment
- knowledge of subject
- breadth and depth of understanding.

Communication

In assessment, the Course Provider should take into account:

- presentation skills
- communication skills
- ability to relay content and intention
- understanding of audience needs and expectations
- suitability of purpose/context.

Contextual awareness

In assessment, the Course Provider should take into account:

- preparation of material
- analysis of needs
- the ability to source and research relevant material
- the ability to evaluate and develop that material into complex performance events suited to varying contexts and situations.

Overall, a Pass candidate will demonstrate an integrated approach to all units of the qualification. Their work will demonstrate strong technical and performance skills which are underpinned by in-depth understanding and the ability to research, analyse and evaluate material.

Unit 1 – Technical Skills in Professional Classical Ballet

Credit value: 90 credits at Level 5

Achievement of this unit should equip the candidate with all the necessary artistic and technical skills for successful audition, rehearsal and performance situations as a professional ballet dancer.

Candidates will develop a high level of technical skill and ability in the execution of classical ballet, applying this to a range of styles across the genre, and combining this with sophisticated and expressive presentation skills, versatility and appropriate personal skills.

Indicative content

- classical ballet
- neo-classical ballet
- romantic ballet
- contemporary ballet.

Learning outcomes

The learner will:

1. Demonstrate skilled and accurate technical ability and expertise in ballet
2. Demonstrate sophisticated and expressive presentation skills in ballet
3. Demonstrate clear understanding of musicality and dynamics
4. Demonstrate appropriate professional skills for working in professional classical ballet

Assessing Unit 1

Candidates' work will be assessed internally a minimum of once per year. They can be assessed within a variety of contexts such as:

- studio, class and rehearsal situations
- showings of individual and group work in both class and performance
- mock auditions
- workshops.

Candidates must be assessed against the following assessment criteria attached to the learning outcomes.

On successful completion of this unit the student will be able to, with specific reference to the content and learning outcomes above:

1. **Demonstrate skilled and accurate technical ability and expertise in ballet:**
   - 1.1 Apply appropriate, safe and efficient alignment and placing
   - 1.2 Retain and reproduce sustained movement sequences consolidating strength, balance and control with accuracy and technical detail
   - 1.3 Apply strength and stamina with appropriate physicality, flexibility and co-ordination
   - 1.4 Retain and reproduce previously unseen complex combinations accurately in both content and style
   - 1.5 Reproduce accurate ballet technique with co-ordination, flexibility and control
2. **Demonstrate sophisticated and expressive presentation skills in ballet:**
   - 2.1 Accurately interpret choreographic demands demonstrating precision and integrity
   - 2.2 Perform a full and controlled range of movement facility showing subtleties of style
   - 2.3 Understand and use subtleties of style, expressive mime and dramatic skills
   - 2.4 Show virtuosity in solo performance
   - 2.5 Show a high level of skill, confidence and sensitivity in pas de deux and corps de ballet

3. **Demonstrate appropriate skills for working in professional classical ballet:**
   3.1 Understand the importance of integration of all course areas
   3.2 Work with confidence in both solo and group situations

When assessing candidates, the Course Provider should always take into account the candidates' understandings of methodology, communication and contextual awareness. These assessment requirements are described fully on page 11.

Attainment descriptors for Technical Skills in Professional Classical Ballet

The following descriptors are intended for use by Course Providers to provide guidance when assessing candidates' skills on completion of this unit.

Outstanding

An Outstanding candidate will have demonstrated all the learning outcomes above to a very good level. They will display mature, engaging and secure ballet technique to convey integrity of style and dynamic energy in both class and critical performance. Their work will be underpinned by informed professional knowledge of ballet technique and safe and effective dance practice.

Pass

A Pass candidate will have successfully demonstrated all of the learning outcomes above. They will display confidence and consistency in their ballet technique. They will convey style and energy to both class and performance situations. Their work will be underpinned with good professional knowledge of ballet technique and understanding of safe and effective dance practice.

Fail

A Fail candidate will be unable to achieve some or all of the learning outcomes. They will not be accurate or consistent in their ballet technique and its application. They will be limited in their ability to demonstrate the skills, knowledge and understanding for ballet technique in the professional workplace.

Unit 2 – Technical Skills in Professional Contemporary Dance

Credit value: 90 credits at Level 5

Achievement of this unit should equip the candidate with all the necessary artistic and technical skills for successful audition, rehearsal and performance situations as a professional contemporary dancer.

Candidates will develop a high level of technical skill and ability in the execution of contemporary dance, applying this to a range of styles across the genre, and combining this with sophisticated and expressive presentation skills, versatility and appropriate personal skills.

Indicative content

This unit can be delivered in a range of styles including:

- Cunningham
- Graham
- Limon.

Learning outcomes

The learner will:

1. Demonstrate a strong level of technical ability in the chosen contemporary style
2. Demonstrate sophisticated and expressive presentation skills
3. Demonstrate an awareness of the skills and processes of rehearsal and production
4. Demonstrate good musicality
5. Demonstrate appropriate skills for working in a company situation

Assessing Unit 2

Candidates' work will be assessed internally a minimum of once per year. They can be assessed within a variety of contexts such as:

- studio, class and rehearsal situations
- showings of individual and group work in both class and performance
- mock auditions
- workshops.

Candidates must be assessed against the following assessment criteria attached to the learning outcomes.

On successful completion of this unit the student will be able to, with specific reference to the content and learning outcomes above:

1. **Demonstrate a strong level of technical ability in the chosen contemporary style:**
   - 1.1 Apply skilled and accurate dance technique through appropriate alignment and placing to encompass balance, co-ordination, flexibility and control
   - 1.2 Show the initiation and integrity of movement sequencing appropriate to the contemporary style
   - 1.3 Apply de-centralisation and its application with relation to style
   - 1.4 Sustain movement sequences consolidating balance and control with detailed accuracy and technical fluency
2. **Demonstrate sophisticated and expressive presentation skills:**
   - 2.1 Express subtleties of style and perform with dynamic energy
   - 2.2 Display good physical engagement with the material given and appropriate risk-taking
   - 2.3 Retain and reproduce previously unseen complex contemporary combinations accurately in both content and style

3. **Demonstrate an awareness of the skills and processes of rehearsal and production:**
   - 3.1 Work with confidence in both solo and group situations
   - 3.2 Accurately interpret choreographic demands demonstrating precision and integrity
   - 3.3 Have good levels of the physical energy, stamina and athleticism demanded from the professional contemporary dancer
4. **Demonstrate good musicality:**
   - 1.1 Respond to music with sensitivity and clarity of timing and phrasing
5. **Demonstrate appropriate skills for working in a company situation:**
   - 3.1 Have appropriate interaction with others and embodiment of the material
   - 3.2 Understand the integration of all course areas
   - 3.3 Communicate effectively and sensitively, having a positive interaction with tutors, directors and colleagues
   - 3.4 Evidence the understanding of health and safety considerations with specific reference to safe and effective dance practice

When assessing candidates, the Course Provider should always take into account the candidates' understandings of methodology, communication and contextual awareness. These assessment requirements are described fully on page 11.

Attainment descriptors for Technical Skills in Professional Contemporary Dance

The following descriptors are intended for use by Course Providers to provide guidance when assessing candidates' skills on completion of this unit.

Outstanding

An Outstanding candidate will have demonstrated all of the learning outcomes above to a very good level. They will display mature, engaging and secure contemporary dance technique to convey integrity of style and dynamic energy in both class and critical performance. Their work will be underpinned by informed professional knowledge of contemporary dance technique and safe and effective dance practice.

Pass

A Pass candidate will have successfully demonstrated all the learning outcomes above. They will display confidence and consistency in their contemporary dance technique. They will convey style and energy to both class and performance situations. Their work will be underpinned with good professional knowledge of contemporary dance technique and understanding of safe and effective dance practice.

Fail

A Fail candidate will be unable to achieve some or all of the learning outcomes. They will not be accurate or consistent in their contemporary technique and its application. They will be limited in their ability to demonstrate the skills, knowledge and understanding for contemporary dance technique in the professional workplace.

Unit 3 – Supporting Technical Skills for Professional Dance

The technique chosen for this unit must be different from the one chosen out of Units 1 and 2.

Credit value: 25 credits at Level 5

Achievement of this unit should equip the candidate with a good level of artistic ability and associated skills in their chosen discipline.

Candidates will develop a good level of skill in the execution of their chosen discipline, combining technical understanding and ability with expressive presentation skills and appropriate personal skills.

Indicative content

Candidates will develop the dance skills required for professional productions in one of the following:

- ballet – for example, classical, neo-classical, romantic, contemporary ballet
- contemporary – for example, Graham, Cunningham, Limon
- jazz – for example, Mattox, Luigi, Horton.

Learning outcomes

The learner will:

1. Demonstrate good technical ability in a dance technique
2. Demonstrate good performance and presentation skills
3. Demonstrate an awareness of the skills and processes of rehearsal and production working in a company situation

Assessing Unit 3

Candidates' work will be assessed internally a minimum of once per year. They can be assessed within a variety of contexts such as:

- studio, class and rehearsal situations
- showings of individual and group work in both class and performance
- mock auditions
- workshops.

Candidates must be assessed against the following assessment criteria attached to the learning outcomes.

On successful completion of this unit the student will be able to, with specific reference to the content and learning outcomes above:

1. **Demonstrate good technical ability in a dance technique:**
   - 1.1 Apply good dance technique and integrity of movement appropriate to the genre
   - 1.2 Retain and reproduce movement sequences with accuracy
   - 1.3 Show energy, strength and stamina with appropriate physicality, flexibility and co-ordination
   - 1.4 Understand and use subtleties of style and dramatic skills as appropriate to the chosen genre
   - 1.5 Respond to music with sensitivity
   - 1.6 Display clarity and precision in the execution of genre specific requirements
2. **Demonstrate good performance and presentation skills:**
   - 2.1 Accurately interpret choreographic demands, demonstrating movement integrity
   - 2.2 Understand and display the specific movement and style demands of the chosen genre
   - 2.3 Work with confidence in both solo and group situations

3. **Demonstrate an awareness of the skills and processes of rehearsal and production working within a company situation:**
   - 3.1 Understand the integration of all course areas
   - 3.2 Communicate effectively with tutors, directors and colleagues
   - 3.3 Evidence understanding of health and safety considerations with specific reference to safe and effective dance practice

When assessing candidates, the Course Provider should always take into account the candidates' understandings of methodology, communication and contextual awareness. These assessment requirements are described fully on page 11.

Attainment descriptors for Supporting Technical Skills for Professional Dance

The following descriptors are intended for use by Course Providers to provide guidance when assessing candidates' skills on completion of this unit.

Outstanding

An Outstanding candidate will have demonstrated all of the learning outcomes above to a very good level. They will display a mature and engaging demonstration of their chosen dance technique with a clear intention to convey style and dramatic energy in both class and performance. Their work will be underpinned by informed professional knowledge of the relevant dance technique and safe and effective dance practice.

Pass

A Pass candidate will have successfully demonstrated all of the learning outcomes above. They will display confidence and consistency in their dance technique. They will convey style and energy to class and performance situations. Their work will be underpinned with an extensive knowledge and understanding of safe and effective dance practice.

Fail

A Fail candidate will be unable to achieve some or all of the learning outcomes. They will not be consistently clear or reliable in their dance technique or its application. They will be limited in their ability to demonstrate the skills, knowledge and understanding for dance technique in the chosen genre.

Unit 4 – Performance in Professional Dance (Classical Ballet or Contemporary Dance)

Credit value: 80 credits at Level 5

Achievement of this unit should equip the candidate with strong performance skills which are appropriate in the professional workplace.

Candidates will develop performance standards of strong professional expertise in the chosen key skill and good professional expertise in the supporting skill.

Indicative content

Candidates will develop the performance skills necessary for use in:

- ensemble work
- featured roles
- cover/understudy work
- the specific styles/genres chosen.

Developing their skills to be able to perform in spaces such as:

- proscenium theatre
- theatre in the round
- corporate entertainment venues
- fringe theatre venues
- Theatre in Education venues.

Learning outcomes

The learner will:

1. Demonstrate understanding and application of technical rehearsal and performance preparation processes
2. Demonstrate creativity in rehearsal processes
3. Demonstrate strong communication skills within a company setting
4. Perform to appropriate expertise level in both the key and supporting dance techniques
5. Demonstrate understanding and application of appropriate professional practices throughout rehearsal and performance

Assessing Unit 4

An external Trinity assessor will assess candidates' work in the final year in a range of performance opportunities. The candidate must be seen in at least one clearly assessable role. It is expected that performance will also be internally assessed by Course Providers. They can be assessed within a variety of contexts such as:

- studio, class and rehearsal situations
- showings of individual and group work in both class and performance
- mock auditions
- workshops.

Candidates must be assessed against the following assessment criteria attached to the learning outcomes.

On successful completion of this unit the student will be able to, with specific reference to the content and learning outcomes above:

1. **Demonstrate an understanding and application of technical rehearsal and performance preparation processes:**
   - 1.1 Prepare and sustain the imagination, emotion, concentration and stamina essential for rehearsal and performance preparation
   - 1.2 Show appropriate interpretation of material and use of technique in the rehearsal process
   - 1.3 Show integrity of techniques in rehearsal which maintains the context of the chosen art form

2. **Demonstrate creativity in rehearsal processes:**
   2.1 Understand the creative process and its use in the development of performance
3. **Demonstrate strong communication skills within a company setting:**
   3.1 Show a positive and active response to direction, including the taking and practical application of notes
   3.2 Communicate effectively with colleagues, making a positive contribution to group interaction
4. **Perform to appropriate expertise level in both the key and supporting dance techniques:**
   4.1 Deliver a truthful, focused and technically assured performance
   4.2 Convey atmosphere and dramatic intent
   4.3 Demonstrate an appropriate response to the audience which communicates the artistic intention of the piece
   4.4 Maintain integrity of technique and style throughout the performance
5. **Demonstrate understanding and application of appropriate professional practices throughout rehearsal and performance:**
   5.1 Display knowledge of stagecraft and use appropriate vocabularies and working methods
   5.2 Evidence understanding of health and safety considerations, including appropriate response to potential hazards in dance situations

When assessing candidates, the Course Provider should always take into account the candidates' understandings of methodology, communication and contextual awareness. These assessment requirements are described fully on page 11.

Attainment descriptors for Performance in Professional Dance (Classical Ballet or Contemporary Dance)

The following descriptors are intended for use by Course Providers to provide guidance when assessing candidates' skills on completion of this unit.

Outstanding

An Outstanding candidate will have demonstrated all the learning outcomes above to a very good level. They will display mature and engaging skills with an ability to convey atmosphere and dramatic intent in dynamic performance situations. They will demonstrate the integrity of technique in relation to the chosen dance genre. They will be able to apply a full range of techniques in order to enhance and support their performance. Their work will be underpinned by professional informed knowledge of dance performance.

Pass

A Pass candidate will have successfully demonstrated all of the learning outcomes above. They will display confidence and consistency in their performance. They will be able to use a range of suitable approaches to persuasively convey atmosphere and dramatic intent in a range of performance situations. Their work will be underpinned with good preparation and research in relation to the work being performed. They will be able to deliver appropriate responses to a range of dance performance occasions.

Fail

A Fail candidate will be unable to achieve some or all of the learning outcomes above. They will not be consistently clear or reliable in performance, and will be unable to apply the appropriate level of technical skill required in performance. They will be unsuccessful in demonstrating the clarity of the chosen dance technique or style. They will be limited in their ability to underpin their work with the appropriate research and professional knowledge.

Unit 5 – Additional Professional Skills and Practice in Professional Dance

Credit value: 60 credits at Level 5

Achievement of this unit should equip the candidate with all the supporting skills necessary for obtaining and maintaining employment in the professional workplace.

Candidates will obtain an understanding of the professional skills and practice within the working environment, gaining the skills required to obtain and maintain employment across the full spectrum of the performing arts and entertainment industry. Through reflective practice, candidates will explore their own creative potential and understand the integration of all course units. Candidates will develop the skills necessary to protect the self as a performer, both in safe and effective dance practice and with regard to safety in the professional workplace. This unit also recognises the wealth of transferable skills gained in performing arts training, including research, communication and self-management.

Indicative content

Reflective practice

Candidates work will cover a broad range of areas such as:

- analysis of connections within and between subjects
- personal background research in preparation for performance – historical and cultural context of work and role-specific research
- exploration of personal and collaborative creative potential – development of original thinking
- knowledge of the professions relating to various choreographers, companies and influential practitioners
- written or spoken reflections and critiques of their own and others' performance experience
- written or spoken reflections on present and future self-development.

Employment

Much of the content of this component will be delivered through other units of this qualification. However, there are certain areas which will require specific provision such as:

- tax, insurance and accountancy
- employment contracts
- funding and professional bodies
- CV compilation and photo acquisition
- EuroFIA Dance Passport
- internet and ICT skills.

Safe Practice

Candidates should cover both personal safety and safe and effective dance practice as well as the issues of health and safety in the workplace such as:

- physical and psychological health
- personal fitness, nutrition and hydration needs
- awareness of risk assessment (personal and within performance and rehearsal situations)
- illness and injury (prevention and care)
- safe practice within performance and rehearsal environments
- actions of self, others and professional assistance within these environments
- industry-specific hazards and emergency safety procedures.

Learning outcomes

The learner will:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of connections within and between subjects
2. Demonstrate use of creative research
3. Demonstrate strong communication skills, presenting observational judgements with clarity and confidence
4. Demonstrate self-management skills
5. Demonstrate relevant industry knowledge which accurately reflects the challenges and demands of securing and maintaining employment
6. Demonstrate thorough understanding and application of health care and safe practice in relation to both personal and professional needs

Assessing Unit 5

Candidates' work will be assessed internally a minimum of once per year. They can be assessed within a variety of contexts such as:

For reflective practice:

- class, studio, rehearsal and performance situations
- reflective journals, performance project/files/folders, assessed work
- viva voce
- written projects, reviews, tests, etc.

For employment:

- mock auditions
- mock interviews
- reflective journals, performance project files/folders, assessed work
- viva voce
- audition portfolio
- documentation of CV
- acquisition of photos
- written projects, reviews, tests, etc.

For safe practice:

- overall course presentation – the maintenance of health and fitness should be evidenced in everyday practice
- class, rehearsal and performance
- personal file
- viva voce
- written projects, tests, etc.

Candidates must be assessed against the following assessment criteria attached to the learning outcomes.

On successful completion of this unit the student will be able to, with specific reference to the content and learning outcomes above:

1. **Demonstrate an understanding of connections within and between subjects:**
   - 1.1 Demonstrate an understanding of the connections between own work and other performing arts disciplines
   - 1.2 Integrate understanding across all areas of the qualification
2. **Demonstrate use of creative research:**
   - 2.1 Carry out detailed independent research that explores the historical and cultural context of the work
   - 2.2 Carry out detailed independent role-specific research
   - 2.3 Apply appropriate use of research methodologies and information retrieval skills

3. **Demonstrate strong communication skills, presenting observational judgements with clarity and confidence:**
   - 3.1 Form and express clear observational judgements of own and others' work
4. **Demonstrate self-management skills:**
   - 4.1 Evidence an understanding of self-development needs
   - 4.2 Evidence awareness and deployment of self-management and personal discipline
5. **Demonstrate relevant industry knowledge which accurately reflects the challenges and demands of securing and maintaining employment:**
   - 5.1 Evidence knowledge of industry structures, trends, bodies, working practices, etiquettes and key practitioners (e.g. casting directors and agents)
   - 5.2 Show a pro-active approach to market his/herself maximizing personal versatilities and strengths
   - 5.3 Evidence an understanding of industry-relevant financial and contractual obligations
   - 5.4 Deliver appropriate responses to suit various employment situations
6. **Demonstrate thorough understanding and application of health care and safe practice in relation to both personal and professional needs:**
   - 6.1 Evidence an understanding of the physical and psychological demands of class, rehearsal and performance
   - 6.2 Compile and apply relevant and appropriate fitness, nutrition and hydration plans which support own needs for optimum performance
   - 6.3 Identify accurate personal risk assessment combined with appropriate response to illness and injury
   - 6.4 Evidence knowledge of fire/safety/emergency procedures within practice/performance environments
   - 6.5 Evidence knowledge of legal requirements, including insurance and health and safety responsibilities

When assessing candidates, the Course Provider should always take into account the candidates' understandings of methodology, communication and contextual awareness. These assessment requirements are described fully on page 11.

Attainment descriptors for Additional Professional Skills and Practice in Professional Dance

The following descriptors are intended for use by Course Providers to provide guidance when assessing candidates' skills on completion of this unit.

Outstanding

An Outstanding candidate will have achieved all of the learning outcomes above to a very good level, fully integrating their understanding across all units of the qualification. Their work will show clarity, reflective judgement and a good demonstration of connections within and between subjects. They will display a clear understanding of the challenges and demands of gaining and retaining employment in the performing arts industry. They will display detailed and informed knowledge of the issues around personal and workplace health and safety issues and will take responsibility in these areas.

Pass

A Pass candidate will have achieved all of the learning outcomes above to a very good level, integrating their understanding across all units of the qualification. Their work will show reflective judgement and demonstrate connections within and between subjects. They will display sound understanding of the issues surrounding employment in the performing arts industry. They will be able to deliver consistently appropriate responses to personal and professional health and safety considerations.

Fail

A Fail candidate will be unable to achieve some or all of the learning outcomes. They will be unable to integrate their understanding across all units and their work will not show the appropriate reflective judgement. They will show insufficient knowledge and understanding of the relevant employment and health and safety issues.

Level 6 Diploma in Professional Dance

The Level 6 Diploma in Professional Dance is a three year vocational qualification which is attained as the result of successfully completing a three year vocational training in professional dance. Training providers are validated to provide the qualification and assessment is undertaken by both the Provider and Trinity College London. The emphasis of the qualification is on the artistic, creative, technical and professional skills that a dancer needs in order to prepare fully for a varied, sustainable and high level performing career in professional dance. Course work will include a minimum of two dance disciplines, plus a choice of options for an additional subject, plus supporting studies. Candidates need to audition successfully for a course that has been validated to provide the Diploma by Trinity College London. Each validated course has its own unique identity and will provide the Diploma within its own curriculum.

Structure

The Diploma is a seven unit qualification in which candidates are required to have passed Units 1, 5, 6 and 7 PLUS an optional choice of one unit from Units 2, 3 or 4. Units 1 and 5 comprise the core techniques and performance skills needed to become a professional dancer and Units 2, 3 and 4 provide a choice of options for an additional subject. Units 6 and 7 contain the professional supporting studies which underpin the other units. These develop the skills to enable candidates to become informed practitioners who are well prepared to secure and maintain employment.

Diploma at a glance

Unit	Unit title	Required/optional	GLH*	NLH**	Credits	Level
1	Technical Skills in Professional Dance	Required	1300	200	150	6
2	Supporting Technical Skills in Professional Dance	Options – Candidates must choose ONE unit from Units 2–4	300	100	40	5
3	Supporting Technical Skills in Professional Dance Composition					
4	Supporting Technical Skills in Vocal Skills for Professional Dance					
5	Performance in Professional Dance	Required	900	400	130	6
6	Additional Professional Skills and Practice in Professional Dance	Required	400	200	60	6
7	Integrated Professional Studies in Professional Dance	Required	100	300	40	6
Totals			3,000	1,200	420	6

* Guided learning hours ** Notional learning hours

The units

- Unit 1 – Technical Skills in Professional Dance, 150 credits at Level 6

Either

- Unit 2 – Optional choice – Supporting Technical Skills in Professional Dance, 40 credits at Level 5

Or

- Unit 3 – Optional choice – Supporting Technical Skills in Dance Composition, 40 credits at Level 5

Or

- Unit 4 – Optional choice – Supporting Technical Skills in Vocal Skills for Professional Dance, 40 credits at Level 5

- Unit 5 – Performance in Professional Dance, 130 credits at Level 6

  The performance standards required will be those of strong professional expertise in the two chosen key skills (Unit 1) and good professional expertise in the supporting skill (choice of Units 2, 3 or 4)

- Unit 6 – Additional Professional Skills and Practice in Professional Dance, 60 credits at Level 6

- Unit 7 – Integrated Professional Studies in Professional Dance, 40 credits at Level 6

The integration of all units is an essential concept of this qualification and is central to the delivery of the Diploma.

Overall assessment of the Diploma

Units 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7 are internally assessed by the Course Provider and moderated by Trinity College London. Unit 5, the performance unit, is externally assessed by Trinity College London. However, it is expected that the Course Provider will also assess Unit 5 internally.

Course Providers should use the following criteria across all units to evidence the learning outcomes and to ensure that learners integrate the practical, theoretical and creative elements of the course.

Methodology

In assessment, the Course Provider should take into account:

- technical accomplishment
- knowledge of subject
- breadth and depth of understanding.

Communication

In assessment, the Course Provider should take into account:

- presentation skills
- communication skills
- ability to relay content and intention
- understanding of audience needs and expectations
- suitability of purpose/context.

Contextual awareness

In assessment, the Course Provider should take into account:

- preparation of material
- analysis of needs
- the ability to source and research relevant material
- the ability to evaluate and develop that material into complex performance events suited to varying contexts and situations.

Overall, a Pass candidate will demonstrate an integrated approach to all units of the qualification. Their work will demonstrate strong technical and performance skills which are underpinned by in-depth understanding and the ability to research, analyse and evaluate material.

Unit 1 – Technical Skills in Professional Dance

Credit value: 150 credits at Level 6

Achievement of this unit should equip the candidate with all the necessary technical skills for successful audition, rehearsal and performance situations as a professional dancer.

Candidates will develop artistic skill and ability in the execution of two specified (and different) dance disciplines that can be applied to a range of choreographic styles. Candidates should show a high level of technical understanding and ability, displaying versatility across the chosen genres.

Indicative content

Candidates will develop the technical dance skills required for professional productions in **two** of the following:

- ballet – classical, romantic
- contemporary – Graham, Cunningham, Limon, Horton
- jazz – Mattox, Luigi
- tap – American, English
- commercial – hip hop, street
- South Asian dance – Bharatanatyam, Kathak, Odissi, Kathakali
- dance forms of the African diaspora
- African dance
- Spanish dance.

Course Providers may choose alternative dance genres, but course outlines for specific dance styles should be submitted by the Course Provider to Trinity College London for approval. These should indicate how these relate to the learning outcomes.

Learning outcomes

The learner will:

1. Demonstrate excellent dance technique in both chosen genres
2. Demonstrate sophisticated and expressive presentation skills in both chosen genres
3. Demonstrate responsive and enhanced musicality
4. Demonstrate appropriate improvisational skills
5. Demonstrate appropriate skills for working in a company situation
6. Understand and consistently apply appropriate health and safety considerations

Assessing Unit 1

Candidates' work will be assessed internally a minimum of once per year. They can be assessed within a variety of contexts such as:

- studio and class situations
- showings of individual and group work in both class and performance
- rehearsals
- mock auditions
- workshops.

Candidates must be assessed against the following assessment criteria attached to the learning outcomes.

On successful completion of this unit the student will be able to, with specific reference to the content and learning outcomes above:

1. **Demonstrate excellent dance technique in both chosen genres:**
   - 1.1 Achieve excellent and consistently accurate dance techniques through appropriate safe and efficient alignment and placing, to encompass balance, co-ordination, flexibility and control

1.2 Display purity of line combined with integrity of technique and movement specific to the chosen dance skills
1.3 Maintain high levels of physical and dynamic energy, strength, stamina and appropriate physicality
1.4 Assimilate and reproduce previously unseen complex combinations confidently and accurately in both content and style

2. **Demonstrate sophisticated and expressive presentation skills in both chosen genres**
   2.1 Express subtleties of style and dynamic energy in performance
   2.2 Display strong dramatic skills which bring character and emotion to performance as appropriate
3. **Demonstrate responsive and enhanced musicality**
   3.1 Display a highly sensitive response to musical phrasing combined with excellent clarity of timing
4. **Demonstrate appropriate improvisational skills**
   4.1 Produce confident, creative and complex improvisational work as appropriate
5. **Demonstrate appropriate skills for working in a company situation**
   5.1 Precisely interpret choreographic demands through excellent dance techniques
   5.2 Display confidence, competence and sensitivity in complex partnering and ensemble work and virtuosity in solo work
   5.3 Interact sensitively and positively with colleagues
6. **Understand and consistently apply appropriate health and safety considerations**
   6.1 Understand and consistently deploy appropriate health and safety initiatives with specific reference to safe and effective dance practice

When assessing candidates, the Course Provider should always take into account the candidates' understandings of methodology, communication and contextual awareness. These assessment requirements are described fully on page 24.

Attainment descriptors for Technical Skills in Professional Dance

The following descriptors are intended for use by Course Providers to provide guidance when assessing candidates' skills on completion of this unit.

Outstanding

An outstanding candidate will have demonstrated all the learning outcomes above to a very high level. They will display impressive, fully engaging and sophisticated dance technique to convey integrity of style and strong dynamic energy in both class and critical performance. Their work will be underpinned by fully informed professional knowledge of their chosen dance techniques and safe and effective dance practice.

Pass

A Pass candidate will have successfully demonstrated all of the learning outcomes above to a good level. They will display authority, versatility and consistency in their dance technique. They will convey a strong sense of style and energy in both class and performance situations. Their work will be underpinned with professional knowledge of their chosen dance techniques and sound understanding of safe and effective dance practice.

Fail

A Fail candidate will be unable to achieve some or all of the learning outcomes. They will not be accurate or consistent in their dance technique and its application. They will be limited in their ability to demonstrate the skills, knowledge and understanding for dance technique in the professional workplace.

Unit 2 – Supporting Technical Skills in Professional Dance

Candidates choosing this option must choose a different discipline to those selected for Unit 1.

Credit value: 40 credits at Level 5

Achievement of this unit should equip the candidate with supporting skills which will underpin their technical and performance abilities.

Candidates will develop professional competence in the execution of a specified dance discipline, displaying strong dance technique, good interpretation and versatility

Indicative content

Candidates will develop the technical dance skills required for professional productions in **one** of the following:

- ballet – classical, romantic
- contemporary – Graham, Cunningham, Limon, Horton
- jazz – Mattox, Luigi
- tap – American, English
- commercial – hip hop, street
- South Asian dance – Bharatanatyam, Kathak, Odissi, Kathakali
- dance forms of the African diaspora
- African dance
- Spanish dance.

Course Providers may choose alternative dance genres, but course outlines for specific dance styles should be submitted by the Course Provider to Trinity College London for approval. These should indicate how these relate to the learning outcomes.

Learning outcomes

The learner will:

1. Demonstrate strong dance technique in one chosen genre
2. Demonstrate expressive presentation skills in one chosen genre
3. Demonstrate responsive musicality
4. Demonstrate appropriate improvisational skills
5. Demonstrate appropriate skills for working in a company situation
6. Understand and apply appropriate health and safety considerations

Assessing Unit 2

Candidates' work will be assessed internally a minimum of once per year. They can be assessed within a variety of contexts such as:

- studio and class situations
- showings of individual and group work in both class and performance
- rehearsals
- mock auditions
- workshops.

Candidates must be assessed against the following assessment criteria attached to the learning outcomes.

On successful completion of this unit the student will be able to, with specific reference to the content and learning outcomes above:

1. **Demonstrate strong dance technique in one chosen genre:**
   - 1.1 Achieve strong dance technique through appropriate safe alignment and placing to encompass strength, balance, co-ordination, stamina, flexibility and control
   - 1.2 Display purity of line and integrity of technique specific to the chosen dance skill
   - 1.3 Evidence an understanding of the context of the chosen dance form and the required integrity of technique to express it
   - 1.4 Assimilate and reproduce previously unseen combinations accurately in both content and style
2. **Demonstrate expressive presentation skills in one chosen genre:**
   - 2.1 Develop a good sense of style encompassing energetic and expressive presentation skills
   - 2.2 Display dramatic skills which bring emotion and character to a dance role as appropriate
3. **Demonstrate responsive musicality:**
   - 3.1 Display a sensitive response to musical phrasing and timing
4. **Demonstrate appropriate improvisational skills:**
   - 4.1 Produce confident and creative improvisational skills as appropriate
5. **Demonstrate appropriate skills for working in a company situation:**
   - 5.1 Interpret choreographic demands through good dance technique
   - 5.2 Display confidence and sensitivity in partner and group work
   - 5.3 Work with fellow company members in a positive and responsive manner
6. **Understand and apply appropriate health and safety considerations**
   - 6.1 Understand and deploy appropriate health and safety initiatives with specific reference to safe dance practice

When assessing candidates, the Course Provider should always take into account the candidates' understandings of methodology, communication and contextual awareness. These assessment requirements are described on page 24.

Attainment descriptors for Supporting Technical Skills in Professional Dance

The following descriptors are intended for use by Course Providers to provide guidance when assessing candidates' skills on completion of this unit.

Outstanding

An Outstanding candidate will have demonstrated all of the learning outcomes above to a very high level. They will display a strong understanding of their chosen dance technique with clear and engaging intention to convey style and dynamic energy in both class and critical performance. Their work will be underpinned by fully informed professional knowledge of the relevant dance technique and safe and effective dance practice.

Pass

A Pass candidate will have successfully demonstrated all of the learning outcomes above to a good level. They will display authority and consistency in their dance technique. They will convey style and energy to dynamic performance situations. Their work will be underpinned with good professional knowledge and sound understanding of safe and effective dance practice.

Fail

A Fail candidate will be unable to achieve some or all of the learning outcomes. They will not be consistently clear or reliable in their dance technique and its application. They will be limited in their ability to demonstrate the skills, knowledge and understanding for dance technique in the professional workplace.

Unit 3 – Supporting Technical Skills in Professional Dance Composition

Credit value: 40 credits at Level 5

Achievement of this unit should equip the candidate with versatile dance composition skills appropriate for the professional workplace.

Candidates will develop professional competence in the choreographic skills needed for professional dance productions, including use of a wide field of movement and musical devices, creative and original thinking, versatility and appropriate personal skills.

Indicative content

- movement vocabulary and devices
- compositional skills for solo, duet and group work
- musical vocabulary and devices
- possible stimuli: including visual, aural, tactile, movement, literary and theatrical material
- technical support systems: including lighting, sound, scenic devices, costumes, wigs, masks, props, performance spaces, etc.

Learning outcomes

The learner will:

1. Demonstrate thorough and detailed preparation skills
2. Demonstrate impressive, creative and sophisticated choreographic skills which are realised in performance through an effective rehearsal process
3. Demonstrate an imaginative and sophisticated use of music and sound
3. Demonstrate associated social skills essential for the choreographic process
4. Understand appropriate health and safety initiatives and legal responsibilities and implement them as appropriate

Assessing Unit 3

Candidates' work will be assessed internally a minimum of once per year. They can be assessed within a variety of contexts such as:

- studio and class situations
- showings of individual and group work in both class and performance
- rehearsals
- workshops.

Candidates must be assessed against the following assessment criteria attached to the learning outcomes.

On successful completion of this unit the student will be able to, with specific reference to the content and learning outcomes above:

1. **Demonstrate thorough and detailed preparation skills:**
   - 1.1 Identify and utilise a range of stimuli as source material and create themes through them
   - 1.2 Display a clear intention and develop a theme through to performance
   - 1.3 Display inventive, creative and original thinking in relation to theme and movement choices
2. **Demonstrate impressive, creative and sophisticated choreographic skills which are realised in performance through an effective rehearsal process:**
   - 2.1 Display dexterity in the use of time, space, energy, weight and motion in the organisation of dance material
   - 2.2 Utilise a range of compositional and choreographic devices, including the use of canon, repetition, retrograde, motif, use of narration and dramatic intention as appropriate
   - 2.3 Promote and develop creative and performing skills in self and others
   - 2.4 Plan and implement a rehearsal programme to take the work through from inception to performance

3. **Demonstrate an imaginative and sophisticated use of music and sound:**
   3.1 Create movement in relation to different scores (including voice, solo instrument, non-western music forms, etc.) and show sensitive and attuned musical response with complex counting and time-signature awareness
4. **Demonstrate associated social skills essential for the choreographic process:**
   4.1 Treat others with dignity, consistency and consideration, valuing and respecting their diverse cultural, religious and ethnic backgrounds
   4.2 Display clear and sensitive direction of others, treating them with appropriate respect and value
5. **Understand appropriate health and safety initiatives and legal responsibilities and implement them as appropriate:**
   5.1 Display a sound understanding of the health and safety implications of imposing movement on others
   5.2 Display some knowledge of the legal responsibilities of choreographers in terms of insurance and copyright law

When assessing candidates, the Course Provider should always take into account the candidates' understandings of methodology, communication and contextual awareness. These assessment requirements are described fully on page 24.

Attainment descriptors for Supporting Technical Skills in Professional Dance Composition

The following descriptors are intended for use by Course Providers to provide guidance when assessing candidates' skills on completion of this unit.

Outstanding

An Outstanding candidate will have demonstrated all the learning outcomes above to a very high level. They will display impressive, creative and sophisticated choreographic skills based on a sound methodology which convey dramatic intent in dynamic and critical performance situations. Their work will be underpinned by substantial, thorough and detailed research and informed professional knowledge.

Pass

A Pass candidate will have successfully demonstrated all of the learning outcomes above to a good level. They will display creative choreographic skills based on a sound methodology which convey dramatic intent in critical performance situations. Their work will be underpinned by thorough research and professional knowledge.

Fail

A Fail candidate will be unable to achieve some or all of the learning outcomes. They will be limited in their ability to display the skills needed to produce choreography for self and others. Their work will not be underpinned by sufficient professional knowledge and their research lacks depth and detail.

Unit 4 – Supporting Technical Skills in Vocal Skills for Professional Dance

Credit value: 40 credits at Level 5

Achievement of this unit should equip the candidate with competent vocal skills which are appropriate in the professional workplace.

Candidates will develop professional competence in the vocal skills needed in some professional dance productions, including use of speech and singing techniques and exercises, combined vocal and dance skills and appropriate personal skills.

Indicative content

- voice related exercises and techniques (speech)
- voice related exercises and techniques (song)
- sight reading (prose)
- sight reading (dialogue)
- combined song and dance
- singing projects (to include audition choices)
- audition technique.

Learning outcomes

The learner will:

1. Demonstrate impressive, fully engaging and sophisticated vocal techniques which can be integrated with other skills as appropriate
2. Demonstrate expressive and sensitive vocal interpretation which conveys dramatic intent
3. Demonstrate awareness and deployment of personal singing range
4. Demonstrate an ability to select and present suitable vocal audition material
5. Understand and apply appropriate health and safety considerations

Assessing Unit 4

Candidates' work will be assessed internally a minimum of once per year. They can be assessed within a variety of contexts such as:

- studio and class situations
- showings of individual and group work in both class and performance
- rehearsals
- workshops
- mock auditions.

Candidates must be assessed against the following assessment criteria attached to the learning outcomes.

On successful completion of this unit the student will be able to, with specific reference to the content and learning outcomes above:

1. **Demonstrate impressive, fully engaging and sophisticated vocal techniques which can be integrated with other skills as appropriate:**
   - 1.1 Understand and utilise vocal techniques of breathing, centring and relaxation in relation to pitch, resonance, projection and articulation
   - 1.2 Adapt vocal skills to the production and the space
   - 1.3 Combine dance and vocal techniques as required
   - 1.4 Sight read text with clarity
2. **Demonstrate expressive and sensitive vocal interpretation which conveys dramatic intent:**
   - 2.1 Use relevant vocal technique to convey character and dramatic intent through speech and song
   - 2.2 Show expression and sensitive interpretation of theme and lyrics

3. **Demonstrate awareness and deployment of personal singing range:**
   3.1 Show a good awareness of personal singing range and vocal type
   3.2 Demonstrate this range as required
4. **Demonstrate an ability to select and present suitable vocal audition material:**
   4.1 Create a versatile vocal audition portfolio which reflects personal abilities
5. **Understand and apply appropriate health and safety considerations:**
   5.1 Understand and deploy techniques to train, maintain and protect the voice including appropriate personal warm up

When assessing candidates, the Course Provider should always take into account the candidates' understandings of methodology, communication and contextual awareness. These assessment requirements are described fully on page 24.

Attainment descriptors for Supporting Technical Skills in Vocal Skills for Professional Dance

The following descriptors are intended for use by Course Providers to provide guidance when assessing candidates' skills on completion of this unit.

Outstanding

An Outstanding candidate will have demonstrated all of the learning outcomes above to a very high level. They will display impressive, fully engaging and sophisticated vocal interpretation skills with clear ability to convey atmosphere and dramatic intent in dynamic and critical performance situations. Their work will be underpinned by fully informed and professional knowledge of the application of vocal technique to support dance skills.

Pass

A Pass candidate will have successfully demonstrated all of the learning outcomes above to a good level. They will display authority, versatility and consistency in their vocal skills and use a range of suitable approaches to convey atmosphere and dramatic intent in a range of dynamic situations. Their work will be underpinned with good preparation and research of vocal technique. They will have an ability to deliver appropriate responses to support dance skills.

Fail

A Fail candidate will be unable to achieve some or all of the learning outcomes. They will not be consistently clear or reliable in their vocal technique and its application across a range of genres. They will be limited in their ability to demonstrate the skills, knowledge and understanding needed to convey atmosphere and dramatic intent in the application of vocal technique to support dance skills.

Unit 5 – Performance in Professional Dance

Credit value: 130 credits at Level 6

Achievement of this unit should equip the candidate with the expert performance skills which are appropriate in the professional workplace.

Candidates will develop performance standards of strong professional expertise in the two chosen key skills (Unit 1) and good professional expertise in the supporting skill (choice of Units 2, 3 or 4)

Indicative content

Candidates will develop the performance skills necessary for use in:

- ensemble work
- featured roles
- cover/understudy work
- diverse styles across the dance, choreographic and vocal spectrum.

Developing their skills to be able to perform in such spaces as:

- proscenium theatre
- theatre in the round
- television studios
- film sets
- cruise ship theatres
- corporate entertainment venues
- fringe theatre venues
- theatre in education venues.

Learning outcome

The learner will:

1. Demonstrate sophisticated understanding and application of technical rehearsal and performance preparation processes
2. Demonstrate confident creative skills in rehearsal processes
3. Demonstrate sophisticated performance skills
4. Demonstrate professional technical expertise in performance
5. Demonstrate professional company skills which enhance and support performance
6. Demonstrate thorough background research through appropriate methodologies
7. Demonstrate consistent understanding and application of appropriate health and safety considerations

Assessing Unit 5

An external Trinity assessor will assess candidates' work in the final year in a range of performance opportunities. The candidate must be seen in at least one clearly assessable role. It is expected that performance will also be internally assessed by Course Providers. They can be assessed within a variety of contexts such as:

- studio and class situations
- showings of individual and group work in both class and performance
- rehearsals
- workshops
- mock auditions.

Candidates must be assessed against the following assessment criteria attached to the learning outcomes.

On successful completion of this unit the student will be able to, with specific reference to the content and learning outcomes above:

1. **Demonstrate sophisticated understanding and application of technical rehearsal and performance preparation processes:**
   - 1.1 Prepare and sustain the imagination, emotion, concentration and stamina essential for rehearsal and performance
2. **Demonstrate confident creative skills in the rehearsal process:**
   - 2.2 Understand and utilise creativity in the development of performance
3. **Demonstrate sophisticated performance skills:**
   - 3.1 Display enhanced and sophisticated performance skills through the use of strong dance technique
4. **Demonstrate professional technical expertise in performance:**
   - 4.1 Display effective use of the techniques of the chosen dance genres to promote performance skills to a level of professional expertise
   - 4.2 Deliver sincere and focused performances through the use of key and supporting techniques
5. **Demonstrate professional company skills which enhance and support performance:**
   - 5.1 Make a positive and sensitive contribution to group interaction, showing an understanding of the collective process in the realisation of performance
   - 5.2 Show a sensitive and attuned response to both audience and fellow performers, successfully communicating the intention of the work
   - 5.3 Apply stagecraft, using appropriate vocabularies and working methods
   - 5.4 Respond actively and positively to direction, including the taking and practical application of notes
6. **Demonstrate thorough background research through appropriate methodologies:**
   - 6.1 Apply professional skills and background research to enhance performance
7. **Demonstrate consistent understanding and application of appropriate health and safety considerations:**
   - 7.1 Consistently apply relevant health and safety practice appropriate to the performance situation

When assessing candidates, the Course Provider should always take into account the candidates' understandings of methodology, communication and contextual awareness. These assessment requirements are described fully on page 24.

Attainment descriptors for Performance in Professional Dance

The following descriptors are intended for use by Course Providers to provide guidance when assessing candidates' skills on completion of this unit.

Outstanding

An Outstanding candidate will have demonstrated all the learning outcomes above to a very high level. They will display impressive, fully engaging and sophisticated performance skills with a clear ability to convey atmosphere and dramatic intent in both dynamic and critical performance situations. They will demonstrate the integrity of technique in relation to the chosen dance genre. They will be able to confidently apply a full range of techniques in order to enhance and support their performance. Their work will be underpinned by informed and professional knowledge of dance performance.

Pass

A Pass candidate will have successfully demonstrated all of the learning outcomes above to a good level. They will display authority, versatility and consistency in their performance. They will be able to use a range of suitable approaches to confidently convey atmosphere and dramatic intent in a range of dynamic performance situations. Their work will be underpinned with good preparation and research in relation to the work being performed. They will be able to deliver appropriate responses to suit various situations across a range of dance performance situations.

Fail

A Fail candidate will be unable to achieve some or all of the learning outcomes. They will not be consistently clear or reliable in performance, and will be unable to apply the appropriate level of technical skill required in performance. They will be unsuccessful in demonstrating the integrity of the chosen dance technique. They will be limited in their ability to underpin their work with the appropriate research and professional knowledge

Unit 6 – Additional Professional Skills and Practice in Professional Dance

Credit value: 60 credits at Level 6

Achievement of this unit should equip the candidate with the supporting skills necessary for obtaining and maintaining employment in the professional workplace.

Candidates will obtain an understanding of the professional skills and practice within the working environment, gaining the skills required to obtain and maintain employment across the full spectrum of the performing arts and entertainment industry. Candidates will develop the skills necessary to protect the self as a performer, both in personal safe and effective dance practice and with regard to safety in the professional workplace. This unit also recognizes the wealth of transferable skills gained in performing arts training and ensures candidates are able to relate these to a wider work spectrum.

Indicative content

Transferable skills

- transferable skills are primarily delivered through Units 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7 of the qualification.

Employment

Much of this component will be delivered through other units of this qualification. However, there are certain areas which will require specific provision such as:

- tax, insurance and accountancy
- employment contracts
- funding and professional bodies
- CV compilation and photo acquisition
- EuroFIA Dance Passport
- internet and ICT skills.

Safe Practice

Candidates should cover personal safety and safe and effective dance practice as well as the issues around health and safety in the workplace such as:

- physical and psychological health
- personal fitness, nutrition and hydration needs
- risk assessment (personal and within performance and rehearsal situations)
- illness and injury (prevention and care)
- safe practice within performance and rehearsal environments
- industry-specific hazards and emergency safety procedures.

Learning outcomes

The learner will:

1. Demonstrate personal transferable skills
2. Demonstrate detailed and relevant industry knowledge which accurately reflects the challenges and demands of securing and maintaining employment
3. Demonstrate thorough understanding of health care and safe practice in relation to both personal and professional needs

Assessing Unit 6

Candidates' work will be assessed internally a minimum of once per year. They can be assessed within a variety of contexts such as:

For transferable skills

- class, studio and performance situations
- reflective journals, performance project files/folders, assessed work
- viva voce.

For employment

- mock auditions
- mock interviews
- audition portfolio
- documentation of CV
- acquisition of photos
- written projects, reviews, tests, etc.
- reflective journals, performance project files/folders, assessed work
- viva voce.

For safe practice

- conduct throughout the course – the maintenance of health and fitness should be evidenced in everyday practice
- class, rehearsal and performance
- personal file
- viva voce
- written projects, tests, risk assessments, etc.

Candidates must be assessed against the following assessment criteria attached to the learning outcomes.

On successful completion of this unit the student will be able to, with specific reference to the content and learning outcomes above:

1. **Demonstrate personal transferable skills:**
   - 1.1 Evidence awareness and deployment of self-management, personal discipline and self-development
   - 1.2 Create motivated, independent preparatory work which shows attention to detail
   - 1.3 Commit to active participation in and contribution to group activities/discussion
   - 1.4 Show constructive response to advice and feedback
   - 1.5 Articulate ideas and communicate about work with clarity and analytical understanding
   - 1.6 Understand the cultural and social context of their artistic work and be able to relate it to the wider context of the performing arts, culture and society
   - 1.7 Display leadership and management skills as relevant to their studies
2. **Demonstrate detailed and relevant industry knowledge which accurately reflects the challenges and demands of securing and maintaining employment:**
   - 2.1 Evidence detailed knowledge of industry structures, trends, working practices, etiquettes, professional bodies and key practitioners (e.g. casting directors, agents)
   - 2.2 Show a pro-active and self-reliant approach to market his/herself maximising personal versatilities and strengths
   - 2.3 Identify and access job information, targeting agents/employers with appropriate CV, photos and covering letter
   - 2.4 Understand differing audition requirements and respond appropriately
   - 2.5 Evidence knowledge of industry-relevant financial and contractual obligations
   - 2.6 Identify and support training for professional development
   - 2.7 Evidence understanding of grants, potential funding and employment opportunities world-wide

3. **Demonstrate thorough understanding of health care and practice in relation to both personal and professional needs:**
   - 3.1 Evidence an understanding of the physical and psychological demands of class, rehearsal and performance
   - 3.2 Compile and apply detailed, relevant and appropriate fitness, nutrition and hydration plans which support own needs for optimum performance
   - 3.3 Understand the health benefits of the appropriate balance between work and rest
   - 3.4 Identify accurate personal risk assessment combined with an appropriate response to illness and injury
   - 3.5 Evidence broad knowledge of industry-specific hazards and appropriate action to reduce/eliminate them
   - 3.6 Evidence knowledge of fire/safety/ emergency procedures in practice/performance situations
   - 3.7 Evidence knowledge of legal requirements, including insurance and health and safety responsibilities

When assessing candidates, the Course Provider should always take into account the candidates' understandings of methodology, communication and contextual awareness. These assessment requirements are described fully on page 24.

Attainment descriptors for Additional Professional Skills and Practice in Professional Dance

The following descriptors are intended for use by Course Providers to provide guidance when assessing candidates' skills on completion of this unit.

Outstanding

An Outstanding candidate will demonstrate all of the learning outcomes above to a very high level, fully integrating their understanding across all units of the qualification. They will present work which shows creative cohesion, personal investment and a perceptive awareness of their own and others' needs. They will display an excellent understanding of the demands of the professional workplace and detailed knowledge of issues relating to employment within the industry. They will evidence clear understanding and consistent deployment of safe practice both in relation to personal needs and safety in professional environments. This knowledge will be underpinned by in-depth and detailed preparation and research.

Pass

A Pass candidate will have demonstrated all of the learning outcomes above to a very good level, successfully integrating their understanding across most units of the qualification. They will present work which shows a coherent knowledge of their own and others' needs. They will display a detailed knowledge of the demands of the professional workplace and awareness of issues relating to employment within the industry. They will evidence understanding and deployment of safe practice both in relation to personal needs and safety within professional environments. This knowledge will be underpinned by sound preparation and research.

Fail

A Fail candidate will be unable to achieve some or all of the learning outcomes, and will show limited understanding of integration of units. They will not display appropriate awareness of their own and others' needs, and will show insufficient knowledge of professional demands and employment issues. They will not be consistently coherent and knowledgeable in their approach to personal and professional health and safety issues, and will be limited in their ability to underpin their work with appropriate preparation and research.

Unit 7 – Integrated Professional Studies in Professional Dance

Credit value: 40 credits at Level 6

Achievement of this unit should equip the candidate with the knowledge and skills which complement and enhance performance practice.

Candidates will extend their knowledge base beyond the immediate requirements of performance and develop research and reflective skills which enable them to become informed and thinking practitioners.

Indicative content

Candidates work will cover a range of areas such as:

- personal research informing preparation for performance
- personal selection and preparation of showcase/performance material
- personal preparation of videoed or recorded dance work
- personal preparation of devised work
- critical reflection of one of their own performances and/or a live or recorded professional production
- use and development of costumes, lighting, sound, etc., in a range of performance contexts
- knowledge and history of the profession relating to various dance genres and traditions as well as influential practitioners/innovators.

Learning outcomes

The learner will:

1. Demonstrate coherent, creative and analytical thought processes
2. Demonstrate self-motivated and independent research skills
3. Demonstrate a perceptive awareness of the context of the profession
4. Demonstrate strong self-promotion skills

Assessing Unit 7

Candidates' work will be assessed internally a minimum of once per year. They can be assessed within a variety of contexts such as:

- studio, class rehearsal and performance situations
- viva voce
- personal projects
- critiques of personal and professional performances (written or using viva voce)
- selection and preparation of showcase and performance material
- third year performance project file – detailing the research, preparation and realisation of a performance role.

Candidates must be assessed against the following assessment criteria attached to the learning outcomes.

On successful completion of this unit the student will be able to, with specific reference to the content and learning outcomes above:

1. **Demonstrate coherent, creative and analytical thought processes:**
   - 1.1 Understand the integrated relationship between professional studies and the practical aspects of the course
   - 1.2 Develop ideas and have the capacity to present them in appropriate ways
   - 1.3 Make accurate and perceptive observations on own and others' performances, forming judgements and expressing them with clarity and confidence
2. **Demonstrate self-motivated and independent research skills:**
   - 2.1 Engage in resourceful, self-motivated, independent research whether investigating past or present performances or creating new performance

2.2 Engage in appropriate use of differing research methodologies
2.3 Use appropriate information-retrieval skills to gather, sift, synthesise and organise material

3. **Demonstrate a perceptive awareness of the context of the profession:**
   3.1 Evidence knowledge of key practitioners in the dance field, their practices and their cultural/historical contexts
   3.2 Be able to relate this knowledge to performance preparation

4. **Demonstrate strong self-promotion skills:**
   4.1 Choose appropriate methods and materials to self-promote within the industry

When assessing candidates, the Course Provider should always take into account the candidates' understandings of methodology, communication and contextual awareness. These assessment requirements are described fully on page 24.

Attainment descriptors for Integrated Professional Studies in Professional Dance

The following descriptors are intended for use by Course Providers to provide guidance when assessing candidates' skills on completion of this unit.

Outstanding
An Outstanding candidate will demonstrate all of the learning outcomes above to a very high level. Their work will show a perceptive awareness of the context of their profession. They will be able to produce and present work which shows cohesion, creativity and personal investment. They will display an excellent understanding of the dance genre, and their work will be underpinned with professional knowledge resulting from in-depth research.

Pass
A Pass candidate will have successfully demonstrated all of the learning outcomes above to a good level. They will display coherent and detailed professional knowledge in their work showing an in-depth understanding of the context of their profession. Their work will be underpinned with good preparation and research and they will be able to deliver appropriate responses to suit various situations.

Fail
A Fail candidate will be unable to achieve some or all of the learning outcomes. They will not be consistently coherent and knowledgeable in their work and will show little personal investment in this. They will be limited in their ability to underpin their work with appropriate research and professional knowledge.