CUARES401A Research dance concepts

Release: 1

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Modification History

Version	Comments
CUARES401A	This version first released with *CUA11 Live Performance Training Package version 1.0*

Unit Descriptor

This unit describes the performance outcomes, skills and knowledge required to conduct research in response to a brief and link the research to elements of dance practice.

Application of the Unit

Dancers responsible for undertaking research as part of their studies or work apply the skills and knowledge in this unit. They may conduct the research to inform the development of a dance piece for a class, audition or performance, deepen their knowledge of a particular topic, or to develop an independent piece of research.

Research is done under some supervision but given the nature of the task, autonomy can be expected.

Licensing/Regulatory Information

No licensing, legislative, regulatory or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of endorsement.

Pre-Requisites

Not applicable.

Employability Skills Information

This unit contains employability skills.

Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

Element	Performance Criteria
Elements describe the essential outcomes of a unit of competency.	*Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. Where bold italicised text is used, further information is detailed in the required skills and knowledge section and the range statement. Assessment of performance is to be consistent with the evidence guide.*

Elements and Performance Criteria

1. Clarify research brief	1.1. Confirm *topic or content* to be researched with *relevant personnel*, including deadline for completion
	1.2. Determine issues and questions to be answered through research activity
	1.3. Identify *advantages* and *disadvantages* of *research and data-gathering techniques* and choose those that best meet requirements
	1.4. Discuss research ideas fully and constructively with relevant personnel and agree on *format for presenting research findings*
2. Conduct research	2.1. Identify appropriate *sources of information* on contemporary dance concepts relevant to research briefs
	2.2. Design *research tools* as required
	2.3. Establish contact with a sufficiently wide and varied range of sources to optimise information gathering using appropriate *research equipment*
	2.4. Approach relevant sources promptly and in a way most likely to elicit the required information
	2.5. Adjust research strategies as required without compromising outcomes
	2.6. Maintain accurate and comprehensive records and details of information sources using an appropriate *record-keeping* system
3. Analyse and research findings	3.1. Critically analyse and interpret research information
	3.2. Develop a cohesive argument based on the analysis
	3.3. Reference sources and develop a bibliography
	3.4. Check facts to ensure their accuracy before including them in research findings
	3.5. Make judgements about how much information to include in research findings and be clear on the rationale for doing so
	3.6. Develop conclusions and recommendations as required in consultation with relevant personnel
4. Present research	4.1. Organise information logically and clearly in the agreed format
	4.2. Present information to relevant personnel by agreed

	deadlines
	4.3. Identify key issues for further research or discussion with relevant personnel
	4.4. Seek feedback on the quality of research outcomes and note areas for improvement

Required Skills and Knowledge

This section describes the skills and knowledge required for this unit.

Required skills

- communication and teamwork skills to:
  - present information and research findings in a way that is easily understood by others
  - use industry and community networks as sources of information
  - negotiate changes to research briefs
  - work with relevant personnel to clarify a research brief and discuss research ideas
- initiative and flexibility skills to:
  - follow new leads in the course of research activities
  - respond to difficulties encountered during the course of research activities
  - apply research findings to contemporary dance practice and develop positions in relation to the research
- planning and writing skills to:
  - organise information logically and in line with its intended purpose
  - document research findings clearly and concisely
- analytical and literacy skills to interpret and summarise information and research findings
- self-management skills to work under pressure and meet deadlines.

Required knowledge

- contemporary dance practice
- effective communication techniques, including:
  - effective listening
  - questioning
  - non-verbal cues
- legal issues that affect research activities, such as:
  - copyright
  - intellectual property and privacy legislation
- features of commonly used quantitative and qualitative research methodologies
- protocols to be observed when collecting information of a culturally sensitive nature
- OHS standards as they relate to working for periods of time on computers.

Evidence Guide

The evidence guide provides advice on assessment and must be read in conjunction with the performance criteria, required skills and knowledge, range statement and the Assessment Guidelines for the Training Package.

Overview of assessment	
Critical aspects for assessment and evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit	Evidence of the ability to: • clarify research briefs • gather reliable and valid information from a range of sources in response to research briefs • document findings on a range of topics presented in an appropriate format by agreed deadlines • articulate ideas in a formal presentation.
Context of and specific resources for assessment	Assessment must ensure access to: • a computer, the internet, information collection software and other research equipment • information sources • appropriate learning and assessment support when required.
Method of assessment	A range of assessment methods should be used to assess practical skills and knowledge. The following examples are appropriate for this unit: • direct questioning combined with review of portfolios of evidence • third-party workplace reports of on-the-job performance • evaluation of research findings prepared in response to a range of briefs • case studies and scenarios as a basis for discussion of issues and challenges that arise in the context of researching contemporary dance concepts • verbal or written questioning to test knowledge as listed in the required skills and knowledge section of this unit and to determine candidate's approach to conducting research. Assessment methods should closely reflect workplace demands (e.g. literacy) and the needs of particular groups (e.g. people with disabilities and people who may have literacy or numeracy difficulties, such as speakers of languages other than English, remote communities and

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	those with interrupted schooling).
Guidance information for assessment	Holistic assessment with other units relevant to the industry sector, workplace and job role is recommended, for example: • BSBCRT401A Articulate, present and debate ideas • CUAWRT501A Write about dance • CUVRES401A Undertake historical and theoretical research to inform own arts practice.

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Range Statement

The range statement relates to the unit of competency as a whole. It allows for different work environments and situations that may affect performance. Bold italicised wording, if used in the performance criteria, is detailed below. Essential operating conditions that may be present with training and assessment (depending on the work situation, needs of the candidate, accessibility of the item, and local industry and regional contexts) may also be included.

Topic or content may include:	- history and development of western theatre dance from early 19th century to present day - lineages that influenced the development of dance forms in Australia - sociopolitical contexts of ballet and modern or contemporary dance in western culture - aesthetic characteristics and philosophies of selected choreographers - critical approach to creation of dance works in the context of: - gender - class - ethnicity - historical change - diversity of perspectives in contexts of dance through time - characteristics of various styles of dance, such as: - Court Ballet - Romanticism - Russian Classicalism - Ballet Russes - modern ballet - early modernism in German and the USA - modern dance - African American dance - post-modern dance - review of dance performances - analysis of how different concepts of contemporary dance may be used, adopted or challenged within dance practice - contemporary dance practitioners.
Relevant personnel may include:	- teacher - manager - client

	• colleague • other performer • production and technical staff.

Advantages may include:	• desk research:
	  • inexpensive
	  • permits examination of trends over past
	• observation:
	  • provides more detailed and context-related information
	  • permits collection of information on facts not mentioned in an interview
	  • permits tests of reliability of responses to questionnaires
	• interviewing:
	  • suitable for use with those with literacy difficulties
	  • permits clarification of questions
	  • has higher response rate than written questionnaires
	• questionnaires or surveys (hard copy or online):
	  • less expensive
	  • permits anonymity and may result in more honest responses
	  • eliminates bias
	• participant observation:
	  • provides rich data
	  • may have positive spin offs of knowledge and skills by researchers and informants.

Disadvantages may include:	• desk research:
	  • data not always easily accessible
	  • ethical issues concerning confidentiality may arise
	  • information may be inaccurate
	• observation:
	  • ethical issues concerning privacy
	  • observer bias may occur
	  • presence of observer can bias result
	• interviewing:
	  • interviewer bias may result
	  • presence of interviewer can influence response
	• questionnaires:
	  • not appropriate for those with literacy issues
	  • low rate of response

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- online surveys rely on people having access to and feeling comfortable with responding online
- misunderstanding of questions being asked

- participant observation:
  - participant can influence behaviour of others
  - usually requires extra training for researcher.

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Research and data gathering techniques may include:

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- qualitative, such as:
  - observation, including participant observation
  - interviews
  - attending dance performances
- quantitative, such as:
  - questionnaires
  - surveys.

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Format for presenting research findings may include:

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- audio and visual presentations
- interactive media presentations
- verbal briefings, talks or presentations
- written reports.

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Sources of information may include:

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- dance texts and anthologies
- historical texts
- libraries, such as:
  - text
  - film
  - video
  - sound
  - graphic
- government departments
- museums and galleries
- archives
- media archives
- enterprise policies, procedures and journals
- journal articles
- newspaper reviews
- internet
- images
- stories
- personal observations and experience
- interviews with dance practitioners
- attendance at performances.

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Information may include:

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- dance history and criticism
- aesthetics

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	• diversity of style and forms • signs and symbols • myths and legends • technical aspects of performances • new technologies • spiritual concerns • cultural issues • politics • gender and identity issues.

Research tools may include:	• questions for personal interviews or focus groups
	 • surveys, such as:
	    • print
	    • online
	    • telephone
	 • observation checklists
	 • journal notes of performances.

Research equipment may include:	• telecommunication equipment, such as:
	    • telephone
	    • mobile phones
	    • pagers
	    • fax machine
	    • computers with internet access
	    • answering machine
	 • photocopier
	 • computer and software, such as:
	    • word processing
	    • spreadsheet
	    • database
	 • calculator
	 • tape recorder
	 • camcorder
	 • mini DV tapes.

Record keeping may include:	• electronic, such as:
	    • databases
	    • spreadsheets
	    • statistical software applications
	 • manual, such as card index file.

Critical analysis may include:	• comparing • contrasting • reflecting

	• critiquing • discussion and debate.

Unit Sector(s)

Performing arts - research

Custom Content Section

Not applicable.

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