



Australian Government

CUADAN618 Extend contemporary dance performance skills to a professional level

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version first released with CUA Creative Arts and Culture Training Package Version 5.0.

Application

This unit describes the skills and knowledge required to prepare for and perform complex contemporary dance technique demonstrating range, depth, precision and artistry across contemporary dance repertoire at a professional level.

The unit applies to those who are dancers and who are moving towards professional careers in contexts where complex contemporary dance technique and versatility are required for performing as members of a professional dance company as an ensemble or soloist dancer. At this level, they are constantly refining their technique and perfecting their artistry across complex dance sequences and repertoire, including improvisation, solo and group work. While some supervision and guidance are provided, they are expected to display a high level of motivation and responsibility for themselves and others during practice sessions, rehearsals and live performances.

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

Unit Sector

Performing arts – Dance

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENTS	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
1. Prepare to perform contemporary dance at a professional level	1.1 Confirm intention and purpose of performance with required personnel 1.2 Confirm contemporary dance pieces to be performed, and undertake preparations in line with performance context and purpose 1.3 Develop rehearsal schedule and rehearse performances with others

ELEMENTS	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
	as required, according to professional dance standards 1.4 Develop complex performance attributes and quality of movement in sequences of extended difficulty during rehearsals 1.5 Build strength, precision and complexity when practising in rehearsals 1.6 Incorporate unseen combinations of movement into rehearsals with speed and verve, according to requirements of dance pieces to be performed 1.7 Practise and refine techniques for working with a partner according to performance requirements 1.8 Use advanced self-correction of dance technique and respond to feedback from others during rehearsals
2. Perform contemporary dance sequences at a professional level	2.1 Perform warm-up and cool-down activities in conjunction with dance activities according to safe dance practices 2.2 Confirm personal presentation meets performance context requirements 2.3 Apply performance psychology techniques to preparation for performance as required 2.4 Perform contemporary dance repertoire that incorporates nuances and characteristics of choreographic styles 2.5 Convey intention of dance pieces through embodiment and characterisation techniques 2.6 Follow direction during performance from artistic director and choreographers as required
3. Incorporate allied contemporary dance techniques into professional level performances	3.1 Use improvisation, complex duo sequences and acrobatic moves during performance 3.2 Identify when duo partner needs to leave a balance or be steadied, and demonstrate support in duo and dance tumbling 3.3 Adapt different choreographic moments in performance by engaging with differences and similarities of shape and dynamic quality 3.4 Apply momentum, sense of line and movement clarity essential to form during performance 3.5 Communicate style and intention of choreographic form of dance pieces using skills and knowledge of allied contemporary dance techniques
4. Review and develop professional performance practice	4.1 Seek feedback and contribute to debriefing session and discuss quality of performance and ways of improving individual and ensemble technique 4.2 Develop realistic parameters for extending scope of performance practice in consultation with required personnel

ELEMENTS	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
	4.3 Identify regimes and artistic strategies that can be used to refine own performance technique 4.4 Incorporate contemporary dance terminology and philosophy into discussions, practice and performance activities

Foundation Skills

This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential to performance but not explicit in the performance criteria.

SKILL	DESCRIPTION
Learning	Analyses feedback from others and identifies strategies to improve own technique
Oral communication	- Obtains information by listening and questioning - Discusses ideas and solutions with others
Initiative and enterprise	Works creatively with music and dance
Planning and organising	Adopts a methodical and disciplined approach to dance practice and performances
Self-management	- Follows industry accepted safe dance practices - Works independently and collectively within broad parameters, with a strong sense of responsibility for goals, decisions and outcomes - Recognises and responds to rehearsal and performance protocols - Takes responsibility for own professional development
Teamwork	Collaborates with other dancers and confirms that group sequences flow

Unit Mapping Information

Supersedes and is equivalent to CUADAN608 Extend contemporary dance performance skills to a professional level.

Links

Companion Volume Implementation Guide is found on VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=1db201d9-4006-4430-839f-382ef6b803d5>

Assessment Requirements for CUADAN618 Extend contemporary dance performance skills to a professional level

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Performance Evidence

The candidate must demonstrate the ability to complete the tasks outlined in the elements, performance criteria and foundation skills of this unit, including evidence of the ability to:

- prepare for and perform at least three different contemporary dance pieces to a professional level before an audience, at least one of which must be with a partner, at least one of which must be in an ensemble, and at least one of which must be individual.

In the course of the above, the candidate must:

- perform contemporary dance sequences, demonstrating:
 - expressive skills in line with choreographic intent of dance pieces
 - ability to respond to complex changes in tempo, time signatures and musical phrasing
 - high level of dance improvisation skills
 - skills and speed in directional changes
 - high level of spatial awareness in group movements
 - harmony of movement when performing with a partner
 - high level isolation and energy placement techniques
 - alignment and extensions in highly difficult combinations
- incorporate embodiment skills into dance performances
- use contemporary dance terminology when required.

Knowledge Evidence

The candidate must be able to demonstrate knowledge to complete the tasks outlined in the elements, performance criteria and foundation skills of this unit, including knowledge of:

- principles relating to contemporary dance movements and techniques, including:
 - relationship with gravity
 - spatial awareness
 - use of breath

- movement pathways
- expanding and contracting
- shifting weight
- principles relating to safe dance practice and injury prevention, including:
 - spine articulation
 - foot engagement
 - bases of support, including feet, legs, hands, arms and torso
 - joint range of motion
 - differentiation of legs and pelvis
- health and safety policies and procedures relevant to the dance environment
- application of musical elements of time signatures, beat, tempo and syncopation to contemporary dance technique
- fundamental technical principles in contemporary dance and performance
- strategies to respond to feedback to improve performance
- principles of choreography in the context of contemporary dance and performance, including:
 - choreographic and stylistic nuances
 - genres, styles, history and lineage
 - philosophical nature in contemporary dance
 - influential choreographers in contemporary dance
 - importance of embodying concepts through contemporary dance.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment must be conducted in a safe environment where evidence gathered demonstrates consistent performance of typical activities experienced in creative arts industry environments.

This includes access to:

- fully equipped dance studios
- music or accompanists
- live performance opportunities
- interaction with others required to demonstrate the performance evidence.

Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational educational and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.

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