

BTEC Level 3 - Dance



Exam Board: Pearson

BTECs embody a fundamentally learner-centred approach to the curriculum, with a flexible, unit-based structure and knowledge applied in project-based assessments. They focus on the holistic development of the practical, interpersonal and thinking skills required to be able to succeed in employment and higher education.

This course is designed for learners who have an interest in the Performing Arts, in particular Dance which is the entire focus area of study for this examination. Learners will study four units of work which bring together knowledge and understanding with practical and technical skills.

Course Overview:

Unit 1: Investigating Practitioners' Work

Research, critical analysis and extended writing skills that aim to support learners' progression to higher education. Learners will gain a good understanding of the work of influential practitioners to inform their own work and practice.

Unit 2: Developing Skills and Techniques for Live Performance

An introduction to the performing arts where learners will develop the appropriate skills and techniques in the performance discipline of dance.

Unit 3: Group Performance Workshop Group performance, where learners will develop the creative skills essential for dance. They will develop physical techniques as well as wider transferable skills, such as being able to work collaboratively, personal management and organisation (rehearsals, time-management), being able to give and take direction, confidence in front of an audience, problem solving (refining the process) and teamwork (essential when dancing as a group).

Learners will understand different audiences in different environments and will learn to adapt a performance to engage the target audience.

One Optional unit: This is subject to change according to the learners but may include: Contemporary Dance technique, Movement in Performance, Improvisation, Choreography for Live Performance or The Healthy Dancer.

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Entry requirements:

There are no specific entry requirements above the general requirements for PH6, however students will ideally have some experience of dance either in school or through external opportunities. Students need to be interested in a wide range of dance genres.

Assessment:

Component 1: Drama & Theatre

Written exam: 3 Hours. Open Book. 80 Marks, 40% of A-level.

Component 2: Creating Original Drama

Working notebook. Devised performance. 60 marks in total, 30% of A-level.

Component 3: Making Theatre (Practical)

Performance of Extract 3.

Reflective report. 60 marks, 30% of A-level.

Who is the course for?

Students who are passionate about dance and are willing to commit the time needed to practice and perfect their performance. As with any performing art, a willingness to seek and respond to feedback in a positive way, is crucial.

Other Course Information:

Learners will be expected to train their body outside of lessons by attending extra-curricular classes within/outside of school. Dance trips will be offered to visit Universities along with trips to view live performance. Visiting professional practitioners will also be invited to teach dance workshops within the curriculum.

Career pathways:

To work in a dance-based role you'll need to be resilient and proactive, as roles are competitive and rarely permanent. To enjoy and succeed at portfolio working, or any self-employment, you will need strong organisation and networking skills. Dance opens up a range of career options such as choreography, theatre, or as a teacher.

"I have never felt as confident and comfortable as I do when dancing with my BTEC group. I have never been a confident person, but Dance has brought out a whole new side of me. BTEC Performing Arts nurtured my growing talent with the unique opportunities it provided, such as practitioner workshops, visits to university and performance opportunities throughout the year. You are constantly presented with new and exciting challenges that help you develop your technique and your own personal movement style."