

# Graduate Diploma in Dance Studies

## KEY FACTS

<b>Awarding Institution:</b>	Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance
<b>Teaching Institution:</b>	Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance
<b>Type of study:</b>	Full time or part time
<b>UK Credits:</b>	120
<b>ECTS:</b>	60

## OUTLINE

### Summary Description

The Graduate Diploma in Dance Studies (Level 6) is an open and flexible programme, based on a 'professional development' model. The programme consists of intensive (full or part time) study in dance that will support students in working towards their individual learning/training/professional goals.

With opportunities to study across a wide range of subject areas, and with flexible routes of study, the Programme appeals to, and caters for, a wide range of individuals at different stages in their personal and professional development. Students on the Programme are part of a diverse community from a wide variety of backgrounds and training and with different types and levels of expertise and experience.

Students navigate an individual route through the programme by selecting 120 credits from the component menu, enabling them to access a broad range of areas of practice according to their needs, experience and interests.

### The aims of the Programme are:

- To facilitate students' engagement with dance as an art form and support their development as dance artists
- To provide learning experiences that enable students to develop an appreciation of the fundamental principles of a range of dance and dance-related practices
- To foster students' development as autonomous and committed learners who can engage critically with their own practice and support their own professional development

### Programme Content

The programme consists of a menu of elective components, of varying credit sizes, grouped into four Component Groups according to related areas of dance practice, modes of learning and learning outcomes:

- Component Group 1: Technical Dance Practice
- Component Group 2: Creative Dance Practice
- Component Group 3: Extending Dance Practice
- Component Group 4: Investigating Dance Practice

You make a selection totalling 120 credits from across the component groups.

## What will I be expected to achieve?

On successful completion of this programme, you will be expected to be able to demonstrate the following:

### Knowledge and understanding

Through the programme, you will gain knowledge and understanding of:

- A1** Technical and artistic principles underpinning contemporary dance and movement practices
- A2** Investigative and collaborative approaches to dance making and performance
- A3** Theoretical and conceptual principles that inform a range of dance and dance-related practices

### Skills

The skills you will gain through the programme will enable you to:

- B1** Demonstrate technical and artistic skills in dancing and dance performance
- B2** Demonstrate creative and analytical skills in processes of dance and dance making
- B3** Bring an informed viewpoint to your own work and that of others
- B4** Utilise a range of approaches to investigating and exploring a given area of practice
- B5** Process feedback and reflect critically on your own practice

### Values and attitudes

The programme promotes values and attitudes that you will uphold through:

- C1** Openness to exploring different approaches to learning about, through, and in dance
- C2** A readiness to engage in independent and shared enquiry around your own practice and that of others

## How will I learn?

Learning takes place within formal taught classes, in workshops, lectures, seminars and tutorials. Learning and teaching methods support the acquisition of knowledge and skills, alongside critical thinking and reflective evaluation. Students will be encouraged to be active learners in contributing to discussion, peer observation and feedback and group work. Alongside the taught aspect of the Programme, there are hours allocated for self-directed study – this may comprise set tasks and reading to support taught sessions, or individual reflection and research.

The Programme consists of (approximately) 1200 notional learning hours.

The total number of contact hours varies according to the combination of components selected.

Extra-curricular activities: an important aspect of the programme is increasing knowledge of the art form, and students are encouraged to attend as many performances, exhibitions, showings etc. in as many different art forms as they are able. These do not always have to be in major professional venues; there are many local arts events and activities that are of high quality and reasonably priced or sometimes free of charge. During the year there are performances by visiting professionals in the Laban Theatre. There are also many internal performances, showings and sharings of work from all programmes in the Faculty of Dance and the Faculty of Music at Trinity Laban.

## How will I be assessed?

Assessment is through a variety of mechanisms that evaluate knowledge, skills and values demonstrated in relation to the areas of study. Modes of assessment are varied, to suit different learning styles and enable students to apply a range of practical, written and oral skills in evidencing their learning.

Assessment includes: practical technique classes; practical presentations; performance; written critical observations; individual/group oral presentations; teaching; viva voce; essay. Assignments are phased and a schedule of submission / presentation dates is published each year.

## What do I have to do to pass?

To pass, you need to satisfactorily PASS (40%) each of the components that constitute the 120 credits of the Programme.

The grade you receive will reflect, in the view of the assessment panel, the extent to which each of the assignments meet the assessment criteria. Assignments will be graded using the Generic level 4-6 Marking Criteria / Grade Descriptors. There is provision to retrieve a failure under certain circumstances as defined in the Assessment Regulations for the programme.

## What award can I get?

### Graduate Diploma:

	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)	Class	% required
Taught	6	120	100	With Distinction	70
				With Merit	60
				With Pass	40

## CONTENT

## What will I study?

### Programme Content and Structure

The Graduate Diploma is based on students achieving 120 credits through the accumulation of credit bearing components which are assessed separately. The majority of components are at level 6 with a possibility of 35 credits worth of study at level 5.

The programme consists of a menu of elective components (below), of varying credit sizes, grouped into four Component Groups according to related areas of dance practice, modes of learning and commonality of learning outcomes:

- Component Group 1: Technical Dance Practice
- Component Group 2: Creative Dance Practice
- Component Group 3: Extending Dance Practice
- Component Group 4: Investigating Dance Practice

You select components from across the four Component Groups to reach the required 120 credits\*.

\*The programme consists of a single block of study. Students need to pass all of their elected components to receive the award.

There are no compulsory components, so you can select freely from across the menu, but there are restrictions on the opportunity to study some components as follows

- Co-requisites: To elect *Teaching Dance* students must also elect *The Dancing Body*
- Pre-requisite: To elect *Ballet* students must demonstrate, in levelling classes in induction week, the potential for learning in this area and/or have some previous experience of Ballet
- Pre-requisite: To elect *Rep Extracts* students must pass an audition in induction week that is specific to the Repertoire for the given year.

COMPONENT GROUPS; COMPONENT CODES & TITLES AND BASIC DESCRIPTION	Credits	HE Level	Delivery over the year			Classes per week
			T1	T2	T3	
<b>Group 1: Technical Dance Practice</b>						
<b>401 Contemporary Dance Technique</b>  This component fosters your competence in contemporary dance technique through practical study. It emphasises embodiment of technical understanding to achieve effective and expressive performance of dance material	15	6	●	●	●	4 (or 2 over two years if Part Time)
<b>431 Pilates for Dance</b>  A somatic bodywork practice designed to facilitate body awareness and the development of bodily skills that can support dance practice.	5	5	●	●	●	1
<b>432 Contemporary Jazz</b>  Development of technical skills, physicality and performance quality through practical classes that draw from the vocabularies of traditional, commercial and African jazz and contemporary dance	5	5	●	●		1
<b>433 Ballet</b>  Further develop your ballet skills: expanding technical range and enhancing physical confidence and performance skills. (Some experience of Ballet and a good potential for learning in this area is required to take this component)	15	5	●	●	●	3
<b>Group 2: Creative Dance Practice</b>						
<b>402 Choreography</b>  Enquiry into the choreographic processes, alongside the development of individual creativity. You will be encouraged to expand and develop your choreographic thinking rather than learning techniques of composition, supporting you towards becoming an independent choreographic practitioner.	15	6	●	●	●	2
<b>403 Choreological Practice</b>  A specialism of the Trinity Laban Dance Faculty: Rudolf Laban's praxis for dance performance known as Choreological Studies	15	6	●	●	●	2
<b>404 Devising and Performance</b>  This component involves you in a practical devising and rehearsal process lead by a choreographer, leading to a performance of a dance work	10	6			●	4
<b>434 The Creative Body</b>  Practical experience of somatic approaches and improvisational methods to investigate the body and instigate movement exploration	5	6	●			2

<b>435 Site &amp; Performance</b>						
Practical experiences of different approaches to investigating movement within performance contexts to resource creative practice	5	6		●		2
<b>436 Contact Improvisation</b>						
An improvisational practice in which the dance is generated by the readiness to respond to moment by moment interaction of two or more movers in physical contact	5	6			●	2
<b>437 Rep Extracts</b>						
An experiential encounter with current contemporary dance performance practice through exploration of a specific piece of recent professional repertoire. (entry by audition)	5	6		●		2
<b>Group 3: Extending Dance Practice</b>						
<b>411 The Dancing Body</b>						
Explore the workings of the human body as it relates to dance and how the body can be prepared for, responds to, and is affected by the demands of dance practice including strategies to safeguard the dancing body, enhance physical practice and maintain efficiency and well-being for the dancer.	10	6	●			2
<b>414 Teaching Dance</b>						
Guided experiential learning, to explore approaches to teaching dance, and develop competence in dance leadership and facilitation	10	6	●	●		2
<b>Group 4: Investigating Dance Practice</b>						
<b>440 Perspectives on Dance</b>						
Explore dance in its historical and socio-cultural context; Describe, theorise and interpret performance events from a range of perspectives; interrogate dominant criteria and frameworks that inform our understanding of dance as art.	10	6	●	●		2
<b>441 Independent Investigation</b>						
An independent research project on a topic of your choice with one-to-one supervision	15	6	●	●	●	Individual supervision
<b>442 CoLab</b>						
Participation in a collaborative laboratory of interdisciplinary/shared practice between dance and music students and staff with an opportunity to reflect on collaboration as an area of practice	10	5		●		Minimum 20 hrs total

## TIMETABLE

Each academic year is divided into three terms: Autumn, Spring and Summer. At the start of each year there is a two week induction period which includes Freshers' Week for new students. During the induction weeks students will make their final selection of their choices of study with one-to-one support from their academic tutor.

Each term has 10 weeks of scheduled classes and 1 or 2 study weeks. Timetabled classes are 1.5 hours in length and happen over 5 days a week Mon-Fri between 0830 and 1845. The structure of each day and each term varies according to each individual student's selections from the component menu.

A calendar with term dates from 2016 to 2022 can be found:

[http://www.trinitylaban.ac.uk/media/1559350/tl\\_term\\_dates\\_2014-20.pdf](http://www.trinitylaban.ac.uk/media/1559350/tl_term_dates_2014-20.pdf)

## PART TIME STUDENTS

For part time students, the programme is structured over two years; individuals determine which components they will take in each year and the days they will be studying. It is recommended that part time students take approximately 60 credits per year and be in classes on a minimum of 3 days a week\* (one of these days maybe a half day). Components are taken in full and completed within one year; each component can only be taken once. The exception to this is 401 Contemporary Dance Technique which part time students take as 2 classes a week in year one and two class a week in year two, spreading the learning over two years of study.

\*Some extracurricular activities may not be accessible to part time students if they occur on a day the student is not in.

## CAREERS

The Trinity Laban Careers Advisor is available to all students for specific individual support as well as the dissemination of work opportunities via email bulletins. Academic tutors can also support students in thinking about, and planning for, life post-graduation.

Graduates of this programme have progressed to further study including undergraduate and postgraduate programmes, careers in dance performance, choreography, theatre production, dance teaching; dance leadership and management roles, and roles within Education as well as assimilating dance knowledge into non-dance careers. Alumni profiles are available to view on the Trinity Laban website: <http://www.trinitylaban.ac.uk/alumni/alumni-profiles?tag=2100>.

## ADMISSIONS

### ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

This programme is normally taken after completion of initial training, or by mature students wishing to enter higher education. The Diploma is based on a professional development model, which caters for different levels of expertise and experience and appeals to students looking to consolidate and expand their knowledge and skills in contemporary dance. Students on the programme are mature learners from diverse backgrounds such as:

- Graduates of degree programmes, sometimes in a discipline other than dance, who have maintained their dance interests
- Late starters with an unconventional route into dance
- Practitioners within a specific dance form possibly other than contemporary dance

Applicants are expected to have experience in a dance/performance arts related area, and a first degree or equivalent level of educative maturity (such as through experiential knowledge / professional experience / other qualifications).

## **EU and Overseas Students:**

English language requirements: IELTS Band 6 (General or Academic Training) or above, or Trinity College London – Integrated Skills in English Level II or above, or Cambridge English Language – Level B2 or above. Certificates will need to be provided in order for your application to be fully considered.

If you require a Tier 4 visa to study in the UK, please be aware of its English language requirements, as they may differ. Secure English Language Tests and levels can be found at [gov.uk](http://gov.uk). In addition, meeting external requirements of UK Visas and Immigration is essential.

## **APPLICATION PROCESS:**

Should you wish to start the application process for this programme, please submit your UCAS Conservatoires application first. When you apply through UCAS Conservatoires, please use Conservatoire Code T75, and Programme Code 502G for full-time or 500G for part-time study.

The UCAS Conservatoires form asks for personal information, qualifications, references and a personal statement. There is no audition requirement for the programme, but you may submit examples of your practice online (via Decision Desk) to support your application once your UCAS form has been received. References should support your application through evidencing your academic/professional and dance/performance arts experience. Entry requirements reflect that the programme is designed for people with a variety of experiences and backgrounds; your personal statement should describe your suitability for the programme as well as indicate how the programme will support your personal and professional development.

Candidates should:

- Evidence an enthusiasm for dance as an art form and to develop skills as a dance artist/practitioner
- Demonstrate a commitment to undertaking the programme, including evidencing understanding of the programme structure and aims
- Evidence understanding of how the programme can support their personal and professional development
- Evidence experience in a dance/performance arts related area, and a first degree or equivalent level of educative maturity

## **CONTACT**

If you have any further questions about the programme please contact the Programme Leader – Melanie Clarke on [M.Clarke@trinitylaban.ac.uk](mailto:M.Clarke@trinitylaban.ac.uk)

If you have questions about the admissions process please contact the admission department on: [admissions@trinitylaban.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@trinitylaban.ac.uk)