

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

KEY FACTS

Programme:	BA (Hons) Contemporary Dance
Awarding Institution:	Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance
Type of study:	Full time
UK Credits:	450
ECTS:	225

OUTLINE

Summary Description

The BA (Hons) Contemporary Dance programme is designed to encourage you to develop as an independent, autonomous learner and grow into a confident, creative dance practitioner. In the first year you will focus on the development of skills, imagination and new ways of seeing. The second year will encourage your versatility, individuality and risk taking, while the third, final year, stresses independent and in-depth research as well as technical, creative and professional skills development.

The Programme consists of three parts (Part 1, Part 2 and Part 3) which are undertaken over three consecutive academic years on a full time basis. Each Part is undertaken over three terms and consists of modules which are structured to support progressive development in your training and studies. Advancing through the programme you are increasingly encouraged to develop as an independent learner and dance artist.

In Part 1 you will undertake 4 Modules, each of which comprises between 1 and 5 components. Each module has a specific focus and has content organized to create links between components and modules.

The focus is on dance techniques, creative development and approaches to learning in dance which will enhance your understanding of movement and enable you to develop your potential as a dance artist, leading to a performance project at the end of the year. Alongside this you will develop choreographic skills and an understanding of frameworks for reflection on contemporary dance and arts practice.

In Part 2 you will undertake 4 modules including Investigating Dance Practice 2 within which you can select 1 option alongside the three compulsory components.

Technical training continues alongside the development of choreographic and performance skills, culminating in a repertory performance project. Analytical and theoretical frameworks for the understanding of dance in its various contexts are further developed. You will be able to choose a specialised area of related study, and an independent assignment (as part of the Dance Industry Engagement 1 component) during the year will bring you into contact with the professional dance world.

In Part 3 you will undertake 4 modules. Alongside your advanced technical training you will undertake an Independent Research Project during which you develop, within a negotiated framework, a substantial piece of self-directed research with a devised, performance or written outcome. You will also work with faculty members and visiting artists who will lead you in intensive performance projects to prepare you for the pace and focus of the professional working process. There are three options in Part 3 (from which you can select two) that allow you to develop further skills according to your strengths and interests. These have distinct focuses: choreographic, performance, technical, teaching.

End of year degree shows present a diverse range of selected student work and new pieces devised by in-house and visiting choreographers.

The programme seeks to:

- I prepare students to meet the challenges of a multi-stranded career within the dance profession and to be the creators of its future
- II offer students extensive experience as performer and choreographer through intensive creative processes and regular performance opportunities
- III provide interaction with the profession through regular working opportunities with practising dance artists
- IV instate principles of safe practice as a basis of physical efficiency and longevity in the dance profession
- V develop students' understanding of how their technical expertise resources their creative contribution to diverse choreographic and performance contexts
- VI provide a means whereby students engage with analytical and critical perspectives on dance and foster their capacity to reflect on their practice and that of others
- VII make connections between strands of learning within a context of contemporary artwork and ideas
- VIII foster the development of the student's individual artistic voice alongside the acquisition of skills
- IX facilitate the development of student autonomy progressively through the programme

What will I be expected to achieve?

On successful completion of this programme, a student will be expected to be able to demonstrate:

Knowledge and understanding

- A1 demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between movement and musical accompaniment or soundscore in a range of contexts
- A2 demonstrate a knowledge of selected choreographers and their creative genealogies in historical and cultural contexts
- A3 understand the importance of writing in a variety of styles, using different voices for different audiences
- A4 demonstrate a knowledge of aspects of professional practice
- A5 demonstrate capacity to evaluate and assimilate a range of choreographic approaches and processes of working
- A6 able to identify and investigate areas of specialist interest compatible with long term professional goals
- A7 embody a technical understanding in the dancing of complex dance material and/or in the development of performance work
- A8 know how to maintain a productive dialogue within a mentoring process
- A9 demonstrate an understanding of the processes by which performance is created

Skills

- B1 demonstrate understanding of fundamental movement principles in the execution of preparatory exercises and familiar dance phrases
- B2 demonstrate an ability to source choreography from own body with a sense of placing this in time and space
- B3 demonstrate performance skills as an individual and as a member of a group, evidencing understanding of dynamic and qualitative ranges
- B4 manipulate movement within specified frameworks and for specific purposes
- B5 demonstrate fundamental movement principles previously studied within more complex and extended movement phrases
- B6 dance with clarity, precision and confidence in both rehearsed sequences and movement material met for the first time
- B7 adapt to the different stylistic demands of various technical styles and choreographic processes
- B8 communicate ideas clearly in a range of contexts
- B9 demonstrate the transformation of an idea into distilled choreographic language
- B10 initiate, plan and complete an independent creative research process
- B11 communicate with confidence and clarity ideas, intentions and processes
- B12 effectively and imaginatively transform work from rehearsal to presentation
- B13 interrogate own practice and evaluate the process as it progresses
- B14 offer an in-depth and insightful reflection on learning experiences
- B15 contribute imaginatively to creative processes and adapt to changing demands
- B16 ability to consider dance practice reflectively and analytically within a historical and cultural contexts
- B17 ability to develop an individual interpretation within the framework determined by a choreographer's intention
- B18 ability to make individual choices and decisions in relation to performance and choreography

Values and attitudes

- C1 demonstrate a responsible approach to own learning
- C2 work cooperatively and share openly ideas with peers
- C3 appreciate the value of articulating the experience of own movement and observing the movement of peers and professionals
- C4 demonstrate a growing awareness of the value of independent and autonomous learning Approaches

- C5 appreciate the value of reviewing own creative process in choreographic and performing contexts, within a framework of collaboration with peers and professionals
- C6 assume responsibility for own role and the progression of own work
- C7 appreciate the value of engaging in a self-directed process of research and exploration
- C8 evidence professional conduct; maintain required regular attendance and an engaged approach to learning and creating

How will I learn?

The learning and teaching methods are designed to meet the Programme Aims and Learning Outcomes. A wide range of methods is used to meet the diverse learning approaches of the students and to provide a breadth and depth of learning experiences essential for the rigorous training of multi-skilled dance artists who will be able to maximise their professional opportunities in the highly competitive dance field.

- Studio based practical classes
- Lectures and seminars
- Individual and group tutorials
- Tutor and guest artist led workshops
- Self-directed study
- Individual and group projects
- Educational visits
- Self and peer feedback
- Professional placement and projects
- Student tours to a range of performance contexts
- Hands-on practical task-based activities

How will I be assessed?

Overview

A wide variety of assessment methods is used to reflect the diverse learning experiences you will encounter on the programme and to give you the opportunity to demonstrate your acquisition of a broad as well as in-depth range of skills, knowledge and understanding necessary for you to become a rounded and versatile dance artist.

- Practical tasks
- Assessed classes
- Performance/Choreographic presentations
- Rehearsal and performance (both in commissioned work, your own work and that of your peers)
- Live group and individual oral presentations
- Filmed and web-based presentations
- Lecture demonstrations
- Viva voces
- Research based academic writing
- On-line blogs and websites
- Reflective writing

- Report writing
- Notebook/sketchbook

What do I have to do to pass?

To pass a Module you need to achieve a pass grade in Part 1 component assessments and a minimum grade of 40% or a pass grade in Parts 2 and 3 component assessments. The grade will reflect, in the view of the assessors, the extent to which your work has met both the general and component-specific assessment criteria. In order to pass a Module you must also satisfy the attendance requirements for the components within that Module.

The methods of assessment for each component are set out in the Module Specification. For each student a Module Mark shall be calculated as a weighted average of the marks for the individual components. The weightings assigned to the components are set out in the Module Specification.

There is no compensation allowed in respect of components within a Module. There is no compensation in respect of Modules.

Grade descriptors, component-specific assessment criteria, general criteria and general criteria for written work and for oral presentations can be found in your Programme Handbook.

Passing Part 1

1.

Assessment Tasks attached to teaching components within Part 1 modules are awarded Pass/Fail. The module as a whole is awarded Pass/Fail.

2.

Work submitted in respect of an individual Assessment Task which does not fulfil the requirements of a Pass grade will be deemed to have failed (F). An Assessment Task awarded a Fail (F) may be redeemed by gaining a Pass in the requisite Assessment Task(s) at resit.

3.

Failure to submit work in respect of an individual Assessment Task results in the recording of a non-submission grade (0). An Assessment Task awarded a non-submission grade (0) may be redeemed by gaining a Pass in the requisite Task(s) at resit. The right to a re-sit opportunity is at the discretion of the assessment board and students deemed not to have fully engaged with the programme may be required to withdraw.

4.

One resit of each failed Assessment Task is permitted except for word based assignments (written; oral presentation): two resits of failed Assessment Tasks permitted (Choreological Studies, Historical Perspectives on Dance, Research Methods 1, Physical Awareness and Development)

5.

Normally extensions granted for Technical Practice 1 Assessment Tasks at the end of Part 1 must be completed by a date at the beginning of Part 2 as determined by the Assessment Board.

6.

Students must be deemed to have passed all Assessment Tasks within each module to complete the module and accrue the module credits.

7.

All Part 1 modules must be completed in order to progress to Part 2: total credits: 140.

8.

Part 1 modules do not count towards classification.

Passing Part 2

1. Assessment Tasks attached to teaching components are graded 0 – 100% or Pass/Fail. Successfully completed modules are awarded a module grade which is an aggregate of the grades of the Assessment Tasks attached to the individual teaching components contained within the module.
2. Work submitted in respect of an individual Assessment Task which does not fulfil the requirements of a Pass grade will be deemed to have failed (below 40%). An Assessment Task awarded a Fail may be redeemed by gaining a Pass in the requisite Assessment Task(s) at resit (capped at the pass mark).
3. Failure to submit work in respect of an individual Assessment Task results in the recording of a non-submission grade (0). An Assessment Task awarded a non-submission grade (0) may be redeemed by gaining a Pass in the requisite Task(s) at resit (capped at the pass mark). The right to a re-sit opportunity is at the discretion of the assessment board and students deemed not to have fully engaged with the programme may be required to withdraw.
4. One resit of each failed Assessment Task is permitted except for word based assignments (written; oral presentation): two resits of failed Assessment Tasks permitted (Dance Repertory Project, Choreological Studies, Cultural Perspectives on Dance, Research Methods 2, Dance Industry Engagement 1).
5. Normally extensions granted for Technical Practice 2 Assessment Tasks at the end of Part 2 must be completed by a date at the beginning of Part 3 as determined by the Assessment Board.
6. Students are required to pass all Assessment Tasks in order to complete the modules and accrue the module credits.
7. All Part 2 modules must be completed in order to progress to Part 3: total 160 credits.

Passing Part 3

1. Assessment Tasks attached to teaching components are graded 0 – 100% or Pass/Fail. Successfully completed modules are awarded a module grade which is an aggregate of the grades of the Assessment Tasks attached to the individual teaching components contained within the module.
2. Work submitted in respect of an individual Assessment Task which does not fulfil the requirements of a Pass grade will be deemed to have failed (below 40%). An Assessment Task awarded a fail may be redeemed by gaining a Pass in the requisite Assessment Task(s) at resit (capped at the pass mark).
3. Failure to submit work in respect of an individual Assessment Task results in the recording of a non-submission grade (0). An Assessment Task awarded a non-submission grade (0) may be redeemed by gaining a Pass in the requisite Task(s) at resit (capped at the pass mark). The right to a re-sit opportunity is at the discretion of the assessment board and students deemed not to have fully engaged with the programme may be required to withdraw.
4. One retake of each failed Assessment Task permitted except for Dance Industry Engagement 2 where two retakes of failed Assessment Tasks are permitted.

5. Students must pass all Assessment Tasks within each module to complete the module and accrue the module credits. All Part 3 modules must be completed in order to progress to Award: total 170 credits.

6. Classification of the award will be determined as follows:

Degree Classification

For classification purposes, the overall mark for Part 2 is weighted at 20% and the overall mark for Part 3 is weighted at 80%.

The overall mark for Part 2 of the Programme will be decided on the basis of the overall aggregate of all modules calculated in accordance with: a) the prescribed weightings of components within modules; b) the weighted average of the modules within the programme based on the number of credits ascribed to each module.

The overall mark for Part 3 of the Programme will be decided on the basis of the overall aggregate of all modules calculated in accordance with: a) the prescribed weightings of components within modules; b) the weighted average of the modules within the programme based on the number of credits ascribed to each module.

What award can I get?

This Programme of study can lead to one of four awards: on successful completion of all Level 4 modules, the Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE); on successful completion of all Level 4 and 5 modules the Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE); on successful completion of all level 4 and 5 modules and 110 credits at level 6 (all modules except B3002) the Ordinary Degree and on successful completion of 450 credits at Levels 4, 5 and 6, the BA (Hons) degree.

BA (Hons):

Part	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)
Part 3	6	170	80%
Part 2	5	150	20%
Part 1	4	130	Pass/Fail

Class	% required
First class	70
Second class: Upper division	60
Second class: Lower division	50
Third class	40

BA (Non-Hons):

Part	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)
Part 3	6	110*	N/A
Part 2	5	150	N/A
Part 1	4	130	Pass/Fail

Class	% required
Not classified	N/A

*Made up of B3001, B3002 and B3004

Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE):

Year of study	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)
Part 2	5	150	100
Part 1	4	130	Pass/Fail

Class	% required
With Distinction	70
With Merit	60
With Pass	40

Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE):

Year of study	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)
Year 1	4	130	Pass/Fail

Class	% required
Not classified	N/A

CONTENT

What will I study?

Structure

[how year is structured e.g. number of modules, number of core/electives; module co-requisites or pre-requisites]

Taught Modules

Module Title	Module Code	Module Credits	Core/ Elective	Compensation Yes/No	Level
Technical Practice 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contemporary Technique Classical Ballet Experiential Anatomy Physical Awareness and Development Pilates 	B1001	60	Core	No	4
Creative Practice 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvisation Choreological Studies Choreography CoLab 	B1002	30	Core	No	4
Performance Practice 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Performance Project 	B1003	20	Core	No	4
Investigating Dance Practice 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ways of Seeing Historical Perspectives on Dance Research Methods 1 	B1004	20	Core	No	4
Technical Practice 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contemporary Technique Classical Ballet Contact Improvisation 	B2001	60	Core	No	5
Creative Practice 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resourcing Performance Choreography Choreological Studies CoLab 	B2002	40	Core	No	5
Performance Practice 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dance Repertory Project 	B2003	20	Core	No	5
Investigating Dance Practice 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cultural Perspectives on Dance Research Methods 2 Dance Industry Engagement 1 Dance and the Moving Image* Dance Artists in Education and Participatory Settings* Performance Design* <p>*Students are required to select one of the three component options.</p>	B2004	30	Core	No	5
Technical Practice 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contemporary Technique Classical Ballet 	B3001	50	Core	No	6
Performance Practice 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commissioned Work 	B3002	40	Core	No	6
Investigating Dance Practice 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dance Industry Engagement 2 Dance Artist as Choreographer* 	B3004	20	Core	No	6

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dance Artist as Teacher (Contemporary Technique)* • Extended Technical Practice* <p>*For completion of this module students are required to select a minimum of 1 and a maximum of 2 options. Where a student selects two options only the highest grade awarded will count towards the calculation of the degree classification.</p>					
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Project/Dissertation Module

Module Title	Module Code	Module Credits	Core/ Elective	Compensation Yes/No	Level
Creative Practice 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent Research Project • Research Methods 3 	B3002	60	Core	No	6

ADMISSIONS

Entry Requirements

Audition Requirements

Entry to the programme is dependent upon selection at audition. The audition comprises 3 practical classes and an interview.

The audition consists of the following:

- Contemporary Technique Class
- Classical Ballet Class
- Creative Class
- An individual interview
- The audition panel consists of the three tutors involved in the delivery of the audition classes and a fourth panel member as appropriate. Additional staff members undertake interviews if candidate numbers are high

Overseas applicants who cannot attend auditions in person may submit recordings of themselves in technique class and in performances. The recordings are auditioned in the same way as live auditions and are considered by relevant tutors. These applications are submitted using Embark, and guidelines are available on the TL website.

Academic Entry Requirements

- Two A level passes at Grade E or above. For overseas candidates: International Baccalaureate, Abitur and Gymnasium are recognised. Alternatives may be considered.
- Applicants for whom English is not their first language should demonstrate proficiency in English equivalent to IELTS 5.5 in all 4 areas or Trinity ISE II.

CAREERS

Graduates from this programme have gone on to perform with leading dance companies and/or they have established themselves as independent dance artists, achieving considerable acclaim. Other graduates enjoy successful careers as teachers, community dance artists, arts managers and dance writers.

STUDY ABROAD / WORK PLACEMENTS

Study Abroad options

Students may apply to undertake an Erasmus+ placement, which would involve them attending an equivalent programme of study for one term at another Conservatoire or University within the European Union. Such a placement would normally take place during Term 1 of the second year of the BACD programme.

Placement options

Students can elect to undertake a period of research through a work placement in a self-selected sector of the dance industry or alternatively they can participate in an approved external performance project. These activities take place during Parts 2 and 3 of the Programme as part of the Dance Industry Engagement 1 and 2 components.

ACCREDITATION AND PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Accrediting Body

The programme is not accredited by any external body.