

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

KEY FACTS

Programme:	Foundation Programme: Contemporary Dance BA (Hons) Contemporary Dance (Foundation Entry)
Awarding Institution:	Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance
Type of study:	Full time
UK Credits:	Foundation Programme: Contemporary Dance Level 0 (HE) credits: 120
ECTS:	60

OUTLINE

Summary Description

The dance modules are designed as an integrated learning experience. Where relevant, learning will be cross-referenced across modules: for example, the learning in Modules 1 & 2 will be linked through the way in which they are taught and in the assessment tasks; Modules 3 & 4 will link to the learning in Modules 1 & 2, exploring themes and topics that are relevant across the areas of learning.

The curriculum design is underpinned by collaboration between the Programme Leader and members of the teaching team to support an integrative learning and teaching model, so that effective links are established for students across the areas of study.

Programme Aims

- To provide potential undergraduate students access and progression routes to high-quality conservatoire study and preparation for entry to specialist/vocational training within the conservatoire or wider higher education sectors.
- To enable aspiring dance artists to develop their technical, artistic and performance skills through a dedicated practice-based programme of study.
- To deliver a programme of study that is informed by current concerns, thinking and methodologies in dance training relating to fitness, safe practice, health and wellbeing of the dancer.
- To provide a breadth of study that encompasses the development of strong technical, creative and choreographic skills integrated with an understanding of analytical frameworks that support creative development and refining of performance skills.
- To stimulate dialogue about contemporary choreography and arts practices and support understanding of the diverse historical and socio-cultural contexts within which current contemporary dance work has been/is created and performed.

- To create a learning environment that nurtures creativity, innovation, reflection, critical thinking and collaborative approaches required to develop the artistic identity of future dance professionals.
- To foster an openness to engage in new approaches to learning and creative practice, a respect for others' viewpoints, and confidence to communicate ideas and contribute to critical discussion and creative enquiry.
- To create a learning environment that encourages a professional approach in relation to learning in all aspects of vocational training.

What will I be expected to achieve?

On successful completion of the programme, a student will be expected to demonstrate, at an elementary/introductory level:

Knowledge and understanding

- A1 Practical knowledge and understanding of key technical, artistic and performance aspects of the dance forms and styles studied and the basic principles that underpin these.
- A2 Knowledge and understanding of basic principles of the body, movement, time, space and relationship, and how to use these in creative processes for devising dance material, developing dance ideas and experimenting with choreographic form.
- A3 Knowledge and understanding of how, through performance of 'pre-elementary' level dance and movement material, to communicate expressive qualities and choreographic ideas and intention.
- A4 Knowledge of basic research methodologies: how to gather, describe, communicate and present information in written and verbal form; how to develop lines of argument and provide evidence for choices made within prescribed settings.

Skills

- B1 Ability to utilise appropriate technical, stylistic and artistic skills in the performance of 'pre-elementary' level dance material.
- B2 Capacity to engage resourcefully in movement exploration and investigation both independently and in collaboration with others, and to apply thoughtful processes to review creative and choreographic material developed.
- B3 Ability to apply basic principles of movement analysis in the observation, and creation of movement vocabulary and choreographic material.
- B4 Ability to describe, analyse and appraise dance work using selected perspectives and frameworks.
- B5 Ability to organise, prepare and communicate ideas and material with confidence in dance creation, rehearsal and performance situations.
- B6 Ability to undertake directed research, to select relevant materials and methodologies, and to use appropriate academic referencing conventions.

Values and attitudes

- C1 Openness to new ideas and practices, and proactive engagement in different approaches to learning in, through and about dance.
- C2 Active commitment to developing as a dance artist, including readiness to engage in guided independent study and cooperative working with others.
- C3 Responsible conduct in regular attendance and appropriate use of self-directed learning in preparation for classes, rehearsals, performances and assessments.
- C4 Professional approach and engagement with learning across all modules in relation to engagement and behavior.

How will I learn?

Learning will take place through a blend of formal tuition, experiential learning and self-directed study, taking place in formal taught classes, 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 elements of the Programme, hours are allocated for self-directed study to support your learning in the taught sessions. In this time, you will be expected to undertake a variety of tasks, including exploration and experimentation within the studio; rehearsals; reading, research and viewing of works on film; alongside an expectation for individual reflection. At various points during the year you will have tutorials with your module teachers to support your studies.

Indicative notional learning hours: contact hours; self-directed learning hours

The Programme consists of 1200 notional learning hours, made up of contact hours in class, and self-directed learning hours which include preparation for assessment components.

Contact hours and self-directed learning hours are different for each Module and are related to the nature of study: for some modules, you will have a high number of contact hours and a lower allocation of self-directed learning hours; for other modules you will have a high number of self-directed hours and a lower number of contact hours. The allocation of self-directed learning hours indicates our expectations of you for each of the modules, and we provide a guide as to how you might use these hours effectively.

Table of contact hours; self-directed learning hours; total notional learning hours

Module title	Contact hours*	Self-directed learning hours	Total hours (rounded up/down to nearest 100)
Module 1 Technical Practice	292.5	207.5	500
Module 2 Creating Dance	30	170	200
Module 3 Exploring Dance Through Time and Location	85	215 (min)	300
Module 4 Performance Platform	60	140	200

Total credit-bearing hours for the programme	467.5	732.5	1200
Weekly Seminar (non credit-bearing)	30		30
Tutorials related to progress and achievements	Throughout the year		

Extra-curricular activities: an important aspect of the programme is increasing your knowledge of the art form, and you are encouraged to attend as many performances, exhibitions, showings etc. in as many different art forms as you are able. These do not have to be performances 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 and these will often be used as starting points for discussion in lectures and seminars. There are also many other internal performances, showings and sharings of work from programmes in the Faculty of Dance and the Faculty of Music at Trinity Laban, all of which contribute to your learning experience.

How will I be assessed?

Overview

The assessment strategy for the programme is designed to meet the programme and module learning outcomes, and inclusive assessment design takes into account different approaches to learning. The Trinity Laban Head of Student Services & Disability Coordinator, and the Academic Learning Support Co-ordinator are on hand to offer guidance to tutors and staff on potential individual assessment adjustments where appropriate to support the needs of students with disability/protected characteristics.

Each module of the Foundation Programme: Contemporary Dance is assessed separately through assessment tasks within each Module, providing a range of processes and modes of delivery for you to engage with. Assessment Components are designed to demonstrate your ability to meet the respective learning outcomes of each module; they include: practical classes; structured tasks; practical presentations; performance; oral presentations; essay; portfolio.

Assessment tasks are phased and a schedule of submission / presentation dates will be published each year. You will receive an assignment sheet which details the requirements of each formal assignment / presentation.

Formative feedback takes the form of: in-class dialogue and discussion on a continuing basis; tutorials with the module/component tutors and/or the Programme Leader at key milestones during the year.

Summative feedback is provided for each formally assessed task in the form of a mark awarded in accordance with the published marking criteria. Students also receive written feedback for each assessment task, relating specifically to the standard achieved against the assessment criteria.

The quality of programme assessment practices is assured through adherence to the practices outlined in the Academic Quality Handbook.

What do I have to do to pass?

In order to pass the Foundation year and to progress to Part 1 of BA (Hons) Contemporary Dance you must achieve a **pass mark (minimum of 40%) in each of the four modules:**

Module 1:	Technical Practice
Module 2:	Creating Dance
Module 3:	Exploring Dance Through Time and Location
Module 4:	Performance Platform

You must also satisfy the Professional Conduct requirements:

Attendance: 80% in each Module: 1, 2, 3, 4; 80% in each component, Module 1

Resit opportunities

You will be normally be permitted to resit failed assessment components as outlined in the Assessment Regulations. Resit opportunities are permitted at the discretion of the assessment board and students deemed not to have fully engaged with the programme (for example those not attempting assessments) may be required to withdraw. Failure in the Professional conduct element may be condoned by the Assessment Board on the basis of satisfactory academic progress.

Resits will take place during and after the end of the teaching year, as determined by the Interim Assessment Panel or the Assessment Board. Resit of any summer term assessments will normally take place in the last two weeks of July. Further information about reassessment is included in the Assessment Regulations for taught programmes.

What award can I get?

Students successfully completing the Foundation Programme will receive a Certificate of Completion and a Transcript of Results which will state: i) the marks gained in each module; ii) the overall aggregate mark for the four modules.

The final mark on completion 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.

Thresholds for successful completion of the Foundation Programme: Contemporary Dance will be as follows:

	HE Level	Credits	Weighting (%)	Successful completion	% required
Taught	0	120	100%	With Distinction:	70
				With Merit:	60
				With Pass:	40

For requirements for automatic progression to Trinity Laban BA (Hons) Contemporary Dance, see above, *What do I have to do to pass?*

CONTENT

What will I study?

Structure of programme and credit framework

The teaching is delivered across three terms (September to July). There are FOUR modules, all of which are core and compulsory. The credit framework is as follows:

Module Title	Module Code	Module Credits	Core/ Elective	Compensation Yes/No	Level
Technical Practice	FCD1	50	Core	No	0
Creating Dance	FCD2	20	Core	No	0
Exploring Dance Through Time and Location	FCD3	30	Core	No	0
Performance Platform	FCD 4	20	Core	No	0
Total Credits		120			

ADMISSIONS

Entry Requirements

Entry requirements

The requirements for entry are: to achieve a pass at audition and interview, and to have the requisite level 3 (or equivalent) qualifications, as outlined below.

Normally, applicants to the Foundation Programme will be 17+ and have the following dance and academic profile:

- Practical dance experience of one dance form is expected (e.g. contemporary dance, classical ballet, urban dance), assessed at audition: candidates will be expected to demonstrate technical expertise and potential, and imaginative responses to creative tasks set; commitment and potential to study dance at a professional level; and enthusiasm for the physical demands of intensive dance training.
- 5 GCSEs (including English Language), grades A*-C / or 9-4 (in 2017 GCSEs)
or
a combination of 2/3 GCSEs (including English Language), grades A*-C / or 9-4 (in 2017 GCSEs), plus a BTEC First Diploma (Level 2)

PLUS

- Advanced GCE (A-level) or an AS GCE (AS-level)
or
equivalent, including level 3 Graded and Vocational Graded qualifications in Dance on the NQF/RQF (allocated points on the UCAS tariff): e.g. level 3 qualifications of the Royal Academy of Dance (RAD); Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing (ISTD)
or

- BTEC National Diploma: Dance or a named Dance or Performing Arts pathway or combinations of the above level 3 qualifications
- equivalent qualifications and/or relevant prior experience will be considered.
- (where applicable) English language entrance requirement:
 - **normally the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) B2** (IELTS 5.5 min in all areas).
- * Candidates unable to attend the audition in person may exceptionally be considered for entry to the programme by submitting a recorded audition via the online admission platform (Embark). The recording should include the following:
 - 30 minutes of the candidate dancing in a Dance Technique Class
 - 1½ minute solo devised and performed by the candidate to a task set by Trinity Laban
 - filmed presentation of the candidate, responding to questions set by Trinity Laban (for example, commentary on a dance work of their choice, the process of creating their solo)

CAREERS

The focus of the programme is on progression to degree level studies in Dance, and the Programme Leader and the Careers Co-ordinator will work in collaboration to ensure students are supported to find the most appropriate further study opportunity.

Comprehensive careers support is available for all Trinity Laban students and recent graduates, supported by a dedicated Careers Coordinator and our careers website:

www.trinitylaban.ac.uk/student-experience/careers

Alumni profiles can be found on the website: <http://www.trinitylaban.ac.uk/alumni/alumni-profiles?tag=2089>

STUDY ABROAD / WORK PLACEMENTS

Study Abroad options

NOT AVAILABLE

Placement options

NOT AVAILABLE

ACCREDITATION AND PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Accrediting Body

NOT AVAILABLE