

Component Specification

Contemporary Dance

NFQ Level 6

6N20592

1. Component Details

Title	Contemporary Dance
Teideal as Gaeilge	Damhsa Comhaimseartha
Award Class	Minor
Code	6N20592
Level	6
Credit Value	15
Purpose	The purpose of this award is to equip the learner with the specialist knowledge, skill and competence to understand and perform contemporary dance at an appropriate level and to further develop the learner's previous technical and artistic skills in contemporary dance.
Learning Outcomes	<p>Learners will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1 Demonstrate contemporary dance technique to a vocational level: including warm-up and cool-down modalities, limbering, floor work, centre-work and travelling sequences; with skill and security showing correct technique, weight placement, flexibility and co-ordination to a standard indicating progression2 Incorporate physical contraction and expansion, fall and recovery, lean and tilt, reach and swing and other dynamic enhancers according to technique being applied.3 Incorporate floor-work, arm and back co-ordination, core strength, extension, footwork, elevation and

movement quality in both adage and fast movement sections to a satisfactory standard.

- 4 Show developing agility, technical mastery, and clarity, in weight-bearing movement through space, carving of space, release onto floor, muscular ease and relaxation, gravity effects, gesture, turns and extensions, in prescribed amalgamations.
- 5 Utilise external and/or internal stimuli in developing body awareness, phrasing of sequences, use of music or other accompanying stimuli as impetus to work with or against, according to approved content.
- 6 Apply issues in learner's own training regarding technical and artistic progression, understanding of movement impetus and execution, and performance integrity.
- 7 Research a chosen/given topic within contemporary dance traditions, history or technique
- 8 Investigate and explore movement within a choreographic context, creating learner's own work, towards realisation of theme/topic, showing selection and refinement process, work-in-progress and performed piece.

Assessment

General Information

Details of FET assessment requirements are set out in [Assessment Guidelines for Providers](#).

All FET assessment is criterion referenced. Successful achievement of the award is based on learners attaining the required standards of knowledge, skill or competence.

The techniques set out below are considered the optimum approach to assessment for this component. In exceptional circumstances providers may identify alternative assessment techniques through the provider's application for programme validation which are **reliable** and **valid** but which are more appropriate to their context.

Assessment of a number of components may be integrated across programmes for delivery, provided that the learning outcomes of each minor award are assessed.

Group or team work may form part of the assessment, provided each learner's achievement is separately assessed.

All providers are required to submit an assessment plan as part of their application for programme validation. Assessment Plans will include information relating to scheduling and integration of

assessment. See current FET validation guidelines at www.qqi.ie.

Assessment Techniques

In order to demonstrate that they have reached the standards of knowledge, skill and competence identified in all the learning outcomes, learners are required to complete the assessment(s) below.

The assessor is responsible for devising assessment instruments (e.g. project and assignment briefs, examination papers), assessment criteria and mark sheets, consistent with the techniques identified below and FETAC's assessment requirements.

Programme validation will require providers to map each learning outcome to its associated assessment technique. See current FET validation guidelines at www.qqi.ie.

All learning outcomes **must** be assessed and achieved

Skills Demonstration 60%

Assignment 40%

Description

Skills Demonstration

A skills demonstration is used to assess a wide range of practical based learning outcomes including practical skills and knowledge. A skills demonstration will require the learner to complete a task or series of tasks that demonstrate a range of skills.

Assignment

An assignment is an exercise carried out in response to a brief with specific guidelines as to what should be included. An assignment is usually of short duration and may be carried out over a specified period of time.

The Internal Assessor will devise two assignments of 20% each.

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

Learners may be assessed on the basis of their prior knowledge and experience. Providers must be specifically quality assured to assess learners by this means. To do so they must complete B10, see Provider's Quality Assurance Guidelines and be included on the Register of RPL approved providers. See RPL Guidelines at www.fetac.ie for further information and registration details.

Grading	Pass	50% - 64%
	Merit	65% - 79%
	Distinction	80% - 100%

Specific Validation Requirements

The provider must have the following in place to offer this award:

1. A fully equipped dance studio, with a safe sprung floor, a good heating system, mirrors, barres, audio equipment and or piano, access to lighting, sound and recording technicians, costumes and costume designer that are adaptable to a provider's facilities.
2. On average, a maximum of 20-25 learners per class is recommended. The floor area required depends on the number of participants, the genre of dance and the age of those involved. Approximately five square metres per learner is suggested.

Supporting Documentation

1. Providers should take cognisance of relevant research and legislation in designing programme content

Access

To access programmes leading to this award the learner should have reached the standards of knowledge, skill and competence associated with the preceding level of this award where one exists. This may have been achieved through a formal qualification or through relevant life and work experience.

Level 5 Contemporary Dance

Transfer

Successful completion of this component award enables the learner to transfer to programmes leading to other certificates where this component is a mandatory or an elective requirement.

2. FET Award Standards

QQI award standards are determined within the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ), <http://www.nfq-qqi.com>. QQI determines standards for the education and training awards that it makes itself and that are made by providers to whom it has delegated authority to make an award. Providers offering programmes leading to QQI awards **must** have their programme(s) validated in accordance with current validation policy (see www.qqi.ie).

Award standards are designed to be consistent with the NFQ's award classes i.e. major, special purpose, supplemental and minor awards. They are expressed in terms of **learning outcomes** i.e. concise statements of what the learner is expected to know or be able to do in order to achieve a particular award. Learning outcomes for FET awards are contained within the associated specifications:

AWARD CLASS	STANDARDS	AWARDS
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Major Award	Certificate Specification	Certificate (Levels 1 to 5) Advanced Certificate (Level 6)
Supplemental Award	Supplemental Specification	Supplemental Certificate (Level 3 to 6)
Special Purpose	Specific Purpose Specification	Specific Purpose Certificate (Levels 3 to 6)
Minor Award	Component Specification	Component Certificate (Levels 1 to 6)

Award standards are thresholds, they describe standards of knowledge, skill or competence to be acquired, and where appropriate, demonstrated, by a learner before an award may be made.

Award standards will be reviewed from time to time as necessary. Minor changes may be made by the QQI executive outside the review cycle where necessary. Changes to standards are published on QQI's website. Providers with validated programmes and providers with delegated authority to make awards are responsible for monitoring relevant standards and making necessary responses to changes.

3. FET Credit

Every FET certificate and component specification includes an FET credit value (Table 1). FET credit is quantified in multiples of 5 FET credits (up to 50 hours of learner effort). Learner effort is based on the time taken by typical learners at the level of the award to achieve the learning outcomes for the award. It includes all learning time involved including: guided learning hours, self-directed learning and assessment.

Table 1: FET Credit Values

NFQ Level	Major Awards Credit Values	Default Credit Values Minor Awards	Other Permitted Minor Award Credit Values	Special Purpose and Supplemental Award Credit Value Ranges
1	20	5	10	
2	30	5	10	
3	60	10	5,20	>5 and <60
4	90	10	5,15,20	>5 and <90
5	120	15	5,10,30	>5 and <120
6	120	15	5,10,30	>5 and <120

Guide to Level

Learning outcomes at this level include a comprehensive range of skills which may be vocationally-specific and/or of a general supervisory nature, and require detailed theoretical understanding. The outcomes also provide for a particular focus on learning skills. The outcomes relate to working in a generally autonomous way to assume design and/or management and/or administrative responsibilities. Occupations at this level would include higher craft, junior technician and supervisor.

Strand	Sub-strand	Nature of learning
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Knowledge	Breadth	Specialised knowledge of a broad area
	Kind	Some theoretical concepts and abstract thinking, with significant underpinning theory
Know How & Skill	Range	Demonstrate a comprehensive range of specialised skills and tools
	Selectivity	Formulate responses to well defined abstract problems
Competence	Context	Act in a range of varied and specific contexts involving creative and non-routine activities; transfer and apply theoretical concepts and/or technical or creative skills to a range of contexts
	Role	Exercise substantial personal autonomy and often take responsibility for the work of others and/or for the allocation of resources; form and function within, multiple and complex heterogeneous groups.
	Learning to Learn	Learn to evaluate own learning and identify needs within a structured learning environment; assist others in identifying learning needs
	Insight	Express an internalised, personal world view, reflecting engagement with others.

Extract from 'Determinations for the Outline National Framework of Qualifications': NQAI