

University of Plymouth

Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Business
School of Humanities and Performing Arts

Programme Specification

BA (Hons) Dance

This award incorporates a Foundation year.

Definitive Document Approved: 9.4.19

Implementation Date: September 2019

Amended by Minor Change: 4.12.19 & 6.5.20

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. W. 2019', is centered on a light grey rectangular background.

1. Final Award title

BA (Hons) Dance

Integrated Foundation Year

The approved content of the Foundation Year is described in this Programme Specification, is an integral part of the final award route, and is therefore not reflected in the final award title.

Level 4 Intermediate award: Certificate of Higher Education in Dance

Level 5 Intermediate award: Diploma of Higher Education in Dance

UCAS code (s): W500 / W503

HECOS code: 100068

2. Awarding Institution: University of Plymouth

Teaching institution: University of Plymouth

3. Accrediting body(ies): N/A

Summary of specific conditions/requirements: N/A

Date of last reaccreditation:

4. Distinctive Features of the Programme and the Student Experience

Level 3

At Level 3, we offer an experiential learning environment with a focus on active exploration, experimentation and discovery across a wide range of techniques, methods and approaches. It offers higher levels of academic and pastoral support to the new students, while simultaneously developing a sense of being part of a wider student community. It offers Level 3 students the benefits of a Higher Education environment through a range of curricular and extra-curricular opportunities. We aim to provide opportunities for non-standard entry students to embark upon a degree programme.

Level 4-6

This programme promotes Dance as an inclusive activity and hybrid art form and focuses on how dance can engage new audiences and participants.

- The programme places an emphasis on the 'whole' person and what constitutes wholeness in terms of being able to express ourselves and live with vitality and creativity.
- The programme fosters a distinct relationship between art and health.
- Prime location: Plymouth has a rich dance and performance ecology and its own dance agency Plymouth Dance. There is a considerable amount of educational and youth dance activity in Plymouth and opportunities for professional development through Plymouth Dance, Theatre Royal, Dance Southwest National Dance Agency and Dance In Devon Agency.
 - This programme has close links with these organisations to enable students to work alongside skilled practitioners and to generate creative projects, which facilitate their own independent study and research.
 - Students are encouraged to develop a professional portfolio of experience over their three-year period of study on the degree. These links provide valuable extra-curricular training and workshop opportunities for our students and enable them to become part of a larger artistic community, networking and making invaluable professional connections.
- Partnership: The Theatre and Performance Department is in partnership with Plymouth Dance, Theatre Royal, and the Barbican Theatre Plymouth.

This also extends to applying for research and development funding to enrich the programme and its research culture. These partnerships have the potential to initiate and support a broad range of practice as research projects and contribute significantly to pedagogic development and research, and artistic outcomes.

5. Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Group(s)

Dance, Drama & Performance (2015):

6. Programme Structure

LEVEL 3

Semester 1	Semester 2
PLYCO001 INTRODUCTION TO THE STUDY OF PERFORMANCE (20 credits)	PLYCO005 INTRODUCTION TO PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS (20 Credits)
PLYCO003 PERFORMANCE MAKING PROCESSES 1 (20 credits)	PLYCO004 PERFORMANCE MAKING PROCESSES 2 (20 credits)
PLYCO002 (40 credits) INTRODUCTION TO PERFORMANCE TRAINING	

DATH Level 4			
S1	DATH410 Dance Making & Knowing (20 credits - core)		
	PLYCO400 20th Century Performance Practices (20 credits - core)	DATH411 Training For Dancers 1 (All Year) (40 credits - core)	
Christmas Vacation			
S1	PLYCO400 20th Century Performance Practices	DATH411 Training For Dancers 1	
S2	PLYCO430 Peformance Spaces and Environments (20 credits -core)	DATH411 Training For Dancers 1	PLYC0415 Devising Toolkit 2 Ensemble Practice (20 credits – core)
	Easter Vacation		
		DATH411 Training For Dancers 1 (core)	PLYC0415 Devising Toolkit 2 Ensemble Practice
DATH Level 5			
S1	PLYCO500 Performance Making (30 credits - core)	PLYCO523 Performance Practices (20 credits -core)	DATH505 Training For Dancers 2 (30 credits - core)

Christmas Vacation			
S1	PLYCO500 Performance Making		DATH505 Training For Dancers 2 (core)
S2	PLYCO500 Performance Making DATH510 Experimental Digital Dance Practices (20 credits core)	PLYCO522 Intensive Theatre Residency (20 credits – core) DATH505 Training For Dancers 2 (core)	
Easter Vacation			
S2	PLYCO500 Performance Making	DATH505 Training For Dancers 2 (core)	

DATH Level 6				
S1	PLYCO610 Performance Research (40 credits -core)	PLYCO619 Festival Practices (40 credits – core)	DATH600 Advanced Dance Training (20 credits – core)	PLYCO616 Professional Placement and Practices (20 credits - optional)
Christmas Vacation				
S1	PLYCO610 Performance Research (core)		DATH 600 Advanced Dance Training (core)	
S2	PLYCO610 Performance Research Core	PLYCO617 Applied Practices: Community, Education and Wellbeing (20 credits - optional)	DATH600 Advanced Dance Training (core)	PLYCO619 Festival Practices Core
Easter Vacation				
S2	PLYCO610 Performance Research (core)	PLYCO617 Applied Practices: Community, Education and Wellbeing (20 credits - optional)		PLYCO619 Festival Practices Core

7. Programme Aims (those in bold are specific to the subject discipline)

7.1. Level 3, Foundation Year

On successful completion of the Foundation year of the programme students should have developed:

1. To provide a supportive and stimulating learning environment to prepare students for the specialist study of dance.
2. Enable students to develop key learning skills and to build an awareness of practice, context and theory.
3. Provide students with opportunities to experiment and explore a range of methods, techniques and approaches in preparation for further studies.

7.2. Level 4-6

The programme is intended to:

- **Develop students' understanding of the potential for dance to communicate to different audiences.**
- **Develop an understanding of the centrality of the body in performance.**
- **Support and provide opportunities for students to be innovative and undertake collaborative and interdisciplinary practice.**
- Foster each student's individual creativity and intellectual appetite and growth.
- Develop in students the reflective and analytical skills necessary for them to apply critical and independent thinking.
- **Familiarise students, historically, aesthetically and culturally with the key figures, movements and cross disciplinary developments in contemporary dance practices.**
- Enable students to articulate and debate creative practice through an understanding of the interdependency between theory and practice.
- Enable students to plan for and reflect upon their personal, academic and professional development and to consider as part of their learning experiences future career opportunities and pathways.

8. Programme Intended Learning Outcomes

8.1 Level 3, Foundation Year

The intended learning outcomes of the Foundation year should be read in conjunction with those of the Level 4-6 award to demonstrate the full scope of the intended study programme.

On successful completion of the Foundation year of the programme students should have developed:

1. A range of critical and analytical study skills to support learning;
2. A knowledge and experience working with a range of methods, techniques, strategies and approaches.
3. An understanding of a range of theoretical, historical and contemporary contexts.
4. An ability to take responsibility for learning and develop the ability to self-manage a programme of study.

8.2 Levels 4-6

Knowledge and understanding

On successful completion graduates should have developed:

- The ability to engage critically and practically with the dance medium and related discourses and theories.
- Their ability to craft and present contemporary dance practice in different contexts and settings and understand the role and function of this work for its audience.
- The ability to reflect on experiential learning and articulate observations and findings relevant to the development of their creative practice.
- Their embodied understanding of the articulate and expressive body and its centrality in performance through both written and practical assignments.
- A detailed and extensive knowledge of dance history and the development of contemporary dance practices.
- Their understanding of the symbiotic relationship between theory and practice and how this will inform their study and research methodologies.
- Their awareness and understanding of the aesthetic, social and cultural implications of contemporary dance practices that seek to resist definition and operate within and respond to new cultural spaces and communities.

Cognitive and intellectual skills

On successful completion graduates should be able to:

- The ability to apply critical and reflective skills to evaluate the development of their own creative practice, its processes and final outcomes.
- The ability to analyse complex concepts and theories and use these to develop new insights and promote independent thinking.

- The ability to apply an analytical and discursive approach to address how work is made, performed and received.
- The ability to synthesise materials from a range of different sources and to identify relationships or potential links between these.
- The ability to articulate creative practice from an informed perspective and address how practice can embody theory and evidence dance as 'practical knowing'.
- Their ability to respond effectively to critical feedback and also be able to provide others with constructive and supportive evaluation and critique.
- The ability to structure and organise materials effectively and present convincing arguments.
- The appropriate skills and techniques at graduate level to carry out effective research and communicate effectively in written, oral and expressive form.
- Have generated a personal development plan and created a portfolio of work and performance experience to support their career development.

Key transferable skills

On successful completion graduates should be able to demonstrate:

- The ability to engage critically and practically with the dance medium and related discourses and theories.
- Their ability to craft and present contemporary dance practice in different contexts and settings and understand the role and function of this work for its audience.
- The ability to reflect on experiential learning and articulate observations and findings relevant to the development of their creative practice.
- Their embodied understanding of the articulate and expressive body and its centrality in performance through both written and practical assignments.
- A detailed and extensive knowledge of dance history and the development of contemporary dance practices.
- Their understanding of the symbiotic relationship between theory and practice and how this will inform their study and research methodologies.
- Their awareness and understanding of the aesthetic, social and cultural implications of contemporary dance practices that seek to resist definition and operate within and respond to new cultural spaces and communities.

Employment Related Skills

On successful completion graduates should be able to:

- Confidence and ability to liaise effectively with outside professional arts practitioners and organisations
- Development of professional development profile and ability to develop new skills and acquire new competences to enable students to prepare for careers in dance such as, performance, choreography, teaching, dance journalism/criticism, dance administration and management, community and educational dance work, dance movement therapy.
- Ability to plan, time manage and organise projects outside of the University context, ability to demonstrate independent thinking, to take on responsibility and decision making
- Awareness of appropriate codes of practice in the professional context
- Capacity to begin to initiate and innovate in new professional arenas

Practical skills

On successful completion graduates should be able to:

- The ability to plan, create and organise innovative dance performance.
- The ability to work effectively with others in the group context.
- The ability to work safely through the body independently and with others in both the rehearsal context and in performance.
- An awareness of working in different spaces and the importance of preparing and maintaining these spaces to address health and safety issues.
- The ability to prepare all spaces for potential audiences in accordance with health and safety procedures and guidelines.

9. Admissions Criteria

All applicants must have GCSE (or equivalent) English at Grade C or above.

International applicants must also satisfy the University's English language requirements as specified at

<https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/international/how-to-apply/international-students-entry-requirements>

Entry Requirements	
	Foundation Year
A-level/AS-level	For Level 3 entry the Tariff points entry level will normally be 32-48 points from A level or

	equivalent. Non-standard applicants will normally be interviewed.
BTEC National Diploma/QCF Extended Diploma	All applications to be referred to the Admissions Tutor
Access to Higher Education at level 3	
Welsh Baccalaureate	Refer to Admissions Tutor
Scottish Qualifications Authority	32-48 points at Advanced Highers – refer to admissions tutor
Irish Leaving Certificate	Irish Highers, H5 in five subjects equivalent to 32-48 points
International Baccalaureate	24 overall – refer to Admissions tutor
Proficiency in English	Students for whom English is an additional language will need to demonstrate ability in spoken and written English equivalent to an IELTS score of 6.0 and/or successfully complete the university's special test before entering the Foundation Year.

10. Progression Criteria for Final and Intermediate Awards

Students are required to pass all modules of Level 3 to progress to Level 4. Requests to change programmes at the end of any stage will be considered only within the normal University regulations.

- Students must achieve 120 credits at Level 3 to progress to Level 4. There is no exit award for those leaving after Level 3 only.
- If students withdraw from the degree programme after successfully completing Level 4, they are eligible for the award of a Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE).
- If students withdraw from the degree programme after successfully completing Level 5, they are eligible for the award of a Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE).
- If students fail to achieve 120 credits at Level 6 but gain 80 credits they may be eligible for an Ordinary Degree.

Students must achieve 120 credits at Level 4 to progress to Level 5, and 240 credits (including 120 at Level 5) to progress to Level 6.

11. Non-standard Regulations

N/A

12. Transitional Arrangements

N/A

Appendices

Programme Specification Mapping (UG) – core/elective modules (Level 3)

Programme Intended Learning Outcomes Map BA (Hons) Dance		Foundation (Level 3)	
Graduate Attributes and Skills	2	3	4
Core Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (as worded in the Programme Specification) <i>The FHEQ requirements are already given here in italics</i>	Aim	Subject Benchmark (specific reference)	Related Core Modules
<i>The student will be able to demonstrate:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A range of critical and analytical study skills to support learning; • A knowledge and experience working with a range of methods, techniques, strategies and approaches. • An understanding of a range of theoretical, historical and contemporary contexts. • An ability to take responsibility for learning and develop the ability to self-manage a programme of study. 	At level 3 the programme will foster a suitable learning environment to facilitate the success of students from a range of non-standard background, offering bespoke support and skills training.	QAA benchmark describes Honours level (QAA, 2007, ii)	PLYCO001 PLYCO002 PLYCO003 PLYCO004 PLYCO005

Programme Specification Mapping (UG) – Levels 4-6: module contribution to the meeting of Award Learning Outcomes
CORE MODULES: tick those Award Learning Outcomes the module contributes to through its assessed learning outcomes.

Core Modules		Award Learning Outcomes contributed to (for more information see Section 8)																														Compensation Y/N	Assessment Element(s) and weightings [use KIS definition] E1- exam E2 – clinical exam T1- test C1- coursework A1 – generic assessment P1 – practical							
		Knowledge & understanding							Cognitive & intellectual skills									Key & transferable skills									Employment related skills							Practical skills						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	2	3	4	5			1	2	3	4	5		
Level 4	DATH410	X	X			X	X	X			X		X			X				X		X						X		X	X	X	X		Y	C1 Pass/Fail				
	PLYCO400	X				X	X		X		X		X			X	X	X		X								X		X	X	X	X		Y	C1 Pass/Fail				
	DATH411	X			X			X	X		X		X	X		X		X		X		X	X		X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X		N	P1 Pass/Fail			
	PLYCO415	X	X		X			X	X		X					X		X		X	X	X					X		X		X	X	X	X	X		Y	C1 Pass/Fail		
	PLYCO430	X	X		X															X	X								X			X	X	X				Y	C1 Pass/Fail	
Level 4 LOs																																								
Level 5	DATH505		X	X	X			X	X				X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X		X		X	X	X	X	X		N	P1 100%		
	PLYCO500	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X			X	X		X	X	X		X	X		X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		N	C1 100%	
	PLYCO522		X	X				X		X					X		X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		Y	P1 100%	
	PLYCO523		X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X			X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		Y	C1 100%
	DATH510					X			X		X																		X	X										Y
Level 5 LOs																																								
Level 6	DATH600			X	X	X		X		X		X	X	X		X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		Y	P1 100%	
	PLYCO610	X			X		X	X		X			X	X		X			X	X		X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		N	C1 100%
	PLYCO619	X	X					X	X		X		X						X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		Y
Level 6 LOs																																								
Confirmed Award LOs		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			

