

ON STAGE

Notes for Teachers

Unit Standard 14889 *Apply dance knowledge in skills and production*
Level 3 **Credits 8**

Teaching, learning and assessment

Dancers performing in a major school production should be able to achieve this standard if the rehearsal period is approximately 8-10 weeks. The prerequisite for this standard is that students have gained Unit Standard 11497 *Demonstrate dance*, or that they have demonstrated equivalent knowledge or skills.

Dance production in this standard refers to the production in front of an audience for more than one performance. It is anticipated that assessment of this activity must include both the developmental process and the performance product. The teacher will need to issue to the students a detailed production brief at the beginning of this process. The student may learn and perform as a part of a group, but assessment must be of individual contribution in dance production. Although it is not assessed, safe dance practice is expected in this activity, including each session beginning with an appropriate warm up.

Respect for ownership of original ideas and cultural sensitivity underpins the learning and teaching in this activity.

Gathering the evidence

Teacher verification of element 1 is through student responses and preparation of their own production brief. For element 2, teacher verification of individual student participation in the rehearsal process is through observation and the students rehearsal log. It is anticipated that annotated video evidence of the dance performance would be used for assessment and/or moderation purposes. The personal reflection of the performance is in written form.

Resources

Berkson, Robert. *Musical Theatre Choreography: A Practical Method for Preparing and Staging Dance in a Musical Show*. Backstage Books, 1990.
 Sunderland, Margot. *Choreographing the Stage Musical*. J. Garnet Miller Ltd, 1989.

Related unit standards

Level 2	Unit 11497	Demonstrate dance (Prerequisite)
Level 4	Unit 11496	Choreograph dance for others
	Unit 11502	Perform dance
Level 6	Unit 17032	Teach dance choreography
	Unit 11489	Critically review dance performance

ON STAGE

This activity assesses -

Unit Standard 14889 *Apply dance knowledge in skills and production*
Level 3, Credits 8

Elements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Demonstrate understanding of the dance production brief 2 Apply rehearsal skills in preparation for dance production 3 Apply dance skills in production
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INSTRUCTIONS

For this activity you will perform in a dance production. You will need to understand and explain a production brief, undergo a rehearsal process, keep a detailed rehearsal log, and dance in a production for two or more performances. You will perform in a group, although your individual contribution to the rehearsal process and production will be individually assessed.

This activity will take 8-10 weeks.

Task 1 assesses element 1, Task 2 assesses element 2, Task 3 assesses element 3.

Introduction

You will attend a series of production meetings where you will meet with your choreographer and the production brief will be explained. You will receive your rehearsal schedule and this is your opportunity to gather information about the production.

1 Planning Ahead (for assessment of Element 1)

You will attend a series of production meetings, where you will meet with your choreographer and the production brief will be explained. Choose one dance work that you are performing in as a part of a production. Explain what you understand to be the dance production brief by responding to each of the following questions. Your responses can be written, oral, visual or a combination of these.

- What is the purpose of the dance work?
- What is the major creative idea underpinning the dance work?

Explain the following in relation to the dance work:

- Performance space
- Environment
- Performers
- Time line
- Audience
- Rehearsal and production resources
- Choreographic intent
- Cultural relevance
- Appropriate performance etiquette

2 The Rehearsal Process (for assessment of Element 2)

As you prepare for your dance production you will go through a rehearsal process. Although the audience never sees this part of the process, it is an integral part of any production.

You need to keep a rehearsal log reflecting on your progress during the rehearsal process. You need to complete at least one rehearsal report each week as well as the Dress and Technical Rehearsals.

Rehearsal report

- Were you punctual?
- How prepared were you for this rehearsal?
- Were you focused in this rehearsal?
- Did you warm up?
- Did you warm down?
- What considerations were made for safe dance practice?
- How did you contribute positively to the rehearsal process?
- How will you approach the next rehearsal?
- What support did you offer the choreographer?
- What support did you offer others?
- What support did you offer the production team?
- What did you do to maintain the physical environment, properties and costumes?
- How did you contribute to the progress of the work?
- How did rehearsal activities help you to understand the work as a whole?
- How did rehearsal activities help you to understand your part in the work?

3 Performance (for assessment of Element 3)

- a** You will now perform your dance work to an audience as a part of a production. You will be assessed on the following:

- **Your effort to realise choreographic intention**
While you were learning the dance, the choreographer would have explained how they wanted you to perform the work. You will be assessed on your effort to stay as close to that as possible.
- **Sustained performance**
At every stage during the performance you are on show. You will be assessed on your effort to keep the performance energy alive and present the performance as you rehearsed it.
- **Performance etiquette**
You will be assessed on your ability to comply with the protocols set for the production like the backstage behaviour.

b Reflection

You will reflect as a group on your performance and will need to individually write answers to the following questions:

- How effective was the performance and why?
- What could have been improved upon in this performance?
- What were the strengths and weaknesses of your own performance?
- What skills have you learned and what skills do you need to work on?
- Comment on your effort to realise the choreographic intention of the work.
- Comment on your sustained performance throughout the performance.
- Comment on your compliance with performance etiquette.

Assessment Schedule
Unit Standard 14889

On Stage
Apply dance knowledge and skills in production

Task	Element	Evidence (The answers or performance expected from the students)	Judgement (A statement that defines the standard to be achieved)
1	1.1 1.2 1.3	Individual student preparation of production brief.	Student appropriately explains - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purpose • Creative idea • Performance space • Environment • Performers • Time • Audience • Rehearsal and production resources • Choreographic intention • Cultural relevance • Performance etiquette Presented in oral, written, visual or combination form.
2	2.1 2.2 2.3 2.4	Individual student participation in rehearsal process reflected in Rehearsal Log and verified by teacher.	Student clearly applies rehearsal skills and records appropriate responses to questions on - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compliance with the rehearsal process (time management, concentration, individual rehearsal) • Effort to maintain mind and body for performance (warm up, warm down, focus, self discipline) • Contribution towards group dynamics of the production • Demonstration of respect in rehearsal situations (choreographer, other performers, costumes and properties, non - performance roles) • Contribution to realisation of choreographic work

3a	3.1 3.2 3.3	Individual student performance in dance production	Student clearly applies skills in production including effort to - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • realise choreographic intention • sustain performance consistent with integrity of rehearsed work • comply with performance etiquette
3b	3.4	Individual student written record of reflection on performance	Individual student reflection on performance contains appropriate and valid response to seven questions.