

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Bachelor of Arts with Honours in Dance Practices

Awarding institution	Liverpool John Moores University
Teaching institution	LJMU
UCAS Code	W500
JACS Code	W500
Programme Duration	Full-Time: 3 Years
Language of Programme	All LJMU programmes are delivered and assessed in English
Subject benchmark statement	Dance, Drama and Performance (July 2015)
Programme accredited by	
Description of accreditation	
Validated target and alternative exit awards	Bachelor of Arts with Honours in Dance Practices Diploma of Higher Education in Dance Practices Certificate of Higher Education in Dance Practices
Programme Leader	Angie Walton

Educational aims of the programme

To produce graduates who can demonstrate practically with an underlying theoretical understanding the current concepts of dance practices, including elements of dance making, performing and/or facilitation in education and community settings.

To provide high quality, stimulating and rigorous approaches to a variety of dance practices including the creative process and facilitation and leadership within community/education environments.

To foster the development of creative thought and problem solving skills, as well as knowledge and understanding that will enable students to become articulate and communicative practitioners in a variety of settings including creative and community/educational practices.

To promote the development of graduates who are critical, independent thinkers; possessing a range of transferable skills, graduate and world of work skills.

To encourage students to engage with employability skills by completing a self-awareness statement

To facilitate work related opportunities for students to develop cognitive, technical and practical skills and insights necessary to engage effectively in exploring a chosen aspect of dance practices. Within this facilitation there will be opportunities to work alongside professional practitioners both within the University setting and within the world of work.

To enrich teaching and learning by supporting staff development and research, which engages theoretical and practical investigation and furthers academic and artistic discourse both within and beyond the University.

To enable students to further their own specialised area of exploration into the field of dance practices.

Alternative Exit/ Interim Award Learning Outcomes - Certificate of Higher Education

A student who is eligible for this award will be able to:

demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the underlying concepts and principles associated to Dance Practices, and be able to evaluate and interpret these within the context of that area of study

communicate effectively both verbally and in writing, demonstrating clarity of thought and reason;

describe and discuss the processes in which they are engaged;

demonstrate competence in a variety of craft and performance skills

demonstrate personal performance in relevant academic and graduate skills and recognise key issues in the professional practice of dance

present, evaluate and interpret qualitative and quantitative data, in order to develop lines of argument and make sound judgements in accordance with basic theories and concepts of their subject(s) of study.

Alternative Exit/ Interim Award Learning Outcomes - Diploma of Higher Education

A student who is eligible for this award will be able to:

apply knowledge and critical understanding of the well-established principles of their Dance Practice(s), and of the way in which those principles have developed

apply underlying concepts and principles outside the context in which they were first studied, including, where appropriate, the application of those principles in an employment context

recognise the main methods of enquiry in Dance relevant to the named award, and ability to evaluate critically the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems in the field of study

apply an understanding of the limits of their knowledge, and how this influences analyses and interpretations based on that knowledge.

Target award Learning Outcomes - Bachelor of Arts with Honours

A student successfully completing the programme of study will have acquired the following subject knowledge and understanding as well as skills and other attributes.

A student who is eligible for this award will be able to:

1. demonstrate knowledge and understanding of a range of practical and theoretical aspects of dance
2. compare, contrast and analyse a selection of theories, principles or practices
3. know how to plan, participate in and appraise dance work, whether this be as a student scholar, artist, performer, choreographer/director, teacher or manager/administrator
4. demonstrate critical knowledge and understanding of a range of theoretical concepts and constructs and have the ability to apply them appropriately to a given process/practical/performance situation or use them to critically analyse, synthesise and evaluate the work of others or self
5. communicate effectively both verbally and in writing, demonstrating clarity of thought and reason
6. describe and discuss the processes in which they are engaged
7. reflect and evaluate on the processes in which they are engaged and to apply practical processes to theoretical concepts and vice versa
8. work independently, co-operatively, creatively and critically both in practical and written areas of study
9. demonstrate competence in a variety of craft and performance skills
10. know how to plan, participate in and appraise dance work, whether this be as a student scholar, artist, performer, choreographer/director, teacher or manager/administrator
11. demonstrate critical knowledge and understanding of a range of theoretical concepts and constructs and have the ability to apply them appropriately to a given process/practical performance situation or use them to critically analyse, synthesise and evaluate the work of others or self
12. acquire interpersonal skills to communicate effectively with others, be it peers or professionals in the field in order to function competently as a practitioner
13. communicate via a variety of modes e.g. verbal, written, movement-based, presentation
14. show sensitivity to working co-operatively as a member of a team
15. show competency in computer literacy/dance technology
16. acquire the flexibility and social skills to respond to and operate effectively in a changing environment
17. become aware of different groups in society and the dance world, and to recognise and apply ethical and socially responsible working practices
18. use appropriate resources to find and organise data
19. use originality and creativity to solve problems and to learn independently
20. manage time and tasks effectively both individual and as part of a team
21. acquire the confidence to take initiative and assume responsibility
22. select, critically evaluate and reflect upon problems and issues

23. use integrative skills to analyse problems, synthesise information, devise suitable solutions (research methods) and evaluate the results

Teaching, Learning and Assessment

The methods used to enable outcomes to be achieved and demonstrated are as follows:

Workshops: a controlled practical environment through which students can learn the skills listed above. The workshops may take one or more of the following slants:

- a) Skills workshop, in which students develop both performative and ensemble skills
- b) Skills workshop, in which students develop creative or dance related work exploring both the process and the product
- c) Creative workshop, in which students develop creative or dance or theatre arts related work exploring both the process and the product in a contextual setting
- d) Experimental workshop, in which students explore, test and interrogate theory through practice and discussion

Lectures: delivery of a body of knowledge to student groups.

Seminars: group discussion led by staff or students.

Tutorials: these may be individual or small group to provide a discursive forum for feedback and assessment and to offer individual academic guidance.

Extra-Curricular activities: students may also have opportunities to extend their experience and competence by means of additional productions, projects, workshops and classes.

Study Skills: the University provides a study skills tutor from who students may seek extra support for English language-writing skills.

Work-Related Learning: students undertake a number of tasks whilst on placement and produce evaluative reflections on work undertaken.

Practical: Performance assessment – both formal and informal venues, in varying sizes of groups, both public and in-house audience.

Practical: Studio practice: assessed classes.

Leading workshops.

Teaching: to client groups, peers and staff.

Workshop Diary/Reflective Logbook: a personal logbook/diary or portfolio of tasks.

Seminar Presentations: to peers and staff.

Presentation: to staff.

Written: essay from a given or chosen title, reports, and/or portfolios.

Viva: oral exam.

Programme structure - programme rules and modules

BA (Hons) in Dance Practices

Students must choose 2 modules (40 credits) from the following: 5265SSLN Performance in Context; 5266SSLN Screen and Site Based Creative Practices; 5267SSLN Work-Based Learning for the Dance Practitioner; 5268SSLN Choreography. Each module is worth 20 credits.

Students will be offered the opportunity of study abroad at Level 5. The programme will offer the opportunity of 60 credits of study at Level 5. Students will be enrolled on a 360 credit honours with study abroad programme. A 60 credit Level 5 study abroad module 5270SSLN Study Semester Abroad – Dance Practices will normally replace the semester 1 modules on the standard programme. This study abroad should cover the same learning outcomes as the modules being replaced. The modules to be studied in the host institution must be agreed in advance. The Level 5 mean for the final award mark will be calculated based upon the 120 credits at Level 5.

Students must also choose one of the following 40 credit modules: 6270SSLN Dissertation (Practice-led) or 6271SSLN Dissertation.

Students must choose 2 modules (40 credits) from the following: 6265SSLN Projects@LJMU; 6266SSLN Individually Negotiated Project; 6267SSLN Teaching & Facilitating; 6268SSLN Performance & Technology. Each module is worth 20 credits.

Level 6	Potential Awards on completion	Bachelor of Arts with Honours
Core	Option	Award Requirements
6263SSLN Dance Techniques & the Physical Body 5 (20 credits) 6264SSLN Dance Techniques & the Physical Body 6 (20 credits)	6265SSLN Projects@LJMU (20 credits) 6266SSLN Individually Negotiated Project (20 credits) 6267SSLN Teaching & Facilitating (20 credits) 6268SSLN Performance & Technology (20 credits) 6270SSLN Dissertation (Practice-led) (40 credits) 6271SSLN Dissertation (40 credits)	40 core credits at level 6 80 option credits at level 6
Level 5	Potential Awards on completion	
Core	Option	Award Requirements
5261SSLN Reading Dance in Practice (20 credits) 5262SSLN Research Methods (20 credits) 5263SSLN Dance Techniques & the Physical Body 3 (20 credits) 5264SSLN Dance Techniques & the Physical Body 4 (20 credits)	5265SSLN Performance in Context (20 credits) 5266SSLN Screen and Site-Based Creative Practices (20 credits) 5267SSLN Work-Based Learning for the Dance Practitioner (20 credits) 5268SSLN Choreography (20 credits)	80 core credits at level 5 40 option credits at level 5
Level 4	Potential Awards on completion	
Core	Option	Award Requirements
4261SSLN Choreography & Performance 1 (10 credits) 4262SSLN Choreography & Performance 2 (20 credits) 4263SSLN Dance Techniques & the Physical Body 1 (20 credits) 4264SSLN Dance Techniques & the Physical Body 2 (20 credits) 4265SSLN Dance Perspectives (20 credits) 4266SSLN Self-Awareness and Leadership Skills (10 credits) 4267SSLN Workshop Practices (20 credits)		120 core credits at level 4 0 option credits at level 4

Information about assessment regulations

All programmes leading to LJMU awards operate within the University's Academic Framework.
<https://www.ljmu.ac.uk/about-us/public-information/academic-quality-and-regulations/academic-framework>

Opportunities for work-related learning (location and nature of activities)

All Work Related Learning activity within the programme enables students to work away from campus in an area of the industry of their choosing (e.g. schools/colleges, a dance agency, youth dance groups, integrated dance groups). However, students are also able to work on suitable projects within relevant departments within the University.

The dance programme values the contribution that placement activity can make to the learners ability to both transfer knowledge and skills to another context or share learned practice as a result of being on a placement. In the programme there are two distinctive manners in which placement is constructed and delivered:

-External placement provision where host organisations take students and support their learning through an

individually negotiated learner contract

-Internal placement practice in the studio environment with professional mentoring support the practice-led enquiry of the student

This degree includes a range of work-based and work related learning opportunities to ensure that students are as current and up to date with their knowledge as possible and have the ability to create networks.

Throughout the programme students have access to masterclasses, projects and visiting guest artists who will share examples of their work. Alongside this, opportunities through placement to observe, assist and lead in such workplaces for example as schools, colleges, national dance agencies, community arts projects, hospitals, small dance companies, theatres, community centres, residential homes all of which engage students in both practical and theoretical thinking.

Internally (because of the specialist facilities) we are able to offer students placement practice to devise/create own choreographic or performance work. During this process they have access to a professional mentor for advice and guidance.

There is a work related learning element to the course at every level:

Level 4:

4267SSLN Workshop Practices

4261SSLN Choreography & performance 1

4262SSLN Choreography & performance 2

Level 5:

5267SSLN Work Based Learning for the Dance Artist (option)

5268SSLN Choreography (option)

5266SSLN Screen and Site based creative practices (option)

5265SSLN Performance in Context

Level 6:

6267SSLN Teaching and Facilitating

6270SSLN Dissertation (Practice-led) (core)

6271SSLN Projects@LJMU (option)

Criteria for admission

A/AS Level

112 UCAS Tariff points

Minimum number of A Levels required: 2

Subject specific requirements: It is expected that applicants have studied at least one relevant subject.

Is general studies acceptable? Yes

Are AS level awards acceptable? Acceptable only when combined with other qualifications

BTEC National Diploma

BTEC certificate: Acceptable only when combined with other qualifications

90 credit diploma: Acceptable only when combined with other qualifications

Subjects / grades required: 112 points

Diploma (QCF): Acceptable on its own and combined with other qualifications

Diploma subjects / grades required: Not applicable

Extended diploma (QCF): Acceptable on its own and combined with other qualifications

Extended diploma subjects / grades required: 112 points from related subjects including Performance, Dance or Physical Theatre.

Irish Leaving Certificate

Acceptability Acceptable on its own and combined with other qualifications

Grades / Subjects reqd 112 points from 5 subjects at higher level.

Scottish Higher

Scottish Higher: Not applicable

Scottish Advanced Higher: Not applicable

Additional Information: 112 points from 5 subjects, 3 of which must be at an Advanced level.

International Baccalaureate

International Baccalaureate: Acceptable on its own and combined with other qualifications

Additional information: 112 points

Access

Access to Higher Education Diploma acceptability: Acceptable on its own and combined with other qualifications

Further information: A merit in a relevant kite-marked course.

Higher national diploma

Upon successful completion of the interview and audition process, A pass grade for a HND in Dance, performance, musical theatre would enable applicants to be considered for direct entry to Level 5 on this programme on the provision that their HND qualification could map level 4 learning outcomes and meet the requirement of RP(E)L.

Other

One subject-related qualification or relevant experience.

Minimum of grade C in GCSE Maths and English Language or equivalent.

Successful audition.

A DBS check (Disclosure and Barring Service - formerly CRB) is a requirement of entry onto this course

Mature entry

Audition and interview, evidence of dance experience. Written requirement at audition/interview

Overseas qualifications

Evidence of appropriate qualifications. Audition and interview (may be by video and phone). Written requirement at audition/interview may be required.

International applicants must possess a minimum IELTS (or equivalent) score of 6.0

External Quality Benchmarks

All programmes leading to LJMU awards have been designed and approved in accordance with the UK Quality Code for Higher Education, including the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in the UK (FHEQ) and subject benchmark statements where applicable.

The University is subject to periodic review of its quality and standards by the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) Published review reports are available on the QAA website at www.qaa.ac.uk

Programmes which are professionally accredited are reviewed by professional, statutory and regulatory bodies (PSRBs) and such programmes must meet the competencies/standards of those PSRBs.

Support for students and their learning

The University aims to provide students with access to appropriate and timely information, support and guidance to ensure that they are able to benefit fully from their time at LJMU. All students are assigned a Personal Tutor to provide academic support and when necessary signpost students to the appropriate University support services.

Students are able to access a range of professional services including:

- Advice on practical aspects of study and how to use these opportunities to support and enhance their personal and academic development. This includes support for placements and careers guidance.
- Student Advice and Wellbeing Services provide students with advice, support and information, particularly in the areas of: student funding and financial matters, disability, advice and support to international students, study support, accommodation, health, wellbeing and counselling.
- Students studying for an LJMU award at a partner organisation will have access to local support services

Methods for evaluating and improving the quality and standards of teaching and learning

Student Feedback and Evaluation

The University uses the results of student feedback from internal and external student surveys (such as module

evaluations, the NSS and PTES), module evaluation questionnaires and meetings with student representatives to improve the quality of programmes.

Staff development

The quality of teaching is assured through staff review and staff development in learning, teaching and assessment.

Internal Review

All programmes are reviewed annually and periodically, informed by a range of data and feedback, to ensure quality and standards of programmes and to make improvements to programmes.

External Examining

External examiners are appointed to programmes to assess whether:

- the University is maintaining the threshold academic standards set for awards in accordance with the FHEQ and applicable subject benchmark statements
- the assessment process measures student achievement rigorously and fairly against the intended outcomes of the programme(s) and is conducted in line with University policies and regulations
- the academic standards are comparable with those in other UK higher education institutions of which external examiners have experience
- the achievement of students are comparable with those in other UK higher education institutions of which the external examiners have experience

and to provide informative comment and recommendations on:

- good practice and innovation relating to learning, teaching and assessment observed by external examiners
- opportunities to enhance the quality of the learning opportunities provided to students

Please note:

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content, teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module can be found in module and programme guides.