

Dance Teaching Qualifications

The BBO teaching qualifications take a general approach to dance teaching. Throughout the courses you'll focus on the fundamentals or basic principles of dance teaching and how tuition can be structured in a progressive way for students – also known as *developmental training*. If your standard in a specific dance genre/style is of a high enough standard, knowledge of the BBO syllabi is not essential to pass the BBO courses. However, you will be offered a study of the syllabus work and its role in the safe and effective development of young dancers.

COURSE TITLE:	Certificate in an Introduction to Dance Teaching
COURSE GENRE:	Classical Ballet
ACCREDITATION:	OfQual accredited – Level 3
ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:	Applicants must be aged 17 years or above and already have Level 2 qualifications both academically (GCSE grade C and above) and in dance (Grades 5 Ballet or above in any accredited Syllabus – BBO, RAD, BTDA or ISTD).
COURSE DURATION:	January-July
LOCATION:	BBO Headquarters, London or selected regional centres
PROGRESSION:	Successful completion of this course can help to provide entry to a Level 4 Dance Teaching qualification.

If you are a young dancer and want to understand more about dance teaching and its demands, then this course is for you. The course introduces you to the elements of study required to become an effective dance teacher and get results for your students. All the learning outcomes in the Units are assessed through either practical or written examinations/assignments submitted at intervals through the period of study. You can gain this qualification with a Pass, Merit or Distinction Level and there is no assessment of practical teaching. All applicants are invited to take part in a practical class (in chosen genre) and an individual verbal interview with Senior staff from the Department.

You are supported by a Mentor throughout your period of study who oversees your reflective journal and your learning experience in the workplace. You will be given the opportunity to undertake a 'Period of Observation' of teaching in a placement school. There are also extra sessions where you can study the BBO syllabus in classical ballet and opportunities to observe BBO Scholars' classes (London and Manchester) and participate in BBO special events such as Dance Days or Teachers' Professional Development Sessions.

You will study various units which require assessed assignments to be completed. There is a balance of 50% practical and 50% theoretical work during the taught sessions and your study will include the following units:

UNIT 1. OBSERVATION OF DANCE TEACHING & LEARNING TECHNIQUES - This unit is about the interaction that takes place between you as a teacher and your learners. You will cover planning, safe dance practice, teaching techniques, motivational techniques, resources, remedial action, parent-teacher relationship and the list goes on. For this unit you will need to produce written observation sheets and evaluate teaching techniques that you have seen. These will be marked and provide the final assessment grade for this unit.

UNIT 2. PROMOTION OF SAFE DANCE PRACTICE - This unit includes the study of nutrition, hydration, body structure, first aid, studio conditions, child protection and genre specific injury and considerations. For assessment of this unit you will complete written assignments relating to specific aspects of Safe Dance Practice. You will also have the opportunity to show your awareness and knowledge of Safe Dance Practice during a discussion with an assessor.

UNIT 3. THEORY OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT - This unit is about how a child's mental and physical development will affect learning processes and must determine teaching styles. You will learn about physical, mental, emotional and social development in a student's formative years, individual differences (cultural, gender, special needs) and different teaching styles and how these can help pupils learn. For this unit you will undertake case studies of pupils to identify their learning needs and responses and demonstrate knowledge of the demands of different genres.

UNIT 4. DANCE PRACTICE IN CLASSICAL BALLET - This unit is for self-improvement and teaching methodology. You'll learn about the underpinning knowledge, skills and understanding required to support a teacher of classical ballet. You will study dance vocabulary (to include style, steps, co-ordination, body alignment, dynamics, use of space, accompaniment requirements), technical language, appropriate preparation and ways to put exercises together. You will also cover communication, both verbal and non verbal to include clarity of speech, projection, demonstration, positive reinforcement and correction. An assessment class will take place in order for you to be seen teaching a short *enchainement* that you have devised. You will also take part in a discussion with an assessor about the dance teaching process.

UNIT 5. THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MUSIC AND DANCE - This unit is about the important role of music in different dance genres. You'll learn how music can be seen as both an accompaniment and as a vital part of pupils' music education. This course will cover movement and rhythm, phrasing, technical and descriptive language, musical forms and using music with respect for its artistic conventions. You will complete a multi-choice examination paper to identify appropriate exercises for music and select music for *enchainement* to complete your assessment for this unit.

UNIT 6. BACKGROUND TO CLASSICAL BALLET - This unit is about understanding the present day professional practice of classical ballet, seminal works and the key features and form of the genre. It will include study of established companies, productions, dancers' technical training, music, costume, staging, historical context and collaboration between choreographer, composer and costume and set designer/s. For this unit you will complete a written assignment.

UNIT 7. REFLECTIVE PRACTICE - This Unit underpins all the learning on the course. You will write a Reflective Journal which you will submit to your Personal Tutor/ Mentor each month and receive feedback and results towards your final grade.

"I feel that I have benefited so much from enrolling on the course and I am so glad that I did. I have realised that there is so much more to being a dance teacher than simply knowing the syllabus...I am looking forward to doing the Diploma course in the future"

Level 3 graduate 2006

"I found the course very useful and felt it was a stepping stone towards the Diploma... a good introduction for young teachers"

Level 3 graduate 2007

"I have really enjoyed the course. I feel I have improved a great deal. Everyone at the BBO has been really helpful and very supportive"

Level 3 graduate 2009

"This course gave me the confidence to pursue a Dance Teaching career"

Level 3 graduate 2008

For further information or to apply for our courses, please see www.bbo.org.uk.