
Specification

BBO Level 5 Award in Dance Teaching (Licentiate)

bbodance

Qualification recognised by Ofqual and Qualifications Wales

This specification is valid from January 2026

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Summary, Objectives, Aims and Philosophy

Qualification Title and Numbers

Qualification Title	Ofqual Qualification Number	Qualifications Wales Approval/Designation No.
BBO Level 5 Award in Dance Teaching (Licentiate)	610/6603/5	C00/5289/0

The Licentiate builds on the pedagogic knowledge and skills developed during the bbodance Teaching Qualification courses or by an alternative recognised dance teaching qualification, by guiding students to apply their knowledge and skills to the teaching of genre specific bbodance syllabi.

Students will develop the knowledge and skills necessary to confidently teach the bbodance syllabi, from Pre-Primary to Intermediate, and prepare learners for entry to bbodance syllabus examinations.

Objectives

The following learning objectives define the expected goal of the Licentiate qualification in terms of demonstrable skills or knowledge that will be acquired:

- To demonstrate knowledge and understanding of genre specific technique up to and including Intermediate level.
- To demonstrate knowledge and understanding of progressions within genre specific technique and the bbodance syllabi.
- To demonstrate knowledge and understanding of appropriate teaching methodology related to the level and stage of learning and development.
- To demonstrate the ability to analyse technical steps and movements up to and including Intermediate level.
- To demonstrate the ability to develop learners' understanding and accurate performance of the key principles of the specified genre.
- To demonstrate the ability to create non-syllabus exercises and movement phrases that promote the development of core technical and performance skills.

- To demonstrate knowledge and understanding of safe practice applicable to the specified genre.

Aims

The aims of the Licentiate are to:

- Promote the teaching of bbodance syllabi for both recreational dance and vocational training.
- Promote specialist knowledge and understanding of the bbodance syllabi.
- Provide dance teachers with a means to develop their understanding of bbodance syllabi and how to teach it.
- Encourage and motivate dance teachers in their use of and engagement with bbodance syllabi.
- Provide dance teachers with the confidence to teach bbodance syllabi and enter students for syllabus examinations, including Dance Awards and Performance Awards.
- Provide continuing professional development and lifelong learning opportunities.

Fitness for purpose

bbodance meets the requirements of fitness for purpose through a rigorous Quality Assurance Framework, which includes the following:

- The Head of Teaching Qualifications undertakes biannual meetings with faculty to ensure that Quality Assurance is maintained across all modules and faculty and develops strategies for Quality Enhancement.
- A clear schedule of internal moderation.
- A clear schedule of external moderation concluding with an External Examiner report to be provided at the appropriate Examination Board meeting.
- A complete 5-year review of the qualification that includes feedback from students and faculty.
- bbodance Quality Assurance Committee and bbodance Qualifications and Awards Approval Board.
- bbodance policies and guidelines <https://www.bbo.dance/policies-and-guidelines>
- Regulatory and Quality Assurance (QA) Adviser who is in place to support the Head of Teaching Qualifications with grievances, complaints and provide overall QA guidance to the courses.
- Mechanisms for student feedback.

Entry Criteria

The qualification is aimed at qualified dance teachers who either wish to teach bbodance syllabi or are currently teaching bbodance syllabi and would like to consolidate and develop their knowledge and skills.

Applicants must have:

- Either the relevant bbodance teaching qualification* or a Level 4 Teaching Qualification from an alternative recognised awarding organisation (*or equivalent dance teaching experience*)
- **GCSE** (*or equivalent*) in English (C/4)
- A Level 3 Dance qualification in the relevant genre, such as **Intermediate** or **Grade 6** (*with any recognised awarding organisation*)
- Recommended **18+ years old**

*The relevant bbodance teaching qualification is one that provides eligibility to Registered Teacher Membership of bbodance, for example, the Level 5 Diploma in Dance Teaching, the Level 4 Diploma in Dance Teaching Practice (2026 onwards) or any Level 6 award.

Mode of Delivery

The qualification is taught in a blended form of in-person instruction, online learning and independent study.

Students are required to attend an intensive, studio-based practical course. Online learning takes place prior to the practical course component and independent study activities are completed during and after the practical course component.

Online delivery includes access to the bbodance online learning site, which provides learning materials and resources.

Level, Credits and Qualification Time

Level

The Licentiate is delivered at **Level 5** on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF).

Credits

The qualification leads to achievement of 7 credits at Level 5.

Total Qualification Time (TQT)

The Total Qualification Time (TQT) is 70 hours.

The TQT includes 30 hours of guided learning and 40 hours of independent learning.

Guided Learning is taught and supervised learning, which takes place during the intensive, studio-based practical course, as well as feedback and tutoring relating to the assessment.

Independent Learning is undertaken by the students prior to, during and after the studio-based practical course. It includes a range of activities, such as reading, online study related to the bbodance syllabi, homework tasks during the practical course, and preparatory work for the final assessment.

Qualification Content

Students study the bbodance syllabi of a specific dance genre in depth, from Pre-Primary up to and including Intermediate. During the intensive, practical study period, students develop their practical knowledge of the core principles of the dance genre, the bbodance syllabi and progression through the grades. Students will also learn different approaches to teaching the syllabi according to age and stage of learning, and safe practice within teaching.

Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria

Learning Outcomes By the end of the qualification, students will have/be able to:	Assessment Criteria Students are expected to demonstrate:
1. Knowledge and understanding of principles of genre specific technique	1.1 Ability to analyse and break down technical steps and movements, employing clear and accurate explanation and demonstration 1.2 Ability to create and teach non-syllabus exercises and movement phrases that promote the development of core technical and performance skills 1.3 Ability to give appropriate class feedback and effective individual corrections to support technical skill development
2. Knowledge and understanding of a specified bbodance syllabi and progressions within the syllabi	2.1 Ability to plan learning objectives appropriate to bbodance syllabus content and progression within the selected syllabus 2.2 Ability to plan and teach syllabus content which is effectively structured and facilitates learner progression 2.3 Ability to teach syllabus exercises with accuracy, including correct rhymical structure, dynamics and movement quality
3. Knowledge and understanding of appropriate teaching methods, approaches and strategies related to the level and stage of learning and development	3.1 Ability to plan and teach selected class content that is appropriate and inclusive for the level and stage of a selected group of learners 3.2 Ability to employ effective teaching methods and strategies to develop learners' understanding and accurate performance of genre specific technique

	(which may include but is not limited to use of the voice, imagination/creativity, mirroring, resources, music, differentiation, peer tasks)
4. Knowledge and understanding of safe practice applicable to the specified genre of dance	4.1 Ability to lead an effective warm-up and cool down, including (if appropriate) safe, targeted conditioning techniques 4.2 Ability to correct and differentiate according to individual learners' physiology and technical strengths and limitations

Assessment

Mode of Assessment

Practical Teaching (100%)

Assessment Details

Students are required to submit the following for assessment:

1. Filmed teaching practice of one class from the specified bbodance genre syllabi. The lesson should be from a grade of the student's choice, from Grade 1 to Intermediate. The filmed taught class should have a minimum of two learners and should be a minimum of 45 minutes and maximum of 60 minutes*.
2. A supporting Lesson Plan for the taught class (using the template provided).

*The length of the lesson is dependent on the level being taught.

Compliance and Conduct

As a Licentiate student and Member of bbodance you have a responsibility to:

- Comply with all statutory requirements affecting health and safety at work procedures in respect of the following: health and safety (including safe dance practice), safeguarding, equal opportunities and customer service (including feedback and complaints).
- Hold a valid Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Certificate.
- Ensure the provision of adequate public/products liability insurance and employer liability insurance.
- Comply with all the statutory requirements affecting the running of the business, including registration of names, income tax, value added tax and any other matter required by law.
- Ensure that you are in accordance with the law with regard to copyright, recording, public performance and other matters concerning printed matter and recorded music related to your work.
- Ensure that you uphold the principles of the bbodance Code of Professional Conduct at <https://www.bbo.dance/policies>.

Marks and Achievement

Achievement Categories

The qualification is graded as Pass, Merit or Distinction

Achievement Descriptors

Distinction

70% and above Pass with DISTINCTION

An excellent response to the assessment: all learning outcomes have been achieved to a high standard and some assessment criteria may be met at an exceptionally high standard. The work demonstrates some of the following characteristics, which may be beyond that expected for work at Level 5:

- Demonstration of high-quality, cohesive teaching practice, which evidences creativity and some originality in planning and execution, and ensures learner achievement/progression
- Commanding knowledge and understanding of the specified dance genre, with accurate and assured demonstration of stylistic, technical and performance features.
- Thorough and accurate knowledge and understanding of the genre specific syllabus content and progressions.
- Thorough knowledge and highly successful implementation of safe practice techniques and strategies.
- The requirements of the assessment task have been fully adhered to. The lesson plan is comprehensive.

Merit

60%-69% Pass with MERIT

A good or very good response to the assessment: all learning outcomes have been achieved, and assessment criteria may be met at a good or very good standard with some instances of excellent work. The work demonstrates all or most of the following characteristics in relation to those expected at Level 5:

- Demonstration of good or very good teaching practice, which evidences strengths in some skills (as defined by the assessment criteria). Some aspects of teaching may require further refinement or development.
- Clear evidence of knowledge and understanding of the specified dance genre. Knowledge and demonstration of some stylistic, technical or performance features may be less assured.

- Mainly accurate knowledge and understanding of the genre specific syllabus content and progressions, with no significant misunderstandings. Some syllabus details may require further review.
- Good or very good knowledge and implementation of safe practice techniques and strategies. Some techniques and strategies may require further refinement or development.
- The requirements of the assessment task have been adhered to. The lesson plan may require further refinement.

Pass

40%-59% PASS

An acceptable or sound response to the assessment: all learning outcomes have been achieved, and assessment criteria may be met at an acceptable or sound standard with some instances of good work. The work demonstrates some of the following characteristics in relation to those expected at Level 5:

- Demonstration of an acceptable or sound level of teaching practice, which evidences achievement of basic skills (as defined by the assessment criteria). The teaching may be less assured with inconsistencies. Key aspects of teaching may require further refinement or development.
- Evidence of knowledge and understanding of the specified dance genre. Knowledge and demonstration of stylistic, technical or performance features may be inconsistent or sometimes superficial.
- Mainly accurate knowledge and understanding of the genre specific syllabus content and progressions. There may be minor inaccuracies and misunderstandings or lack of precision. Syllabus details may require further review.
- Acceptable or sound knowledge and implementation of safe practice techniques and strategies. Implementation may be less assured or basic in approach. Some techniques and strategies may require further refinement or development.
- The requirements of the assessment task have been adhered to, but the lesson plan may be basic, lacking detail and depth.

Fail

0%-39% FAIL

A limited or insufficient response to the assessment: whilst some assessment criteria may be met at an acceptable standard, not all the learning outcomes have been achieved. The work demonstrates some of the following characteristics in relation to those expected at Level 5:

- Unacceptable level of teaching practice. The majority of skills (as defined by the assessment criteria) are lacking.
- Insufficient evidence of knowledge and understanding of the specified dance genre. Knowledge and demonstration of stylistic, technical or performance features may be inaccurate or lacking.
- Limited knowledge and understanding of the genre specific syllabus content and progressions. There may be major inaccuracies and misunderstandings.
- Insufficient knowledge and implementation of safe practice techniques and strategies. Safe practice may not be evident, or techniques and strategies used may be ineffective.
- The requirements of the assessment task have not been adhered to. The lesson plan may be unsatisfactory, incomplete, or missing.

Students will be offered an opportunity to re-sit a failed assessment in line with bbodance Teaching Qualifications regulations.

Learning Resources

The following resources are available for students:

- bbodance Code of Professional Conduct: <https://www.bbo.dance/policies>
- Graded examination specifications: <https://www.bbo.dance/examinations>
- Video and written syllabus resources via free Membership: <https://www.bbo.dance/bbojoin>
- Learning resources available via the online learning site, including a reading list, set readings, tasks and activities, templates and guidance
- Access to bbodance Continuing Professional Development: <https://www.bbo.dance/cpd-event-listing>