



# IDTS

International Dance  
Teaching Standards



## Commonly Asked Questions:



### **How established is the IDTS teaching program?**

Formerly the Canadian Dance Standards, the International Dance Teaching Standards (IDTS) opened in 2006. Over the last decade we have over 500 graduated teachers in 21 different countries. The course is designed by dance teaching professionals working at the studio level who are also engaged in dance and movement science research at universities.

### **Can I take this course? Who can take this course?**

It is expected that registrants will be coming to the course with an understanding of dance technique (any style) and already have strong dance vocabulary. Candidate teachers must provide a bio, and if necessary references, to be eligible to enroll in the program. Level one teachers must be 16 years of age at the time of the course, level two teachers must be 18 years of age at the time of the course and level three teachers must be 19 years of age at the time of the course.

### **How is this course offered?**

This course is offered online year round, or “in person” at various locations worldwide. (To host a certification module at your studio please email the office for more information.)

### **I registered online, why can't I start right away?**

Your comprehensive teaching resource guide will be sent in the mail. Please allow between 3 days and 3 weeks to receive it depending on what country you live in. Once you have your manual you are able to start your training!

**How will the “in person” courses be taught?**

The IDTS Certification program is a pedagogy-based program that does not focus on any particular style of dance (ie, jazz, tap, salsa) but rather the craft of teaching dance. The program is taught in a community discussion based manner. The course instructor will present educational theory concepts and ideas and students will participate in small group discussion on these topics. Sometimes the students may be separated by their discipline (ie, ballet) to facilitate conversations in their genre, sometimes they may be grouped for other reasons (more experienced teachers, new teachers, etc). Some subjects are better covered in a teacher lead format, for example the Anatomy unit is best taught in a teacher lead format due to its complex fact based nature. When possible the group discussion format will be prioritized, in other times it will need to be partner or teacher lead activities to streamline productivity.

**Who will teach this course?**

All course faculty have the minimum of a Masters degree in Education and are a registered school teacher in their home country. As well they must hold a bachelors degree in either dance or kinesiology/movement sciences and have at least ten years of full time dance teaching at the studio level. Their main goal is to drive comprehensive small group discussions by utilizing the expert knowledge in the room (attendees) as the main source of idea based discourse.

**When can I Start my Practical Hours?**

You are requested to apply the knowledge you gain in the theory courses towards your teaching practice. Therefore, only hours you teacher AFTER the course can be applied to your practical hour requirements for graduation.

**How long do I have to complete my Practical hours?**

Teachers must complete their practical hours within one year of finishing the course material.

**Why do I have to submit proof of First Aid for the online course but not in the “in person” modules?**

The modules conducted with a course instructor have a built in first aid unit. We cannot teach the first aid unit online, as it is required that students demonstrate technique on one of the CPR Dolls. Please attend any first aid course in your local city and submit proof of completion with your graduation application.

**Is There a Dinner Break at in person courses?**

Each course will have a dinner/lunch break of at least 30 minutes, the length and time will depend on the course instructor and lesson plan as well as the hours allotted to cover the material.

**Can I do Level Two before Level One?**

No, the program ladders from one course to the next, they must be taken in order.

**Are all 12 units covered in Level One?**

No, some units are only covered in level one, some are only covered in level two and some are only covered in level three. Alternatively some are covered and layered through all three levels depending on the subject. For example the Anatomy unit is too complex to cover in just one level so it is spread across three, the Dance History unit is only covered in level two because we did not believe it was the most important unit for the beginner teacher and Business Management and Marketing is only covered in level three because it is most needed for advanced teachers.

**What is the course tuition? And how do I pay?**

Each level is \$320.00 Canadian Dollars plus applicable taxes. There are three levels for the program; you may take one, two or all three, each level is \$320.00 Canadian Dollars. Payments are made online with credit card, or contact the office for other alternatives. Please use an up to date conversation exchange for applicable rates in your home country.

**How long do I have to complete my online studies?**

There is no deadline for the completion of online studies, however if the course requirements change, the student may need to complete additional modules in order to meet the graduation requirements.

**What is the point of this course?**

This course was primarily designed to standardize what is expected of developing dance educators. Dance teachers are in charge of young human beings; they are capable to causing permanent injury both physically and psychologically. We believe that basic training at the very least should be standard practice for new dance teachers; our program therefore targets the level one course as 'beginner dance teaching certification'. The level two is an 'intermediate dance teaching certification' and the level three is an 'advanced dance teaching certification' for the career professional. It is our goal to train and develop the next generation of competent, confident and safe dance educators. The standards of practice were inspired by the British Columbia (Canada) provincial teacher regulation branch standards and code of teacher ethics.

**I have a degree, why can't I skip levels?**

The program covers over twelve diverse units so the average degree will not cover all of the units we study in this course.



You may skip levels only if you can successfully finish the challenge exam and have ALL of the following:

- 1) A Bachelors degree in Kinesiology/Movement Science
- 2) A Bachelors degree in Education
- 3) An Introduction to Psychology course- university level
- 4) Registered teacher by the standards of your home country
- 5) You have proof of valid first aid certification
- 6) You can prove you have education in music theory, and are competent in choreographing.

### **Will I gain anything else from taking these courses?**

Yes! You will gain access to the teacher only area of our website that has video tutorials and educational tips. In addition you can access several amazing forms and templates that will save you time and energy.

| <b>What subjects are covered in the course curriculum?</b>  | <b>What other teaching resources do I obtain from completing this program?</b>   |
|---|--|
| Anatomy<br>Skill Acquisition<br>Choreographic Composition<br>Biomechanics<br>Nutrition<br>Strength and Flexibility<br>Dance History<br>Team Cohesion for Dance Squads<br>Classroom Management<br>Music Theory<br>Tricks and Spotting<br>Business Management & Marketing<br>The Competitive Dance Industry<br>Contracts and Standards in Dance | Costume Design Forms<br>Injury Report Forms<br>Lesson Plan Templates (5 versions)<br>Goal Setting Worksheets for dancers<br>Cleaning Choreography worksheets<br>Technical Assessment Forms<br>Fitness Assessment Forms<br>Postural Assessment Forms<br>Dancer Psychological Assessment<br>Recital Planning Worksheets<br>Recital Theme Ideas<br>Recital Volunteer Coordination<br>Lighting Design Sheets<br>Behavioral Code of Conduct |

**I have more questions! How do I email?**

You can email us at, [danceteachingstandards@gmail.com](mailto:danceteachingstandards@gmail.com)

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