



IDTS

International Dance
Teaching Standards



Commonly Asked Questions



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How established is the IDTS teaching program?

We have been operating since 2006 and have registered teachers in 50 countries worldwide.

What do I get when I finish?

On successful completion of all the graduation requirements teachers will be mailed a graduation certificate with official gold seal.

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 thousands of graduated teachers in 33 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.

How many hours will it take to complete the online course?

On average 10-20 hours to work through the course manual and approximately 1 hour to complete each online study unit.

What is the age requirement? 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 and at least five years of technique training in any dance style. Candidate teachers may be required to provide a bio, a video of a group performance the teacher choreographed and if necessary references to confirm experience. Teachers should email the office if they have questions regarding their pre-requisites. Student Assistant Teachers must be 12-15 years of age to take the assistant teacher program. Developing teachers must be 16+ years of age to take the developing teacher program. Module One teachers must be 18+ years of age at the time of the course; Module Two teachers must be 18+ years of age at the time of the course; and Module Three teachers must be 21+ years at the time of the course.

What are the Prerequisites?

An individual must have at least five years of dance technique training and terminology knowledge (in any discipline) before being permitted to participate. We do not teach you “how to dance” we teach “how to teach dance”; therefore, participants must already have dance experience **AND must already be teaching their own classes.**

The requirements are as follows:

Student Assistant Teacher Certification:

12-15 years of age, no experience required

Developing Teacher Certification:

16+ years of age, 0-3 years of independent teaching experience

Standard Dance Teacher Certification (modules one and two):

18+ years of age, 3+ years of independent teaching experience

Advanced Dance Teacher Certification:

21+ years of age and successful completion of Module One and Module Two

How is this course offered?

This course is offered online year-round, or “in person” at various locations worldwide. The in person courses are typically offered over a weekend.

Can I attend again?

Once you are a registered teacher with the IDTS you can attend any course of the same level again, any time, for life – Free of Charge. Simply email to confirm your spot. This option is only available if the course is not already sold out.



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

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

Is the online course entirely online?

The online course is delivered via distance education, which means simply, you do not attend in person but it is not entirely online. There is reading material and workbook questions as well as online videos and quizzes.

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 (i.e., 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 disciplines (i.e., ballet) to facilitate conversations in their genres; 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-led format due to its complex fact-based nature. When possible the group discussion format will be prioritized. A variety of exploratory teaching methods will be used such as science lab stations and other times teacher-led activities will be utilized to streamline productivity.

Who will teach this course?

All course faculty have the minimum of a Master's degree in Education and are a registered school teacher in their home country. As well they must hold a Bachelor's degree in either Dance or Kinesiology/movement sciences and have at least 10 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 toward 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 weekend live 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 the in-person courses?

The usual time allotted for dinner break is one hour, however, each course will have a dinner/lunch break of at least 30 minutes; the length and time will depend on the course schedule as well as the hours allotted to cover the material, which is scheduled around the host venues operational hours.

Since the topics are not the same, can I do module two before module one?

Please email our office for more information on this question. In some cases the above is permitted, however candidates cannot apply to graduate until module one is complete if they attend module two first as it includes the core competencies of First Aid, base Anatomy and Injury Prevention.

Does the IDTS have annual membership fees?

No, there are no annual membership fees.

Can I list the IDTS as a certification in my biography?

Only once you have completed the program in full and achieved graduation. Otherwise you must indicate that you are a candidate or attended a workshop but you are not permitted to say you are certified as a teacher unless your education and practicum is complete.

Are all 12 units covered in Module One?

No, some units are only covered in Module One, some are only covered in Module Two and some are only covered in Module 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 module so it is spread across three; the Dance History unit is only covered in Module Two because we did not believe it was the most important unit for the program; and Business Management and Marketing is only covered in Module Three because it is most needed for advanced teachers.

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

Student Assistant Teacher Certification Program: **\$20**

Developing Teacher Certification Program: **\$100**

Standard Dance Teacher Certification (Module One) **\$320**

Standard Advanced Dance Teacher Certification (Module Two) **\$320**

Advanced Dance Teacher Certification (Module Three) **\$320**

All prices are listed in Canadian funds before applicable tax. Please use an up-to-date conversation exchange for final applicable rate 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.

Why should teachers get a certification?

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 should be standard practice for new dance teachers. Our programs are ladders to take teachers through to the career professional classification. 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 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 Bachelor's degree in Kinesiology/Movement Science
- 2) A Bachelor's 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

What are the course subjects?

Module One

Anatomy
Injury Prevention
Dance Injuries
Skill Acquisition
Pedagogy
First Aid
Choreography
Classroom Management
Season Planning

Module Two

Biomechanics
Music Theory
Task Analysis
Dance History
Child Development
Sport Psychology
Anatomy Review

Module Three

Athletic Taping
Business Management
Marketing
and Self Directed Study
with IDTS faculty:
-Physiotherapist
-Nutritionist
-Child Psychologist
-Teacher Mentor

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:

- Costume Design Forms
- Injury Report Forms
- Lesson Plan Templates (five versions)
- Goal Setting Worksheets for dancers
- Cleaning Choreography worksheets
- Technical Assessment Forms
- Fitness Assessment Forms
- Postural Assessment Forms
- Dancer Psychological Assessment
- Recital Planning Worksheets
- Recital Themes
- Recital Volunteer Coordination
- Lighting Design Sheets
- Behavioral Code of Conduct

I have more questions! How do I email?

You can email us, at danceteachingstandards@gmail.com

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