

Module Specification

Module Title: Skills for the Musical Theatre Performer

Module code:	HMATCO001	NQF level:	7
Credit value:	40	Trimester of study:	1 & 2
Module type:	Compulsory	Pre-requisites:	None
Available to:	MA Musical Theatre Company		

Module overview

This module consists of classes in Acting, Ensemble Singing and Dance practice.

In the Acting sessions students will continue explore various pedagogy of Acting, which could include Meisner, Stanislavski, Grotowski for example. However, appropriate to Masters Level students will develop sophisticated personal methodology to synthesise this learning into embodied performance – finding enhanced connection to text and character.

In Ensemble Singing students will continue to develop their repertoire from the musical theatre canon but also explore the specific nuances to ensemble singing performance.

In Dance students will further their core ability in Jazz, Ballet and Tap training. Appropriate to Masters Level studies students will also explore how dance can contribute in the development of character and original material to a sophisticated level.

Importantly for Musical Theatre performers it also uses sessions to integrate skills, rather than train separately, only to be brought together in the moment of performance. Instead the student is challenged to push the disciplines beyond this and examine how acting, singing and dance can be used in the rehearsal room as a way of developing character, narrative and story.

The MA programmes are designed to allow students to develop core skills through dedicated working over a period of time. The programmes also demand collaborative skills to be developed, working towards group assessment and activity. Students are therefore expected to attend all taught / timetabled sessions and a lack of attendance could result in students being removed from collaborative groups, or unable to achieve learning outcomes related to skills acquisition. Students in this position would be unable to complete the required assessments and would fail the module and therefore the programme. Students would be removed from the programme and would receive an appropriate exit award dependent on the amount of credits they have already achieved.

Aims

This module aims to develop the core performance skills of the Musical Theatre performer. These sessions will focus on the core disciplines of acting, ensemble singing and dance – developing strength and stamina through repetitive and developmental exercise. However, these sessions also further investigate and

explore the advanced aspects of these disciplines, developing character through body and voice, as well as advanced pedagogies.

In this module Musical Theatre Company students will be challenged to examine how acting, singing and dance skills work can be instrumental in the development of new work and characters – they will focus on the artistic output of these skills, as well as the promotion of healthy and effective voice and body use.

The module aims to:

1. Develop students' practical skills to an advanced level – exploring how acting, singing and dance training can be used in the creation of new work.
2. Explore acting, singing and dance pedagogy to an advanced level, expanding the student's knowledge of practice.
3. Encourage students to critically interrogate the connection between the theory and practice of a range of acting, ensemble singing and dance methodologies.
4. Further students' abilities to make positive, informed choices realisation of performance.
5. Promote healthy and sustainable voice and body use, integral to the emerging artist.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of this module, students will be able to:

Module learning outcome description

- LO1. Have advanced knowledge of key systems and techniques to employ within the rehearsal process.
 LO2. Use systematic approaches effectively in the creation of character or role.
 LO3. Adapt theory and techniques to the requirements of individual performance.
 LO4. Apply effective acting, singing and dance skills to a performance to an advanced level.

Learning and teaching methods

Students are taught in practical, studio based sessions which develop physical skills by repetition of core exercises and introduction of new concepts and pedagogies. All of these sessions are tutor lead where the tutor can immediately identify particular vocal or movement weaknesses with the student, and guide the student through the material. This coaching model is common in this kind of developmental practical work.

The nature of performance training is to develop physical and performative skills over long periods of time, similar to training for an elite athlete, and requires a large number of contact hours to prepare students for a highly competitive industry. It is in this module students learn these core skills, where we give time and dedicated support to allow for developmental skills acquisition – key to the musical theatre performer.

Contact hours and directed study (over semesters 1 and 2)

Delivery type	Student hours
Indicative hours for learning and teaching activities	192
Indicative hours of directed study	208
Total hours (100hrs per 10 credits)	400

Opportunities for formative feedback

Students will have opportunity throughout the module to receive feedback throughout their practical classes. This type of coaching feedback which relates directly to the practical application of the skill is commonplace in studio based practical classes such as this, and gives students a constant feedback loop which can be applied through practice and rehearsal.

Assessment Method

Description of assessment	Length/Duration	Weighting	Module LOs addressed
Industry Panel Assessment	TBC	50%	1,2, 3, 4
Group Performance	TBC	50%	1, 2, 4

Re-Assessment Method

Description of assessment	Length/Duration	Weighting	Module LOs addressed
Industry Panel Assessment	TBC	50%	1,2, 3, 4
Group Performance	TBC	50%	1, 2, 4

[Module resource lists are available via Key Links](#)