

Module Specification

Module Title: Group Musicianship

Module code:	X_DIR7C002R	NQF level:	7
Credit value:	20	Trimester of study:	2
Module type:	Compulsory	Pre-requisites:	None
Available to:	MA Musical Directing		

Module overview

Led at first by an external musical director and dramaturg, students will work with both actors and musicians to explore how music can support story in various forms of theatre - from musical theatre to plays to devised physical theatre - and the role of the musical director in doing so. Students will be introduced to a range of working practices and apply them to different stories - a fairy tale, a pantomime, a musical revue, a Shakespeare. They will learn both how to shape and support narratives, and how to effectively use the musicians, singers and actors in a multitude of ways to achieve various effects.

The primary focus is on developing arrangement skills in a rehearsal room, but areas include collaboration, leadership and developing the student's own working practices through practical realisation. Over the course of the module students will begin to fully lead classes, culminating in a piece to perform and be assessed on.

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 dependant on the amount of credits they have already achieved.

Aims

This module is designed to build upon collaborative musicianship skills in the generation of new work. Students will work with actor musicians, singers and musicians to shape arrangements to effectively enhance narrative in storytelling settings.

This module aims to:

1. Advance musical directors' abilities in how they teach and lead work with performers and musicians.
2. Develop their own personal practice in arrangement and orchestration in a rehearsal room setting.
3. Explore the various ways to enhance a story, narrative or mood through music.
4. Deepen knowledge of working methodologies in a practical collaborative setting.

Learning outcomes

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

1. Demonstrate advanced skills in arrangement and leading both performers and musicians to achieve shared goal.
2. Further their own creative practice as a Musical Director through practical collaboration.
3. Generate music that both enhances and supports narratives in performance
4. Work to a brief with a wide variety of performers in a collaborative setting.

Learning and teaching methods

Delivered through practical workshops initially led by a tutor and a musical director to guide and introduce various working practices. Students will then take over leading classes to replicate a professional rehearsal room. By working with both musicians and singers, musical directing students will be able to work in a variety of styles and with collaborators in various settings/setups.

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

Delivery type	Student hours
Indicative hours for learning and teaching activities	164
Indicative hours of directed study	36
Total hours (100hrs per 10 credits)	200

Opportunities for formative feedback

This is both a practical and research based module. As both Musical Directing students members will be consistently working on or performing work throughout this module, formative feedback is offered as part of an ongoing discussion of students work throughout the semester with tutors and peers on the programme.

Feedback tutorials are also embedded at the end of semester 1 and 2 to give students progressive feedback which they can continue to develop through embodied learning in the practical classes.

Assessment Method:

Description of assessment	Length/Duration	Weighting	Module LOs addressed
Solo Performance	tbc	100%	1,2,3,4

Re-Assessment Method

One of the following options

Description of assessment	Length/Duration	Weighting	Module LOs addressed
Solo Performance	20 minutes	100%	1,2,3,4
Process	tbc	100%	1,2,3,4

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