Module Specification

Module Title: Ensemble Devising

Module code:	HMADRA002	NQF level:	7
Credit value:	20	Trimester of study:	2
Module type:	Compulsory	Pre-requisites:	None
Available to:	MA Dramaturgy		

Module overview

Students will develop the breadth of their creative skill in producing new material in rehearsal with groups of actors. Sessions will be tutor-led, leading students through a range of methodologies and practical exercises to explore how to create narrative, develop story and character. As the sessions progress, students are given more opportunity to lead the sessions and explore personal narratives and ideas through devised work.

Students will explore techniques for generating new material through visual and aural storytelling and Dramaturgs in lecturers and observing/shadowing practical sessions. Dramaturgs will have opportunities to question and interrogate these processes with the performers to establish particular working practices appropriate to the group.

Dramaturgy and Performing students will actively work together to generate new material, exploring notions of communication between these various stakeholders in the devising process, which is supported by tutors. Dramaturgy students will draw upon learning in other areas - in particular Dramaturgy and Dramatic writing - to develop this work.

Aims

This module aims to develop key skills in creating devised material within an ensemble setting. The module also aims to provide opportunity for dramaturgs to explore potential performance material created from personal storytelling, narrative and experiences.

The module aims to:

1. Practically and academically explore ensemble practice and practitioners through shadowing of practical classes.
2. Apply skills in Dramaturgy with an ensemble company.
3. Develop core performance skills applicable to the dramaturg, in particular exploring how music and acting can be incorporated to performance material.
4. Explore collaborative working, in particular advanced communication and practical skills in developing new material in small companies.

Learning outcomes

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

LO1. Critically explore and analyse a range of existing ensemble practices and adapt these methodologies for their own purposes.
LO2. Explore advanced skills in dramaturgy and (where appropriate) dramatic writing and apply to the shaping and development of new performance material.
LO3. Communicate with collaborative artists and other creatives in the development of new work, and in explaining personal or complex ideas.
LO4. Curate research materials and methodologies appropriate to project work and apply appropriately.

Learning and teaching methods

The learning and teaching strategy is based on group learning through intensive studio work where interaction between learners and with tutors is continuous and feedback is instant to allow skills progression. Students will support these sessions with independent study in their particular areas.

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

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

Opportunities for formative feedback

Students will have opportunity throughout the module to receive peer feedback (FA1) on their ideas for development and will, as part of the module, be put into small working groups who can develop ideas together.

Assessment Method

Description of assessment	Length/Duration	Weighting	Module LOs addressed
Group Performance	10 Minutes	25	1,2,3
Viva Voce	20 Minutes	75	1,2,3,4

Re-Assessment Method

Description of assessment	Length/Duration	Weighting	Module LOs addressed
Group performance*	10 Minutes	25	1,2,3
Viva Voce	20 Minutes	75	1,2,3,4

- *If the student is unable to present the final performance with a group, they can perform solo, or work with one individual performer/creative*

Module resource lists are available via Key Links