

Module Specification

Module Title: Professional Studies 1 – Working in the Arts

Module code:	HBAMTH006	NQF level:	Level 4
Credit value:	20 credits	Semester of study:	1 and 2
Module type:	Compulsory	Pre-requisites:	None
Available to:	BA (Hons) Musical Theatre		

Module overview

In the first semester students will look at a variety of methods to record and reflect on their practical studies. These findings will culminate in creating online ‘actor in training’ portfolios using the conservatoire’s ePortfolio system. In weekly sessions students will look at examples of online portfolio material as well as have sessions with the L44ds Conservatoire TEL team. Subjects will also include aspects on ‘healthy performers’ addressing various issues such as mental and physical health, well-being, nutrition and injury prevention.

In the second semester students will be introduced to a number of theatre practitioners who work across the theatre industry. Within these sessions they will discuss the routes taken towards this work, as well as how the role interacts with the role of the performer. In these sessions the practitioner is also encouraged to reflect on their training and give examples of how they developed as part of their own reflection.

Aims

It is recognised that all theatre students need to be equipped with skills that maximise employability. Working in the Creative Industries is a module that supports the programme’s professional studies strand, and is designed to orientate the students with opportunities presented within the creative industries along with important skill sets that can be applied to further study.

This module looks to introduce students to the various roles involved in the theatre with a series of short masterclass lectures delivered by people working in these various roles across the industry. These classes should also act as inspiration for students beginning their study who are looking for wider application of the practical skills developed as part of the programme.

Throughout the module students are also encouraged to identify their personal strength and weaknesses in regards to their training and develop online portfolios of their progress throughout the year including recordings and written accounts. These portfolios are intended to form the basis of public online profiles in Year 2 and beyond.

The module aims to:

1. Introduce students to the professional framework and mechanisms of the Arts.
2. Introduce students to the various roles within the theatre industry.
3. Support the realisation of online portfolios exploring students training development.
4. Develop the students understanding of vocational training and see themselves as key to their personal practical development.

Learning outcomes

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

1. Understand the various roles available within the theatre industry.
2. Research and evaluate current theatre industry practices and practitioners and communicate this research reliably and accurately.

3. Identify personal strengths and weaknesses in relation to continued performance training.
4. Create material for online profiles which documents and reflects on students training.

Learning and teaching methods

Lectures

Students will explore these skills in large lecture-style sessions. The material provided will be relevant to students studying on the BA (Hons) Musical Theatre course as well as potentially the BA (Hons) Acting and Actor Musician courses. Therefore, opportunities to bring all groups together means all students can benefit from the masterclass session. It is anticipated that students will receive further support through the TEL team and individual tutorial sessions.

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

Delivery type	Student hours
Indicative hours for learning and teaching activities	30 hours
Indicative hours of directed study	170 hours
Total hours (100hrs per 10 credits)	200 hours

Students will undertake lecture/seminars for 1.5 hours per week for 20 weeks of the year

Opportunities for formative feedback

Students will receive formative assessment of their progress through the lecture series. This continuous feedback should allow learners to track their development of skills and knowledge whilst responding to constructive criticism from tutors. This will also support development of work for summative assessment(s) within the module.

Assessment Method

Description of assessment	Length/Duration	Weighting	Module LOs addressed
Theatre Case Study	1500 words	25%	1, 2
EPortfolio	3000 words	75%	3,4

Re-Assessment Method

Description of assessment	Length/Duration	Weighting	Module LOs addressed
Theatre Case Study	1500 words	25%	1, 2
EPortfolio	3000 words	75%	3,4

Indicative Reading List

Essential

- Nyman, A (2012) *The Golden Rules of Acting*: London: Nick Hern Books
- Burt, N. 2013. *Acting: Cut The Crap, Cue the Truth*. London: Oberon
- Scales, P. (2005) *So You Want to be an actor?* London: Nick Hern Books

Recommended

- Open University (2010) "Skills in Accessing, Finding and Reviewing Information", Safari, [online] Available from: <http://www.open.ac.uk/safari/>
- Cotterell, S. (2013) "Palgrave Study Skills", Palgrave Study Skills [online]. Available from: <http://www.palgrave.com/skills4study/>
- Taylor, S. (2010) "Internet for Music", 2nd edition, Intute Virtual Training Suite, [online]. Available from: <http://www.vts.intute.ac.uk/tutorial/music>

- Billingham, Vicky (2008) Project Management: How to Plan and Deliver a Successful Project Abergele: Studymates
- Davis, Richard, (2004), Becoming an Orchestral Musician: A Guide for Aspiring Professionals, Giles de la Mare
- Demers, Joanna, (2006) Steal This Music: How Intellectual Property Law Affects Musical Creativity, Georgia: University of Georgia Press
- Frith, Simon (ed) and Lee Marshall (ed) (2004) Music and Copyright, Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press
- Golding, C and R Hepworth-Sawyer (2010) What is Music Production? A producers guide, the role, the people, the process Burlington: Focal Press
- Harrison, Ann (2008) Music: The Business - The Essential Guide to the Law and the Deals London: Virgin Books
- Kusek, David, (2005) The Future of Music: Manifesto for the Digital Music Revolution London: Omnibus Press
- Nokes, Sebastian and Sean Kelly(2007) The Definitive Guide to Project Management: The Fast Track to Getting the Job Done on Time and on Budget Harlow: Prentice Hall
- Posner, Keith, (2008) Project Management Pocketbook Alresford: Management Pocketbooks
- Soocher, Styan (1998) They Fought the Law: Rock Music Goes to Court, New York: Shirmer