

## MODULE SPECIFICATION

### 1. KentVision Code and title of the module

NCA307 The Devised Performance

### 2. Division and School/Department or partner institution responsible for the module

National Centre for Circus Arts

### 3. The level of the module

Level 6

### 4. The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents

15 credits (7.5 ECTS)

### 5. Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)

Spring or Summer Term

### 6. Delivery of the module

#### 6.1. Mode of study

In person

#### 6.2. Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered

National Centre for Circus Arts

### 7. Prerequisite and co-requisite modules and/or any module restrictions

*n/a*

### 8. The course(s) of study to which the module contributes

BA (Hons) in Circus Arts

#### 8.1. The module is compulsory for the following courses

BA (Hons) in Circus Arts

#### 8.2. The module is optional for the following courses

*n/a*

### 9. A synopsis of the curriculum

In this module students will build on their previous experience of devising a piece for performance in the second year of the Degree in order to create a piece for public performance to professional standard. Students will be expected to apply all of their learning from across the Degree course to the process of creation from initial idea to performance.

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They will devise, rehearse and perform a devised piece using their circus discipline in a performance context. Students may create a piece alone, or may collaborate with another student (or students) in their year group. The module includes a series of presentations, all assessed as part of the process leading up to the performance of the piece, demonstrating progressive stages of a work in progress and culminating in a final presentation, the performance of a finished piece of work ready for production rehearsals. Assessors and teachers will provide feedback to students following each presentation.

Students are expected to take the lead in all elements of the process, including the direction of their discipline training (module NCA301 Circus Discipline 3) in the run up to performance. There will be no scheduled taught sessions for the creation and rehearsal of the piece other than presentations, technical rehearsals and performances – the student must manage this in their own time. Students will need to utilise the time they have scheduled for module NCA301 Circus Discipline 3 in order to rehearse with their discipline teachers, and to initiate opportunities to gain feedback from other members of staff / the production team as they feel is appropriate.

The module will conclude with a run of public performances, one of which will be assessed. Students will be expected to submit a risk assessment related to their piece/performance to demonstrate a professional level of understanding regarding health and safety protocols.

### 10. Contact Hours

Private Study: 75 hours

Contact Hours: 75 hours

Total: 150 hours

### 11. Learning and teaching methods

This module will be delivered via studio based physical coaching lessons and creative workshops

### 12. The intended subject specific learning outcomes

On successfully completing the module students will be able to:

12.1 Generate, research, manage and deliver a piece for performance demonstrating their understanding of a circus discipline and related skills, and how these can be used to devise a performance piece consistent with entry into the profession

12.2 Anticipate the requirements of a production/performance context – including lighting, staging, and costume – in preparation to present a professional level piece to a paying audience

12.3 Evidence in-depth research undertaken and demonstrate the application of that research to the process of creation and realisation of individual artistic areas of interest

12.4 Synthesize learning and skills acquired to shape and form ideas into a coherent finished product

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12.5 Select which feedback to respond to in light of their own artistic vision, and be able to articulate reasons for choices made during the creative process

12.6 Present a clear and a coherent work through performance, integrating a circus discipline with different performance and production elements

12.7 Perform to a professional standard, demonstrating focus, integrity and adaptability throughout

12.8 Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of health and safety issues related to their discipline/piece within a production setting

### 13. The intended generic learning outcomes

On successfully completing the module students will be able to:

13.1 Work effectively with a professional level of autonomy, assuming complete responsibility for their own creative process

13.2 Communicate their needs effectively in order to achieve their goals, taking into account the workloads and deadlines of others as well as their own

13.3 Manage a project from start to finish without any external supervision

13.4 Apply acquired knowledge to find creative solutions to problems during the process of devising and performing

### 14. Assessment Strategy

#### 14.1. Main assessment methods

Continuous assessment of a student's engagement with the devising process, including a series of presentations, makes up 40% of assessment for this module.

Assessment of each student during the final performance makes up 50% of the assessment for this module marked by an external assessor

A risk assessment must be submitted, making up 10% of assessment for the module.

Minimum attendance requirement for this module – for scheduled presentations and the production period – is 100%. All absences must be approved through concessions procedures. A first absence without concessionary approval will lead to a formal warning, and a second absence will lead to the student being withdrawn from the production and failing the module. An alternative project will be offered for retrieval.

Students must pass all elements of this module in order to ensure all learning outcomes have been met.

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**How the assessment methods outlined above fit with the course assessment strategy?**

### **Continuous assessment of Devising Process (40% of module grade)**

This aligns with the practical performances and problem-solving projects outlined in the strategy. It assesses students' technical proficiency, creativity, and ability to apply knowledge and skills to the devising process, reflecting real-world challenged in the circus profession. Regular feedback provided throughout the devising process enables students to track their progress, receive guidance for improvement, and actively engage in their development journey. It ensures continuous learning and improvement.

### **Assessment during Final Performance (50% of module grade)**

This corresponds to practical performance and collaborative productions outlined in the strategy. It evaluates students' technical proficiency, creativity and ability to perform at a professional level. The involvement of an external assessor ensures authenticity and alignment with academic standards fostering a fair assessment process.

### **Submission of a Risk Assessment (10% of module grade)**

This aligns with the submission of written work outlined in the strategy. It assesses students' ability to identify and mitigate risks, reflecting real-world challenges in the circus profession.

The inclusion of risk assessments as part of the assessment strategy caters to different learning styles and provides students with an opportunity to demonstrate their understanding of safety and risk management principals.

The assessment methods described effectively align with NCCA's assessment strategy, providing students with diverse opportunities to demonstrate their knowledge, skills, and understanding, receive timely feedback, and actively engage in their development as circus arts professionals. This approach supports a dynamic, inclusive and supportive learning environment conducive to student success and achievement of their full potential in circus arts.

## **15. Mapping of Learning Outcomes**

Map of module learning outcomes (sections 12 & 13) to learning and teaching methods (section 11) and methods of assessment (section 14).

### **15.1. Module learning outcomes against learning and teaching methods**

<b>Module learning outcome</b>	12.1	12.2	12.3	12.4	12.5	12.6	12.7	12.8	13.1	13.2	13.3	13.4
Studio Based Workshops and Rehearsals	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x		x
Private Study	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

### **15.2. Module learning outcomes against assessment methods**

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<b>Module learning outcome</b>	12.1	12.2	12.3	12.4	12.5	12.6	12.7	12.8	13.1	13.2	13.3	13.4
<i>Continuous Assessment of Process</i>	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	
<i>Assessment of performance</i>	x					x	x			x		
<i>Risk Assessment</i>		x						x				x

**All three assessments must be passed in order to pass this module.**

**16. Reading list**

NCCA is committed to ensuring that core reading materials are available in the NCCA library or in electronic format available on Microsoft Teams.

The most up to date reading list for each module can be found on the specific module Channel in TEAMS.

Bicat, T. & Baldwin, C. (Eds.), *Devised and Collaborative Theatre: a Practical Guide*. Marlborough: Crowood, 2002

Burrows, J., *A choreographer's handbook*. London: Routledge, 2010

Graham, S. & Hoggett, S. (2009). *Frantic Assembly book of Devising Theatre*. London: Routledge

**17. Inclusive module design**

The National Centre for Circus Arts recognises and has embedded the expectations of current equality legislation, by ensuring that the module is as accessible as possible by design. Additional alternative arrangements for students with Inclusive Learning Plans (ILPs)/declared disabilities will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with the relevant policies and support services.

The inclusive practices in the guidance (see Annex B Appendix A) have been considered in order to support all students in the following areas:

- a) Accessible resources and curriculum
- b) Learning, teaching and assessment methods

**18. Partner College/Validated Institution**

National Centre for Circus Arts

**19. University Division responsible for the course**

Division of Arts and Humanities

**MODULE SPECIFICATION****MODULE RECORD**

All revisions for this module are recorded in the table below for student and staff information.

Date approved	New/ Material/ Major/ Minor revision	Start date of delivery of this version	Applies to new cohorts and/ or existing students	Sections revised (if applicable)