



CORPORATE AND ACADEMIC SERVICES

MODULE SPECIFICATION

Part 1: Basic Data					
Module Title	Text and Context				
Module Code	UATALC-40-M	Level	M	Version	1
Owning Faculty	ACE/ Bristol Old Vic Theatre School	Field	Professional Acting		
Contributes towards	MA in Professional Acting				
UWE Credit Rating	40	ECTS Credit Rating	20	Module Type	Project
Pre-requisites	None		Co- requisites	None	
Excluded Combinations	None		Module Entry requirements		
Valid From	September 2012		Valid to	September 2018	

CAP Approval Date	12 th March 2012
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Part 2: Learning and Teaching	
Learning Outcomes	<p>On successful completion of this module students will be able to demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ an advanced practical understanding of contemporary methodology and praxis for the creation of character, ➤ an advanced practical understanding of approaches to the investigation of complex dramatic text from a variety of sources, including the classical British canon, for the purpose of developing character in performance, ➤ a practical and applied understanding of the structure of Shakespearean verse and its indicative performance qualities, ➤ an advanced ability to conduct detailed investigation of and background research for dramatic text from a variety of sources, including the classical British canon for the purpose of developing character in performance, ➤ creative problem solving in the context of developing scene work, ➤ an advanced ability to apply practical knowledge and research with creative approaches in order to attain original and informed character portrayal. ➤ an advanced ability to articulate the synthesis of physical and vocal preparation and acting methodology in the process of developing character in

	<p>performance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ an advanced practical performance ability to integrate his/her own psycho-physical resources with a detailed, accurate and coherent response to text, including complex and period text, ➤ an advanced practical ability to communicate to an audience expressively, confidently and with spontaneity within a variety of period styles and contexts, ➤ an advanced ability to apply critical thinking and to take full ownership of the methodology and praxis for the creation of original performance. <p>All learning outcomes are assessed by Component A, Element 1.</p> <p>In addition the educational experience may develop, and practise, but not formally discretely assess the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ an ability to work collaboratively to an advanced level, ➤ effective communication skills, ➤ an ability to problem solve creatively, both individually and as part of a team, ➤ work within highly disciplined parameters, ➤ an ability to work independently and to set his/her own schedule of work, ➤ imaginative empathic engagement.
Syllabus Outline	<p>This module is designed to develop within the actor a coherent, self-managed, flexible, methodological approach for text-based acting and to apply this approach to a variety of period and modern texts. The module is delivered through classes and tutorials emphasising an underpinning approach to creating performance from text, as well as a series of Text Project rehearsals designed to develop and test that approach against the demands of texts selected from various periods of the theatrical canon.</p> <p>During the course of this module, students participate in specialist classes in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Psycho-physical approaches to Acting; • Stage Craft; • Improvisation; • Classical Text. <p>In addition students participate in extended scheduled rehearsals preparing for workshop performances in a variety of period styles from the British and European canon, typically: Classical Greek or Early English, Shakespeare, Chekhov, Restoration, 19th/early 20th Century Comedy of Manners.</p>
Contact Hours/Scheduled Hours	<p>The MA in Professional Acting is delivered as a full time programme. Students are expected to be in attendance at the School for 40 hours a week for 40 weeks. For this module scheduled hours consist of a combination of; timetabled classes, tutorials, scheduled group work, and substantial rehearsal time over 5 Text projects. Hours devoted to the Text projects will amount to approximately 280 hours. In addition students spend several hours per week in private study.</p> <p>Tutors from the three disciplines: Acting, Movement, Voice will contribute to the delivering of the Text Projects, reflecting the integrated nature of the programme.</p>
Teaching and Learning Methods	<p>The syllabus for this module will be delivered through Terms 1 to 3, using a variety of teaching methods including: group exercises, group workshops, theatre visits, project rehearsal, and tutorials. Students will be encouraged to develop a coherent underpinning methodological approach and will receive practical guidance in their use of appropriate Acting Technique for the different theatrical genres.</p>

	<p>Students will be required to keep a reflective journal for Text projects 2-5. At the outset of each Text Project the student will be made aware that a concluding reflective tutorial with the Head of Course will form part of the assessment of the project. In addition written reflective journals, demonstrating an understanding of the synthesis of physical and vocal preparation and acting methodology in the process of developing character in performance will form part of the assessment for Projects 2-5.</p> <p>Scheduled learning includes lectures, tutorials, project supervision, practical classes and workshops;</p> <p>Independent learning includes hours engaged with essential reading, and assignment preparation.</p>
Reading Strategy	<p>Students are encouraged to become familiar with the subject area, and texts specific to the module, through reading lists and reference material provided. Lists are updated annually to maintain currency and relevance. Each department holds texts and reference material, as well as the general access provided to the School's library and access to the Internet. In addition, as attendees of a partner institution, students will have access to UWE library and online resources</p> <p>The specifically vocational nature of training and study, combined with the project based nature of learning on the course, may require that students are guided to reading and research material in the first instance by the module leader.</p>
Indicative Reading List	<p>The primary source for this module will be the texts or scripts specific to each exercise. In addition, students are encouraged to investigate a variety of practitioner approaches. The following support material is recommended:</p> <p>Merlin, Bella The Complete Stanislavski Toolkit Nick Hern Books 2007 Stafford-Clark, Max Letters to George Nick Hern Books 1990 Calderone, M & Lloyd-Williams, M The Actors' Thesaurus Nick Hern Books 2004 Mamet, David True and False Faber and Faber 1998 Donnelan, Declan The Actor and His Target Nick Hern Books 2005 Meisner, S & Longwell, D On Acting Random House 1987 Shakespeare, W.ed. Bate, J The Complete Works Modern Library 2007 Wells, Stanley Shakespeare and Co. Vintage, 2008 Barton, John Playing Shakespeare Methuen 1984 Rodenburg, Patsy Speaking Shakespeare Palgrave Macmillan 2004 Berry, Cicely The Actor and the Text Virgin, 2006 Aitkin, Maria Style: Acting in High Comedy Applause 2000</p>

Part 3: Assessment

Assessment Strategy	<p>Assessment for this module is based on Project performance with only one component of assessment. This component has only one element of assessment.</p> <p>Assessment is based on participation and performance in 5 Text Projects through Terms 1, 2 and the first part of Term 3. Assessment of rehearsal preparation and participation will be by the Project Director: assessment of final performance by a panel comprising a member from each of the Acting, Movement and Voice Departments.</p> <p>In addition the student will be invited to reflect on the process of performance creation in a concluding tutorial session with the Head of Course and through an assessed written journal for Projects 2-5.</p> <p>Equal weighting will be given to each of the 5 Text projects. Students receive feedback during preparation and after each performance from each of the departments. The project as a whole receives a single cumulative mark.</p>
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	<p>In assessing the student's work, attention will be given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstration of a developing ability to apply an underpinning methodological approach to acting with text, • Demonstration of an ability to meet the textual demands of the particular period or genre. • Demonstration of an ability to reflect on process and performance.
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Identify final assessment component and element		
% weighting between components A and B (Standard modules only)	A:	B:
	100%	
First Sit		
Component A (controlled conditions) Description of each element	Element weighting	
1. Completion of 5 Text Projects	100%	
Component B Description of each element	Element weighting	
1.		
2.(etc)		

Resit (further attendance at taught classes is not required)		
Component A (controlled conditions) Description of each element	Element weighting	
1. Completion of 5 Text Projects	100%	
Component B Description of each element	Element weighting	
1.		
2.(etc)		
<p>If a student is permitted an EXCEPTIONAL RETAKE of the module the assessment will be that indicated by the Module Description at the time that retake commences.</p>		