1. The title of the module:

Working with the Body (CA102)

2. The School which will be responsible for management of the module:

Circus Space Degree Programme

3. The Start Date of the Module

This revised version will run from: Autumn Term 2010 (Original Specification: 2005)

4. The cohort of students (onwards) to which the module will be applicable:

2010-2012

5. The number of students expected to take the module:

20 - 24

6. Modules to be withdrawn on the introduction of this proposed module and consultation with other relevant Schools and Faculties regarding the withdrawal:

N/A

7. The level of the module (e.g. Certificate [C], Intermediate [I], Honours [H] or Postgraduate [M])

Certificate [C]

8. The number of credits which the module represents

55

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

To be taught and assessed over three terms, with an interim grade awarded each term. The final grade will be the average of the three interim grades.

10. Prerequisite and co-requisite modules:

None

11. The programmes of study to which the module contributes:

Foundation Degree in Circus Arts
12. The intended subject specific learning outcomes and, as appropriate, their relationship to programme learning outcomes

The following outcomes are all specific to the programme outcomes:

The student will acquire:

An understanding of the physical abilities required as a competent circus performer. Not only acrobatic or similar physical abilities but also those heightened by the practice of dance and physical theatre.

The student will also be able to demonstrate an understanding of how general physical conditioning is essential to the overall well being of a circus performer as well as how different types of specific conditioning can benefit the practice of different circus disciplines such as aerial activities or propulsion activities.

The student will also acquire an autonomous approach to conditioning and stretching, first through supervised sessions and finishing the module with student-led or autonomous sessions. The analysis of different warm-up or stretching regimes depending on the activities planned for a specific period of training will also be studied.

Finally students will be able to monitor and evaluate their progress through the use of regular feedback sessions and the completion of self-evaluation feedback forms.

13. The intended generic learning outcomes and, as appropriate, their relationship to programme learning outcomes

The following outcomes are all specific to the programme outcomes:

The student will be given the opportunities to develop:

The ability to autonomously manage a training and practice regime. This implies an understanding of the Health and Safety implications of specific training situations while at the same time possessing the ability to analyse personal physical or creative needs at any given time.

14. A synopsis of the curriculum

This module will help the student to utilise and develop a personal conditioning regime and a basic technical skill level appropriate to their individual needs or that of the discipline they wish to perform.

This module is the backbone of the entire First Year of the course and carries with it an emphasis on the mechanics of physical training, their benefits and their correct application. This emphasis will be mostly practical and will involve daily training in the different aspects of this module. Physical preparation classes, movement sessions and theatre workshops will be complemented by a series of anatomy, physiology, diet
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and nutrition lectures. Students will learn how to prepare themselves for the specific physical requirements within both the rehearsal process and the context of performance. This will also enable students to undertake risk assessment and to identify safe working practice. By the end of the course, students should be able to undertake much of their physical maintenance autonomously.

15. **Indicative Reading List**

   N/A

16. **Learning and Teaching Methods, including the nature and number of contact hours and the total study hours which will be expected of students, and how these relate to achievement of the intended learning outcomes**

   The module is comprised of 800 hours of study distributed throughout the entire 38 weeks of the first three terms of the course. This is roughly divided into 600 hours of tutor-led sessions with an expected 200 hours of independent study undertaken by the student. The main objective being that by the end of the First Year of the course, the student is capable of maintaining a training regime and of initiating basic creative exercises autonomously.

   Learning and Teaching methods to be used will be:
   - Practical tutor-led sessions in Physical Preparation, Movement and Theatre
   - Lectures and seminars in nutrition, anatomy, physiology, risk assessment and other topics complementary to the practice of circus arts.

17. **Assessment methods and how these relate to testing achievement of the intended learning outcomes**

   A minimum attendance rate of 80% is required. Failure to achieve a minimum of 80% in this module will result in a Fail (F-).

   Assessment procedures and internal weightings are as follows:

   **Autumn Term**

   Students will undertake circus related activities and physical preparation. Continuous assessment of the physical development of the student is undertaken across the whole term.

   Movement and Theatre objectives will each be assessed separately and will also be assessed in the Autumn Term:
   - **Physical Preparation assessment is weighted at 30% of the grade**
   - **Movement assessment is weighted at 35% of the grade**
   - **Theatre assessment is weighted at 35% of the grade**

   **Spring Term**
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Students will have to provide a plan for a specific warm-up and stretch-down regime devised for a specific training session. The student will then run a practical session based on the plan.

**Assessment of the plan/ practical session will be the only assessment undertaken in this module for this term.**

**Summer Term**

Students will have proceeded with a choice of specialist circus discipline (this choice having been made only after consultation and agreement from the Degree teaching staff).

**Continuous assessment of the specific circus discipline will be the only assessment undertaken in this module for this term.**

The final grade for the module will be the average of the three term grades.

Retrieval:

The student may only retrieve this module by repeating the year in the following academic year, subject to physiotherapist assessment and partial reaudition. Students who do not meet the minimum attendance requirement for any given term will automatically receive a fail grade for that term within this module. Two terms failed for attendance reasons will result in an automatic fail and the student will be required to leave the School.

There is one opportunity for retrieval. Retrieved Modules will be capped at the pass mark (D-)

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18. **Implications for learning resources, including staff, library, IT and space**

None

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19. **The Collaborative Partner (Circus Space) recognises and has embedded the expectations of current disability equality legislation, and supports students with a declared disability or special educational need in its teaching. Within this module we will make reasonable adjustments wherever necessary, including additional or substitute materials, teaching modes or assessment methods for students who have declared and discussed their learning support needs. Arrangements for students with declared disabilities will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with Collaborative Partner’s disability/dyslexia support service, and specialist support will be provided where needed.**