1. **Title of the module**
   LAMDA 809– Skills 2: The Assistant Director

2. **School or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module**
   London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art

3. **Start date of the module**
   September 2014

4. **The number of students expected to take the module**
   4 – 8

5. **Modules to be withdrawn on the introduction of this proposed module and consultation with other relevant Schools and Faculties regarding the withdrawal**
   Not applicable

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

7. **The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents**
   30 Credits

8. **Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)**
   Spring and summer term

9. **Prerequisite and co-requisite modules**
   All modules of the programme have to be taken to achieve the award.

10. **The programmes of study to which the module contributes**
    MA in Directing

11. **The intended subject specific learning outcomes**
    On successful completion of this module, students will have developed:
    - An understanding of the strategies required to support the work of a director
      A1, 3, 6, B3, 5, C2, 4, 5, 8, 9, D1, 2
    - The ability to demonstrate analytical skills in relation to contextual script analysis in live or recorded media
      A2, 3, 4, B3, 5, 6, C2, 4, 9, D5
    - Their knowledge and understanding of working with actors on a given production, as appropriate
      A4, 5, 6, B, 3, 5, C4, 5, 8, 9 D1, 2, 3
    - The ability to work effectively and co-operatively within a company situation
      A4, 5, 6, B3, 5, 6, C4, 5, 8, 9, D1, 2, 3, 4
    - Their comprehensive understanding of the role of the director
      A1, 3, 4, 5, 6, B5, 6, C5, 8, D1, 2
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- The ability to work independently with actors as required by the director in live and recorded media
  A2, 4, 5, 6, B5, 6, C2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, D1, 2, 3, 4
- The ability to produce professionally prepared scripts for live and recorded media
  A2, 3, B5, 6, C2, D4, 5, 6
- Their understanding of the application of appropriate acting techniques
  A5, 6, B5, 6, C2, 4, 5, 8, D1, 2, 3

12. The intended generic learning outcomes
On successful completion of the module, students will have developed:
- Their ability to use IT and research skills to produce relevant research material to support the production
  D5
- The ability to contribute to the creative process as appropriate to the circumstances
  A1, 4, 5, 6, B1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, C4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, D1, 2, 3, 4, 6
- Their ability to use communication skills effectively
  A1, 4, 5, B3, 5, 6, C4, 5, 8, D1, 2, 3
- Their confidence in using critical evaluations of the working methods employed
  A4, 5, 6, B, 5, 6, C2, 5, 8, D6
- Their ability to use critical and reflective skills in the observation of process
  A1, 4, B3, 6, C2, 5, 8, D1

13. A synopsis of the curriculum

The emphasis of practice-based analysis and vocational training-based research necessitates that the curriculum content of the module is listed as a summary of subject areas studied, as opposed to lecture/seminar titles.

Students are expected to engage in participation and subsequent critical evaluation of these activities, a process that promotes M-level work as appropriate to the subject discipline.

The curriculum for this module covers the following foci:
- **Students are attached to four public productions; two in spring term and two in summer term, one of which may be a short film**
- **Working on four public productions, one of which may be a short film**
  - Producing contextual research material
  - Observing and evaluating the rehearsal process  (replicating a practice as found in industry)
  - Assisting the director with the rehearsal process as appropriate
  - Applying appropriate acting techniques through the use of observation and reflective practice
  - Reflecting in tutor-led seminars to examine on-going observation and sharing of practice
  - Keeping a student video diary

14. Indicative Reading List

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 module learning outcomes.

The content of this module is delivered as follows:

- Attending throughout the production period from first rehearsal to closing night (theatre)
- Attending throughout the production period from first read-through to final shooting (film)
- Working with visiting artist practitioners
- Attending all meetings in respect to artistic, technical production and performances
- Noting the rehearsals and performances with/for a director
- Participating in tutor-led seminars

This module is spread across two terms with the student completing two attachments to public production (including one film) in each term. Guided by the course tutor, students choose which productions they wish to work on from the range of plays and short films being produced as part of the public repertoires.

The intention is to allow student directors to gain experience gradually and, as their professional awareness and competence develops, to take a more active role in supporting the work of the director of a production.

Visiting and ‘in-house’ directors are briefed by the course tutor prior to the commencement of each placement as to what to expect from their assistant directors and what they may ask them to do in order to facilitate their growth. For example: during the first attachment the expectation is that the role will be one of observation and critical engagement with the artistic process used by the director and a reflection on the impact of the various rehearsal techniques employed. By the time the student is working on his/her fourth placement it is expected that students will be working with a deeper level of understanding and technical ability and taking a greater level of responsibility; to be able to reflect on the choices being made and offer workable alternative ideas if appropriate.

Each engagement with a director will call for different working methods and for the student director to adapt to the stylistic requirements of the production. Students will need to develop proactive working practices and, as part of this process, are required to make ‘first contact’ with their respective director.

As part of the ongoing critical engagement throughout these placements student directors will have weekly tutor-led seminars to discuss and reflect on their observations. They will be asked to keep a production log in which to capture key observations of process and at the end of the module use these reflections to write a 2000 word module log that represents the observations of what has been learned across the four placements.

At the end of each placement the director will be asked to hold a de-briefing session with their assistant to discuss their experience, offer suggestions for future growth and practice and submit a report to the course tutor.

This module comprises of approximately 800 hours of study broken down as follows:

- 780 hours of rehearsal attendance across four productions in the term
- 20 hours of tutor led seminars
The hours/credit ratio for this module is based on student directors needing to immerse themselves in the diversity of roles and tasks associated with working as an Assistant Director. As such, an extensive presence at rehearsals is required in recognition of the subject-specific training required.

It should be noted that the rehearsal hours indicated above are an estimated average according to the needs of given productions.

16. Assessment methods and how these relate to testing achievement of the intended module learning outcomes

Assessment is made according to the University of Kent’s assessment scheme, and its available percentage grades. The criteria applied are as outlined in LAMDA’s postgraduate assessment form which identifies the competencies of student work according to the appropriate classifications.

All first marking is undertaken by the director of the production, and second marking is provided by either the Head of Department of the relevant discipline, or a staff tutor involved in delivering this module.

All marks are moderated in the end-of-term Heads of Department meeting, which is attended by the Vice Principal, the Head of the Drama School, the Heads of Department for Acting, Movement, Screen and Audio, and Music, as well as the Head of Studies. First and second marking procedures follow the regulations as set out by the University of Kent.

Students keep a module log, which forms the basis for their tutorials. Analytical understanding will be evidenced through bullet pointed observations and evaluations, as appropriate to the production process observed. All module-specific learning outcomes listed under 11) are applicable to the successful completion of this module.

The module mark consists of a grade awarded in recognition of the quality of observations documented in the module log (50% of module mark) and the student contribution to the weekly tutorials (50% of module mark).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Word count or equivalent</th>
<th>Percentage of assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Module log</td>
<td>2000 words</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tutorial contributions</td>
<td>On-going critical evaluations of the work observed</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

By successfully completing this module students are expected to demonstrate ‘mastery of a specialized area of knowledge and skills’, indicative of their ability to engage effectively in a professional activity, thereby accepting accountability for related decision making, including use of supervision’ (QAA Credit Framework 2008, level 7 descriptor, p.19)

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

Students have access to a number of teaching and rehearsal spaces that are appropriately equipped for the classes/ rehearsals/ workshops/ tutorials/ presentations. IT facilities include a designated computer room for use by students, and free Wi-Fi in LAMDA’s building at 155 Talgarth Road. There is also a library with a broad range of texts and text books, as well as access to digital resources via an Athens log-in service.

Staffing for this course consists of the course leader (LAMDA’s Vice-Principal), the Academy’s Heads of Department for Acting, Movement, Music and Voice, as well as current sessional staff who are teaching on LAMDA’s Fd in Professional Acting, the BA (Hons) in Professional Acting, the Fd in
Stage Management, and the MA in Classical Acting. All the above courses are validated by the University of Kent.

Pastoral support is co-ordinated by the Registrar, and academic study support is provided by the Head of Studies.

The module tutor is LAMDA's Vice Principal and Head of Acting. Additional subject-specific teaching as required by this module is delivered by a Production Director, as appropriate.

18. The Collaborative Partner 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 the Collaborative Partner’s disability/dyslexia support service, and specialist support will be provided where needed.

19. Campus(es) where module will be delivered:

LAMDA, 155 Talgarth Road, London, W14 9DA

20. Partner College/Validated Institution:

London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art (LAMDA), 155 Talgarth Road, London, W14 9DA

21. University School responsible for the programme: School of Arts

SECTION 2: MODULE IS PART OF A PROGRAMME OF STUDY IN A UNIVERSITY SCHOOL

Statement by the School Director of Learning and Teaching/School Director of Graduate Studies (as appropriate): "I confirm I have been consulted on the above module proposal and have given advice on the correct procedures and required content of module proposals"

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Director of Learning and Teaching/Director of Graduate Studies (delete as applicable) Date

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Print Name

Statement by the Head of School: "I confirm that the School has approved the introduction of the module and, where the module is proposed by School staff, will be responsible for its resourcing"

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Head of School Date

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Print Name
SECTION 3: MODULE IS PART OF A PROGRAMME IN A PARTNER COLLEGE OR VALIDATED INSTITUTION

(Where the module is proposed by a Partner College/Validated Institution)

Statement by the Nominated Officer of the College/Validated Institution (delete as applicable): "I confirm that the College/Validated Institution (delete as applicable) has approved the introduction of the module and will be responsible for its resourcing"

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Nominated Responsible Officer of Partner College/Validated Institution

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Print Name

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Post

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Partner College/Validated Institution

Module Specification Template
Last updated February 2013