1. **Title of the module**  
   Specialisation Assessments – CA110

2. **School or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module**  
   National Centre for Circus Arts

3. **The level of the module (e.g. Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)**  
   Level 4

4. **The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents**  
   10 credits (5 ECTS)

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

6. **Prerequisite and co-requisite modules**  
   Preparing for Circus

7. **The programmes of study to which the module contributes**  
   Foundation Degree in Circus Arts

8. **The intended subject specific learning outcomes.**  
   **On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**
   
   8.1 Conduct research into the practice and development of a variety of circus disciplines and present the outcome of that research
   
   8.2 Experiment physically, learning basic circus skills and using a variety of equipment, in order to reach conclusions and make informed decisions
   
   8.3 Demonstrate an understanding of their potential suitability – physically, psychologically and creatively – for specific areas of circus training
   
   8.4 Identify obstacles to their future practice and use this knowledge to make informed choices
   
   8.5 Begin to identify the boundaries of their personal abilities and the importance of lifelong learning and ongoing professional development in the career of a circus artist
   
   8.6 Begin to identify essential health and safety issues related to circus training

9. **The intended generic learning outcomes.**  
   **On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**
   
   9.1 Undertake independent investigation and retrieve and manage information
   
   9.2 Apply the knowledge gained from independent research to make informed choices about their own learning path
   
   9.3 Communicate effectively in both interview and verbal presentation situations
9.4 Take and respond positively to feedback, and demonstrate negotiation skills

10. A synopsis of the curriculum

In this module students undergo the process of selecting their specialist circus discipline which will then be the focus for their discipline training undertaken in the summer term as part of the module ‘Preparing for Circus’, and the module ‘Circus Discipline Level 1’ completed in the second year of the Foundation Degree. The module provides students with the opportunity to research and experience a various range of appropriate circus disciplines. At the end of the module, students will have gained insight and knowledge that will allow them to make a more informed and positive choice of their area of circus specialisation. Students will be challenged to discover new discipline areas as well as re-evaluate any preconceptions they may have in relation to those previously experienced. The final discipline choice will be made in conjunction with members of staff, from a good understanding of the student’s physical and psychological strengths and weaknesses, as well as their creative motivations. The choice of disciplines by students across the year group will also need to be balanced against available resources, and where the number of students who wish to undertake a specific discipline outweighs the resource available, selection will be based on the students who show the greatest potential to reach the required level in that specific discipline in the time available on the programme (this process is outlined in more detail in the student handbook, available to both current and prospective students on the National Centre website).

For students who have entered the course on a conditional discipline choice (for example Juggling Strand students) the module provides the opportunity to reflect on their prior learning and how they reached their current specialisation choice, as well as their progress on the course to date. It also allows them to elaborate on the possibilities for personal development within the discipline that they currently practice, which will then serve as a basis for the setting of technical objectives throughout the rest of the year. They will be challenged to investigate the range of variations open to them within their specific discipline. These students will already be undertaking classes in their specialisation, the experience of which will contribute to the assignment.

11. Reading List (Indicative list, current at time of publication. Reading lists will be published annually)

Students will be expected to undertake research into a circus discipline of their choice – there are no set readings for this module. Much of the research will be undertaken through investigation into visual media, widely available online and in the digital archive collection available in the National Centre library.

12. Learning and Teaching methods

Studio based tutor led workshops: 40 hours approx.
These will address learning outcomes 8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 8.5, 8.6 and 9.4

Presentations and interviews: 10 hours approx.
These will address learning outcomes 8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 8.5, 8.6, 9.1, 9.2, 9.3 and 9.4

Independent study: 50 hours approx.
These will address learning outcomes 8.1, 8.3, 8.4, 8.5, 8.6, 9.1 and 9.2

Total Study Hours: 100 hours
13. **Assessment methods.**

For students who have not entered the course on a conditional discipline choice (the majority of students), continuous assessment of the process each student undergoes in order to reach the final decision regarding their circus discipline (evidenced through interviews and presentations at various points during the module) makes up 100% of assessment for this module.

Students who have entered the course on a conditional discipline choice (e.g. Juggling Strand students) will be assessed by means of a written assignment, reflecting on the journey undertaken to reach their current specialisation, and how they have met the various learning outcomes of the module through their personal development as an aspiring circus artist both before and during their time on the Foundation Degree.

In each case the method of assessment will address all of the learning outcomes of the module.

A minimum attendance rate of 80% is required in order for students to receive a pass grade for this module.

14. **Map of Module Learning Outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to Learning and Teaching Methods (section 12) and methods of Assessment (section 13)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module learning outcome</th>
<th>8.1</th>
<th>8.2</th>
<th>8.3</th>
<th>8.4</th>
<th>8.5</th>
<th>8.6</th>
<th>9.1</th>
<th>9.2</th>
<th>9.3</th>
<th>9.4</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Learning/teaching method</td>
<td>Hours allocated</td>
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<td>Studio based tutor-led workshops</td>
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<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentations and interviews</td>
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<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Independent Study</td>
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<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
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<td>X</td>
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<td>Assessment method</td>
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<td>Continuous Assessment of process of discipline selection (or reflective assignment for students with a conditional discipline choice)</td>
<td></td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
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15. **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 University's/Collaborative Partner's (delete as applicable) disability/dyslexia student support service, and specialist support will be provided where needed.

16. **Campus(es) or Centre(s) where module will be delivered:**
   National Centre for Circus Arts

17. **Partner College/Validated Institution:**
   National Centre for Circus Arts

18. **University School responsible for the programme:**
   School of Arts

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Revision record – all revisions must be recorded in the grid and full details of the change retained in the appropriate committee records.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date approved</th>
<th>Major/minor revision</th>
<th>Start date of the delivery of revised version</th>
<th>Section revised</th>
<th>Impacts PLOs (Q6&amp;7 cover sheet)</th>
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