UNIVERSITY OF KENT

Confirmation that this version of the module specification has been approved by the School Learning and Teaching Committee:
27th May 2015
………………………………………………….(date)

MODULE SPECIFICATION

1. Title of the module
   Dance Technique and Performance 1 (UGCD42)

2. School or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module
   London Contemporary Dance School

3. Start date of the module
   September 2015

4. The number of students expected to take the module
   50

5. Modules to be withdrawn on the introduction of this proposed module and consultation with other relevant Schools and Faculties regarding the withdrawal
   UGCD11 Introductory Technique

6. The level of the module
   4

7. The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents
   20 ECTS-10

8. Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)
   Terms 1, 2 & 3

9. Prerequisite and co-requisite modules
   Ballet in Context 1, Fundamental Approaches to Movement, Composition, Introduction to Critical Studies, Improvisation 1, Design for Performance

10. The programmes of study to which the module contributes
    BA (hons) Contemporary Dance

11. The intended subject specific learning outcomes

BA1 Dance Technique and Performance (v. March 2015)
On successful completion of the module students will be able to demonstrate:

11.1 an awareness of the principles of different contemporary dance techniques
11.2 confident retention and application of kinaesthetic information
11.3 application of basic dance technique to learned sequences of movement
11.4 comprehension of the connection between movement, rhythm and music
11.5 an emerging attention to detail
11.6 increasing confidence and critical understanding of contemporary dance techniques
11.7 application of technical ability to performance
11.8 an informed approach to working within a dance and performance environment
11.9 informed creative decision-making as part of the process of creation

12 The intended generic learning outcomes
On successful completion of the module students will be able to demonstrate:

12.1 responsibility for their own learning
12.2 self-motivated application in daily studies
12.3 the ability to reflect on their own progress
12.4 basic observation skills
12.5 constructive contributions to group working processes

13 A synopsis of the curriculum
In this module students will encounter daily practice in dance classes from a range of contemporary dance techniques such as Cunningham, Flying-low and release-based work. Students enter the course from a wide variety of educational and dance training backgrounds, therefore the aim of this first year module is to ensure that all students learn how to take an in depth approach to understanding contemporary dance technique and apply that understanding through the clarity of their performance of the material. Through daily practice students will be taught to understand, respect and take responsibility for their idiosyncratic physical structure and embodiment in order that they work with attention to their own physical wellbeing. This gives students the foundation of good practice within contemporary dance technique.
In all technique classes students are guided towards achieving and maintaining efficient alignment during stationary work as well as whilst in motion. Through the material given, students are encouraged to commit to, and take pleasure in movement, respecting anatomical, physiological and biomechanical principles, the orientation of one to oneself and to space. Emphasis is on the pragmatic use of energy appropriate to the movement.

As performers students will explore playfulness, spontaneity and responsiveness, and will focus on an awareness of sensory information to both instigate and to learn movement, and to ensure a sense of listening to the group or partner.

Through participation in directed improvisation, the learning of set material and the creation of a series of compositional studies, students will be encouraged to find imaginative solutions to movement problems. The module will explore playfulness, spontaneity and responsiveness, and will focus on an awareness of sensory information to both initiate and to learn movement, and to ensure a sense of listening to the group or partner.

Through participation in directed improvisation, the learning of set material and the creation of a series of compositional studies, students will be encouraged to find imaginative solutions to movement problems.

Throughout the module Students are expected to develop an ability to self-reflect in order to obtain ownership of their learning process. Continuous assessment happens over terms 2 and 3. Term 1 is unassessed to give students the opportunity to experience learning free of assessment in their first term at the school. Areas that will be continuously assessed include: understanding of class principles; focus, concentration and commitment; energy and physicality; musicality; developmental progress and continuous engagement.

During term 2 students take part in an observed practical class which is watched by a panel drawn from across the technical faculty and the Director of Studies. Group feedback is then given directly to the students. Following this students have a mid-term tutorial with their lead teacher. Both the observed class and the tutorial contribute to manner in which students reflect of their practice and progress and their final grade. At the end of term 2 students receive an indicative continuous grade and report after which tutorials are again available. In term 3 the assessment procedure is the same with the addition of an assessed class at the end of the term.

14 Indicative Reading List


15 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

Supervised studio-based work: 200 (this will address learning outcomes: 11.1, 11.2, 11.3, 11.4, 11.5, 11.6, 11.7, 11.8, 11.9, 12.1, 12.2, 12.3, 12.4, 12.5)

**Total Learning Hours: 200**

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

Continuous assessment in dance technique and performance in terms 2 and 3 - 70%: this will address learning outcomes 11.1, 11.2, 11.3, 11.4, 11.9, 12.1, 12.2, 12.3, 12.4, 12.5

**Note on Continuous Assessment:** This is designed to assure and evaluate the student’s ongoing engagement with the course and aptitude for embodied knowledge/cognition. Students will receive clear criteria for this assessment at the beginning of the modules concerned.

An assessed contemporary technique class (90 minutes) 30%: (this will address learning outcomes 11.5, 11.6, 11.7, 11.8)

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

The module will be resourced through existing school resources.

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) or Centre(s) where module will be delivered:

London Contemporary Dance School

20 Partner College/Validated Institution:

London Contemporary Dance School

21 University School responsible for the programme:

School of Arts