

Module Specification

Module Title: Acting Skills - Movement

Module code:	X_SHR4C001A	NQF level:	Level 4
Credit value:	20 credits	Semester of study:	1 and 2
Module type:	Compulsory	Pre-requisites:	None
Available to:	BA (Hons) Acting, BA (Hons) Actor Musician		

Module overview

- Technique Classes and workshops focusing on the fundamental components of movement, including: space, weight, momentum, rhythm, tension, expression and balance.
- Projects and class-based tasks include objective studies of movement (e.g. through observation of animals, humans and uses of the body in space). Emphasis for this work will be placed on playfulness and energetic exploration through creative play and improvisation.
- General fitness and conditioning practices for actors: flexibility, stamina, alignment and strength.
- Introductory dance classes establish basic physical technique and body awareness for actors; enabling them to develop the skills required for multi-disciplinary performance.
- Devising classes will introduce students to a range of approaches and strategies for creating and refining movement work, including solos, duets, and ensemble pieces.
- Subject specific reflective practice is expressed in the Reflective Practice Journal, hosted in the module Artist in Development: Self as an Artist.

Aims

This skills module is designed to introduce students to a range of specialist tools to work physically as actors. Classes introduce the fundamental skills associated with movement training, support the development of individualised warm up techniques and develop physical ensemble practice and devising skills.

Individual sessions are designed to encourage students to free and strengthen the body, to communicate physical story and understanding of the basics of dance. Each strand of the module is designed to support the actor in their ability to create a character's physical life.

The module aims to:

1. Enable students to achieve an understanding of movement technique as a core part of Actor training.
2. Enable students to understand and develop their bodies as conditioned instruments of expression.
3. Enhance students' abilities to effectively communicate using the body.
4. Provide students with practical understanding of the rigours and demands of physical theatre and ensemble practice.
5. Introduce students to a breadth of movement/dance techniques and ensemble movement languages.

Learning outcomes

On successful completion of this module, students will be able to:

1. Create a personal daily practice and design physical warmups in response to given performance contexts.

2. Develop a technical understanding of your own body, including physical tensions and create a personal strategy for development.
3. Create character and sustain dramatic narrative through physical performance.

Learning and teaching methods

This module will be delivered through technique classes, dance choreography and conditioning classes, devised movement classes, projects and research, independent learning and tutorials.

Contact hours and directed study (over semesters 1 and 2)

Delivery type	Student hours
Indicative hours for learning and teaching activities	144
Indicative hours of directed study	56
Total hours (100hrs per 10 credits)	200 hours

Opportunities for formative feedback

Students will examine their own physicality and ability to communicate through physical performance including the identification of personal tensions, blocks and areas of development. Students will create a plan for development in conjunction with their tutors.

As a practical subject, formative feedback is continuously offered as part of an ongoing dialogue between tutor and student. This process allows for feedback/feedforward in the moment, when it is most valuable and impactful.

In conclusion of Semester 1, dance and movement teachers provide feedback to be communicated to the student through 1-1 tutorial. This informs the student of their progress towards learning outcome attainment and is an opportunity to agree planned development. Should it be necessary to host a tutorial at an earlier juncture, in response to performance, acting staff can schedule an additional meeting.

Assessment Method

Description of assessment	Length/Duration	Weighting	Module LOs addressed
Performance	4 – 10 minutes	100%	1, 2, 3

Re-Assessment Method

Description of assessment	Length/Duration	Weighting	Module LOs addressed
Performance #	4 – 10 minutes	100%	1, 2, 3

In instances where an alternative/secondary performance for the affected group cannot be arranged, students will be given an equivocal performance assessment, typically a solo movement performance task, which enables them to demonstrate attainment of Learning Outcomes 1, 2, 3.

[Module resource lists are available via Key Links](#)