

MODULE SPECIFICATION

1. KentVision Code and title of the module

NCA106 Circus from the Technical Perspective

2. Division and School/Department or partner institution responsible for the module

National Centre for Circus Arts

3. The level of the module

Level 4

4. The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents

5 credits (2.5 ECTS)

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

Autumn and Spring Terms

6. Delivery of the module

6.1. Mode of study

In person

6.2. Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered

National Centre for Circus Arts

7. Prerequisite and co-requisite modules and/or any module restrictions

n/a

8. The course(s) of study to which the module contributes

BA (Hons) in Circus Arts

8.1. The module is compulsory for the following courses

BA (Hons) in Circus Arts

8.2. The module is optional for the following courses

n/a

9. A synopsis of the curriculum

This module focuses on safety specific to circus disciplines and performances. In this module students will learn the basic skills and tools required to stay safe in any circus/performance environment. This module will give students the ability to work with methods and thought processes used by circus technical departments in aspects of the rigging and maintenance of their own equipment and much of the circus equipment used

MODULE SPECIFICATION

within an ensemble context. Students will learn to identify and assess risk as well as format and document how risk is mitigated through clear and appropriate control measures. Students will learn the language attached to working in a technical capacity and have the confidence to ensure technical needs can be met. Students will have lectures and practical sessions in the following areas:

- Knots and Lifting System / Paging. This covers an intro to basic knots, rigging equipment, the difference between paging, lunging and lifting systems, and how to use them.
- 1:1 and 3:1 lifting systems
- Use of ratchets/Mailions/Karabiners
- Practical rigging of Chinese pole and associated equipment such as strap ratchets
- Discussing regulations, equipment markings and loadings for circus use
- Risk assessments

Students will be continuously assessed in their ability to tie knots, rig aerial equipment, set trampolines etc. Students will also be required to complete risk assessments, technical specifications and method statements.

10. Contact Hours

Private Study: 35 hours

Contact Hours: 15 hours

Total: 50 hours

11. Learning and teaching methods

This module will be delivered via lectures, seminars and workshops

12. The intended subject specific learning outcomes

On successfully completing the module students will be able to:

12.1 Clearly identify the technical equipment associated within the circus environment and demonstrate appropriate understanding of their use and application.

12.2 Demonstrate a clear working understanding of health and safety practices, in particular risk assessment in the context of a circus environment

12.3 Produce the essential documents required of a professional performer engaged in site specific and venue performances

12.4 Demonstrate ability to communicate with an appropriate level of technical knowledge in order to establish a safe working environment

12.5 understand the specific requirements in order to maintain the equipment in their chosen discipline, including the requirements around ordering bespoke circus equipment

MODULE SPECIFICATION

13. The intended generic learning outcomes

On successfully completing the module students will be able to:

13.1 Work independently, set goals and manage their own work loads

13.2 Be able to assess and manage risk, health and safety and employ ethical working practices

13.3 Be able to work in a group or team and to have the skills needed for the realisation of collaborative project-based work

14. Assessment Strategy

14.1. Main assessment methods

Students will be continuously assessed in their ability to tie knots, rig aerial equipment, etc. Students will be required to complete risk assessments, technical specifications and method statements as part of the modules continuous assessment. Students will complete a written test in the Spring Term.

Continuous Assessment of skills: 80% of the grade for the term

Written Test: 20% of the grade for the term

How the assessment methods outlined above fit with the course assessment strategy?

Continuous Assessment of Skills (80% of module grade)

This method corresponds to the practical performances and problem-solving projects outlined in the assessment strategy, evaluating students' technical proficiency and ability to apply knowledge in real-world circus scenarios. Continuous assessment allows for swift and constructive feedback after each evaluation, guiding students' improvement and facilitating continuous learning.

Written Test (20% of module grade)

The written component aligns with the reflective journals and submission of written work outlined in the strategy, assessing student theoretical understanding of circus safety and their ability to apply knowledge in written form.

Overall, these assessment methods support student learning and development by providing a balanced evaluation of both practical skills and theoretical knowledge. They align with NCCA's commitment to inclusivity, fairness, and fostering a learning environment conducive to success and achievement in circus arts.

15. Mapping of Learning Outcomes

Map of module learning outcomes (sections 12 & 13) to learning and teaching methods (section 11) and methods of assessment (section 14).

MODULE SPECIFICATION

15.1. Module learning outcomes against learning and teaching methods

Module learning outcome	12.1	12.2	12.3	12.4	12.5	13.1	13.2	13.3
Private Study	x	x	x	x	x			
<i>workshops</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

15.2. Module learning outcomes against assessment methods

Module learning outcome	12.1	12.2	12.3	12.4	12.5	13.1	13.2	13.3
<i>Continuous Assessment</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

16. Reading list

NCCA is committed to ensuring that core reading materials are available in the NCCA library or in electronic format available on Microsoft Teams.

The most up to date reading list for each module can be found on the specific module Channel in TEAMS.

There is no set reading list for this module, although teachers may recommend readings, viewings or research prior to the start of the modules scheduled classes.

FEDEC: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSFIKngz_srmWjK5sFgGW3Q/videos

17. Inclusive module design

The National Centre for Circus Arts recognises and has embedded the expectations of current equality legislation, by ensuring that the module is as accessible as possible by design. Additional alternative arrangements for students with Inclusive Learning Plans (ILPs)/declared disabilities will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with the relevant policies and support services.

The inclusive practices in the guidance (see Annex B Appendix A) have been considered in order to support all students in the following areas:

- a) Accessible resources and curriculum
- b) Learning, teaching and assessment methods

18. Partner College/Validated Institution

National Centre for Circus Arts

19. University Division responsible for the course

Division of Arts and Humanities

MODULE SPECIFICATION

MODULE RECORD

All revisions for this module are recorded in the table below for student and staff information.

Date approved	New/ Material/ Major/ Minor revision	Start date of delivery of this version	Applies to new cohorts and/ or existing students	Sections revised (if applicable)