



**Institute of the Arts**  
Barcelona

**Module Guide**  
**2018/19**

**Critical and Analytical Studies**  
**CPD ACTING**

**Institute of the Arts Barcelona**

The Module Guide is the key document in detailing for you the information relating to the teaching, learning and assessment that will take place. The Module Guide describes what you will be doing and how you will be assessed.

All communication with teaching staff on the Module must be done through your Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU) email address.

It is YOUR responsibility to attend all classes associated with the Module and to undertake the assessment and/or submit your work as described.

University credit for the Module can only be released if you pass the assessments as detailed within the Module Guide.

## **Module Information**

<b>Module Code</b>	<b>5502IAB</b>
<b>Module Academic Level</b>	<b>Level 5</b>
<b>Module Credit Weighting</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Module Leader</b>	<b>Armando Rotondi</b>

## **Module Indicative Content**

The Module is focused on three different aspect:

1. Academic Writing and Research
2. Performing Arts Business and Organisations
3. Contemporary Performance Practice and the Students' Place Within the Industry

Each individual student will be asked to undertake research into, and analysis of, the creative output and agenda of specific contemporary companies or individuals.

# **Module Aims and Learning Outcomes**

## **Module Aims**

To provide the student with:

- An overview of contemporary entertainment and performing arts creative, business and commercial practice;
- The opportunity to develop their research, analysis, writing and presentation skills;
- The knowledge and understanding of the entertainment and performing arts industries and specifically for them to reflect upon their own learning and development and gain an understand their potential role within the performing arts.

## **Module Learning Outcomes**

After completing the module, the student should be able to:

1. Demonstrate an analytical understanding of a range of creative issues and practices in the contemporary entertainment and performing arts creative practice.
2. Demonstrate an understanding of professional and business structures and working practices in the contemporary entertainment and performing arts economies.
3. Demonstrate the ability to undertake independent, analytical and guided research, analysis, and evaluation.
4. Demonstrate the ability to develop coherent arguments and present them with clarity.

## Teaching Staff

### Module Teaching Staff

- Armando Rotondi    Module Leader    [a.rotondi@iabarcelona.es](mailto:a.rotondi@iabarcelona.es) / [a.rotondi@ljmu.ac.uk](mailto:a.rotondi@ljmu.ac.uk)

## Module Teaching and Learning Strategy

The Module will be delivered through:

- A comprehensive lecture programme
- A series of focused seminar / discussion groups
- Use of audio-visual material
- Debates
- Q&A
- Practical exercise
- Working groups
- Tutorials

Formative feedback will be given:

- In written form (written feedbacks to assessment)
- Discussion at the end of the classes
- One-to-one tutorials

Specifically, in the business part of the module, classes will be conducted with a detailed analysis of real materials and sources (e.g. real business plan).

## Syllabus

Week Number	Dates	Teaching and Learning Activity
0	17 <sup>th</sup> Sept	INDUCTION WEEK
1	27 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Introduction and Research Skills: Presentation and debate
2	4 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Research Skills: Presentation and essay
3	11 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Research Skills: data collection
4	18 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Business plan: main elements and business idea
5	25 <sup>nd</sup> Oct	Business plan: Finance and budgeting
6	DIRECTED STUDY WEEK	
7	8 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Business plan: Cash Flow and funding
8	15 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Business plan: marketing and promotion
9	22 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Student presentations
10	29 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Essay submission (AS1)
11	6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	No Class: Public Holiday
12	13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	No Class: End of the Term
CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS – 17 <sup>th</sup> December to 7 <sup>th</sup> January		

## **Timetable**

Classes will be delivered on:

- Thursday 9:00-10.15 in the Boardroom (together with Professional Studies 2)

## **Formative Assessment**

You will undertake formative assessment during this module as set by the lead tutor.

Formative assessment is an essential tool for you and tutor to understand the quality and level of your learning and to identify areas for improvement. It also acts as a guide for the final assessment so that you understand not only what the tutor is looking for, in terms of learning outcomes, but also the level of attainment, in terms of Marking Criteria. Formative assessment also allows you to reflect upon your own practice and observe and recognise learning in your peers.

You will also receive constant formative feedback during the module. This should be recorded in your students' workbooks and may be inspected as part of the final assessment. This feedback should then be incorporated into your work.

### **Module Specific**

No formative assessments are planned for this module during the year. However, the module requires intense discussion groups and interaction between the students on the different topics and objects of investigation.

# Summative Assessment

## Assessment 1

Assessment Title	Essay
Learning Outcomes to be Assessed 1, 2, 3, 4.	
Assessment Submission / Completion Date	29 <sup>th</sup> November 2018.
Assessment Feedback Date	4 <sup>th</sup> December 2018
Assessment Weighting	100%
Submission Details for Written Assessments	You must submit your essay using your University email address. You should email your AS1 essay to: <a href="mailto:a.rotondi@iabarcelona.es">a.rotondi@iabarcelona.es</a> and to the specific AS mail (TBC) by 16:00 on 29 <sup>th</sup> November – if you do not, this could result in failure of the module.
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Description of the Assessment Task</u></b></p> <p>The assessment will evaluate your skills, knowledge, ability and understanding as measured against the Learning Outcomes.</p> <p>The assessment task is to undertake an analysis and evaluation of an aspect of contemporary performance practice.</p> <p><b>ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION</b> Individually you are asked to write a 2,000-word essay exploring an aspect of contemporary performance organisation (company, theatre, agency, etc).</p> <p>Please note we do not want a historical description but rather an evaluation and analysis of their activity, from a business, management and artistic perspective.</p> <p>You should only include historical information where it is pertinent to your evaluation and analysis. You should develop a clear, concise and well-developed argument.</p> <p>The essay should be structured with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- An introduction with your thesis</li><li>- A literature review / state of art (competitors)</li><li>- The case study analysis</li><li>- A conclusion</li><li>- Bibliography / references list using the Harvard Reference system</li></ul>	

All the students will receive an Essay and Academic Writing Handout, attached to this module.

Students should agree the topic to be investigated through the assessment task with the Module Leader.

Each individual student will be asked to undertake research into, and analysis of, the creative output and agenda of specific contemporary companies or individuals (i.e. working now).

The topics explored by the students will be guided and approved by the Module Leader to ensure a broad cross section of the economy is explored. Students will be supported in this activity by lectures on research methods and critical analysis.

This module is common to all CPD programmes at the IAB. The students' individual work on contemporary theatre practice will be focused within their own discipline.

**The essay must be a minimum of 2000 words (maximum 2250).** Essays must be written in **Helvetica font 11 using 1.5 spacing**. This assessment will be marked anonymously so you should not include your name, but instead use your student ID number, programme of study and the title of the assignment in the top, left-hand corner. For example:

Student Name and ID Number  
CPD Acting

### Marking Criteria

You will be given a mark based upon the below criteria.

#### Content (30%)

You will be assessed considering the contents of your paper. The choice of the case study is not only a matter of personal interest you should choose it carefully according to the prominent or interesting role that it could have in the field of performing arts. Please remember that you should include at least one detailed evaluation and analysis of one piece of work which exemplifies their practice – remember evaluation and analysis not description. Please remember that a lack of methodology will affect the development of the contents. Remember that the paper must be analytical and demonstrate a critical approach, it is not a merely description of the life and work of an author or the history of a movement (shared point with methodology and approach).

#### Methodology and approach (30%)

You have to demonstrate a good understanding of methodology in research and data collection. Remember that not every book and/or article has the same impact factor in the field. Some works are seminal and officially considered more important than others. You will need to undertake a considerable amount of research (the internet is not enough, and internet sources can only account for 20% of your bibliography. Exceptions are official newspapers articles, journal articles, reviews and similar that are published on the internet, e.g. a review published on on-line version of "The Times". In that case, it would be considered similar to a draft sources).



### **Structure and form (30%)**

A good essay is also an ordered essay. You will be assessed on the structure of your paper, the use of paragraphs, layouts, use of italics/underlined/bold, headings and chapters, word limit. In the form, you will be assessed also on the style (academic, formal, informal) and target (if the writing is for the right academic audience/reader). Please consider that an academic paper required a formal style/register. Additionally, also the formal writing of references/quotes, bibliography and notes will be considered.

### **Grammar and spelling (10%)**

Accuracy in all aspects of grammar and spelling will be assessed for example: paragraph and sentence construction, accurate use of punctuation throughout the essay, breadth, depth and accuracy of accurately spelt vocabulary and, please note, use of text language will incur an automatic penalty.

## **References/Book List**

- Banham, M., ed. (1995). *The Cambridge Guide to Theatre*. Rev. ed. Cambridge: Cambridge UP.

More reference material will be indicated during classes.

A handbook on academic writing will be attached to this module handbook.