

Module code: MOD004145		Version: 3 Date Amended: 20/Feb/2025	
-------------------------------	--	--	--

1. Module Title	
Performing Shakespeare	

2a. Module Leader	
David Jackson	

2b. School	
Cambridge School of the Creative Industries	

2c. Faculty	
Faculty of Arts, Humanities, Education and Social Sciences	

3a. Level	
5	

3b. Module Type	
Standard (fine graded)	

4a. Credits	
15	

4b. Study Hours	
150	

5. Restrictions			
Type	Module Code	Module Name	Condition
Pre-requisites:	None		
Co-requisites:	None		
Exclusions:	None		
Courses to which this module is restricted:	BA (Hons) Drama, BA (Hons) Drama and Film, BA (Hons) Drama and English Literature, BA (Hons) Acting		

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

This module introduces you to the field of contemporary performance theory and practice in relation to Shakespeare. This will include the study of a range of twentieth and twenty-first century critical and directorial interpretations of plays by Shakespeare in the theatre and on film.

Part of the focus of the module will encompass issues that continue to be contested today, such as power, sexuality, gender, justice, morality, religion and war. This will be supplemented by the study of directorial strategies and creative responses to Shakespeare's plays that follow a variety of practical approaches to acting and performance.

Exploration will focus on the ways in which critics, directors and actors generate meanings from Shakespeare's plays, drawing on the details of primary texts, secondary criticism and examples of contemporary creative responses to the plays.

6b. Outline Content

- Analysis of contemporary theoretical and critical responses to selected Shakespeare plays; - Exploration of the generation of meanings and interpretations by directors and actors in theatre performance and on film through the twentieth and twenty-first centuries; - Study of the varieties of contemporary acting and performance methods applicable to Shakespeare's plays; - Students to initiate, define and carry out a specific creative and collaborative rationale for a performance of a sequence selected for performance; - Practical work on an ensemble performance developed from a sequence selected from a Shakespeare play.

6c. Key Texts/Literature

The reading list to support this module is available at: <https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/>

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

Drama Studio location

7. Learning Outcomes (threshold standards)

No.	Type	On successful completion of this module the student will be expected to be able to:
1	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of contemporary critical interpretations of selected Shakespearean plays.
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of contemporary creative adaptations of selected Shakespearean plays in the theatre or on film.
3	Knowledge and Understanding	Show, through live performance, a detailed understanding of how sequences in one of the plays studied may be staged, and the interpretative purposes such a staging may serve.
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Demonstrate professional discipline in the collaborative creation of an ensemble performance.

8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers				
Year	Occurrence	Period	Location	Mode of Delivery
2026/7	ZZF	Template For Face To Face Learning Delivery		Face to Face

8b. Learning Activities for the above Module Occurrence			
Learning Activities	Hours	Learning Outcomes	Details of Duration, frequency and other comments
Lectures	0	None	None
Other teacher managed learning	24	1-4	Seminars and Workshops: 2hrs x 12 weeks
Student managed learning	126	1-4	Includes class preparation, independent research and rehearsals for the assessment
TOTAL:	150		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Coursework	1-2	50 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Essay 1500 Words					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
011	Practical	3-4	50 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Live Performance - 15 Minutes maximum					

In order to pass this module, students are required to achieve an overall mark of 40% (for modules at levels 3, 4, 5 and 6) or 50% (for modules at level 7*).

In addition, students are required to:

- (a) achieve the qualifying mark for each element of fine graded assessment as specified above
- (b) pass any pass/fail elements

[* the pass mark of 50% applies for all module occurrences from the academic year 2024/25 – see Section 3a of this MDF to check the level of the module and Section 8a of this MDF to check the academic year]

