



Module Definition Form (MDF)

Module code: MOD006097	Version: 1 Date Amended: 13/Dec/2017
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1. Module Title
Practice as Research

2a. Module Leader
Susan Wilson

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:			

LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

6a. Module Description

This module introduces students to a research methodology that treats the live, spatial and embodied nature of performance as a means of generating knowledge and understanding. Students will explore how performance can be specifically designed to test or demonstrate ideas that are not amenable to library research alone, but are practice-led. Practice as Research is a methodology that expands the concept of 'knowledge derived through doing' into a research strategy; as such, this module is particularly valuable for students planning any variety of practical work for their Major Project. Discussion of PAR and more traditional research strategies for the Major Project will be as important aspect of this module; practice as research will also be useful in relation to all additional performance-based explorations of ideas that students will encounter on other modules at levels 5 and 6. The purpose of this module is to provide strategies to underpin the research credentials of students' future practical work. It will cover both practice-led research and research-led practice.

Students will explore how an understanding of ideas can be derived from existing of live performance work and how such work can also generate new knowledge. These examples may encompass live art, activist performance, installations and exhibitions, workshops and performance laboratories in acting training.

6b. Outline Content

- ☐ Explanation of the principles of practice as research within drama and the performing arts.
- ☐ Exploration of how practice as research may be seen to inform the work of a variety of practitioners and performers.
- ☐ Introduction to the research strategies that may be deployed in the Major Project module.
- ☐ Design and live performance of students' own practical work informed by practice as research principles.

6c. Key Texts/Literature

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

6d. Specialist Learning Resources

This module requires studio space for rehearsals and practical assessment work, plus video playback facilities.

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	Understand the rationale of practice as research as a methodology.
2	Knowledge and Understanding	Understand how other performers and practitioners have deployed practice as research as a methodology.
3	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Design, perform and explain a practical project that demonstrates practice as research in action.
4	Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills	Work professionally in small groups on practical projects with an agreed research outcome.

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	Weekly workshop, 12 x 2 hours
Student managed learning	126	1-4	Practical project design and rehearsal
TOTAL:	150		

9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence					
The assessment for some modules includes a presentation (see below for details on how this particular module is assessed). We recognise that presenting, especially to a large group, can cause significant anxiety or distress for some students. If this may affect you, please contact your Module Leader or the Disability and Neurodiversity Service as early as possible. We will work with you to consider appropriate reasonable adjustments. Depending on your individual needs, these might include, for example, presenting to a smaller group or presenting only to a member of academic staff.					
Assessment No.	Assessment Method	Learning Outcomes	Weighting (%)	Fine Grade or Pass/Fail	Qualifying Mark (%)
010	Practical	1-4	100 (%)	Fine Grade	30 (%)
Group practical project, maximum 20 minutes.					

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]
