



**Equilibrio Dinamico Ensemble**  
Master in Contemporary  
Dance Performance



ENGLISH VERSION

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## Course Structure

<b>Programme Specification (for 2025 entry)</b> Northern School of Contemporary Dance	
<b>Programme Title:</b>	Equilibrio Dinamico ENSEMBLE - MA Contemporary Dance Performance
<b>Teaching Institution:</b>	Equilibrio Dinamico
<b>Final Award:</b>	MA Contemporary Dance Performance (180 Credits)
<b>Alternative Exit Awards:</b>	PG Dip Contemporary Dance Performance (120 Credits) PGCert Contemporary Dance Performance (60 Credits)
<b>Credit Level:</b>	Level 7
<b>Credits/ECTS value:</b>	180 (90 ECTS)
<b>Modes of Delivery:</b>	1 Year full-time
<b>QAA Benchmarks:</b>	QAA Subject Benchmark Statements: Dance, Drama and Performance (April 2024) Master's Degree Characteristics Statement (Feb 2020) The Frameworks for Higher Education (Feb 2024) – section 4.17 Descriptor for Level 7 (FHEQ)

<b>Programme Aims</b>	
Level 7 - Stage 1	
<b>PA1-1</b>	Deliver high-quality Higher Education in contemporary dance, equipping students with the knowledge and skills necessary for employment, further study, and personal growth.
<b>PA1-2</b>	Promote an in-depth appreciation of contemporary dance practices, including the aesthetic, artistic, and cultural values shaping the creation, performance, and reception of dance.
<b>PA1-3</b>	Provide a professional learning environment where students refine their performance practice, develop their unique artistic identity, and engage critically with the demands of the contemporary dance field.
<b>PA1-4</b>	Support students in developing analytical, critical, and interpretive skills, fostering independent learning and the ability to undertake meaningful research into their growth as dance artists.
<b>PA1-5</b>	Create opportunities for students to engage with the contemporary dance profession, enabling mutual influence and preparing students to contribute to and shape the evolving field of contemporary dance.
Level 7 - Stage 2	
<b>PA2-1</b>	Students will be prepared to design and conduct an independent practice-based research project, contributing to the field of dance with insights that support evidence-based practices and innovation in creative or performance practice.
<b>PA2-2</b>	Students will demonstrate the ability to uphold professional and ethical standards in creative and performance practice, exhibiting sensitivity to cultural, ethical, and individual differences in their work.

### **Programme Structure**

The **MA Contemporary Dance Performance** offers a carefully structured curriculum designed to equip students with the technical, creative, and professional skills necessary for a successful career in contemporary dance. The programme is divided into core and optional

modules, allowing students to tailor their learning experience to align with their chosen pathway and professional aspirations.

The structure of stage 1 of the MA Contemporary Dance Performance is designed to mirror the required skills and expectations of a dance repertoire company environment. The Company and Technical Practice module runs throughout stage 1, equipping the students with the skills to effectively utilise class to continue to develop their technical ability and to effectively prepare for the demands of creation, rehearsal and performance. The module also serves to unpin the students reflective and artistic development, feeding how they can contribute and collaborate effectively in a company environment.

The first half of stage 1 sees students undertake the Devising and Creation module, in which they develop performance material through the creation of new work and/or potential restaging of existing works. This leads into the Performance Practice module, where the students take the work devised, learnt and rehearsed and realise it over a number of performance opportunities.

The stage 1 modules enable students to process into the stage 2 module Research Project, where they will develop and evaluate an independently led piece of research as appropriate to level 7 MA work. This can take the form of practice as research, lecture demonstration or a dissertation reflective of their learning to date. Practical outcomes will be supported by contextualising information.

**1 year full-time:**

<b>Module Structure</b>			
<b>Stage 1 (level 7) (choose one 30 credit option)</b>			
<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Core or Option</b>	<b>Pass Compulsory</b>
Company and Technical Practice	60	Core	No
Devising and Creation	30	Core	No
Performance Practice	30	Core	No
<p><b>Progression</b></p> <p>In order to progress onto stage 2, students need to complete 120 credits from stage 1, made up of 90 credits of core modules and 30 credits of option modules.</p>			

<b>Stage 2 (Level 7)</b>			
<b>Module Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Core or Option</b>	<b>Pass Compulsory</b>
Research Project	60	Core	Yes
<p><b>Awards</b></p> <p>To be eligible for the award of MA, students need to complete 60 credits from stage 2, made up of 60 credits of core modules.</p> <p><b>Exit Awards</b></p> <p>Upon successful completion of 60 credits from any stage the student is eligible for the exit award of PGCert.</p> <p>Upon successful completion of 120 credits from any stage the student is eligible for the exit award of PGDip.</p>			

<b>Module Specification</b>	
Northern School of Contemporary Dance	
<b>Module Title:</b>	Company and Technical Practice
<b>Teaching Institution:</b>	<i>Equilibrio Dinamico</i>
<b>Credit Level:</b>	<i>Level 7</i>
<b>Credit Value:</b>	<i>60 Credits (30 ECTS)</i>
<b>Pre-requisite Modules:</b>	<i>n/a</i>
<b>Co-requisite Modules:</b>	<i>n/a</i>
<b>Indicative Teaching Schedule:</b>	Terms 1, 2 and 3

**Module Synopsis:**

Students will participate fully in the life of a contemporary dance company including engaging in a range of technical classes, workshops, touring, rehearsals and performance periods. The module emphasises how all elements of company life combine and overlap to form a holistic experience. Students will develop the skills to sustain creative engagement, to contribute effectively in a range of different circumstances, and to develop effective working relationships across the different roles within a company.

Students will participate in daily classes as a method of developing their technical and performance skills in studio-based sessions. This will include a range of approaches designed to extend their interpretive abilities, enhance their physical execution of technical material and also provide strategies for movement observation and analysis.

The module will enable students to utilise class and rehearsal as an effective tool to realise creative and performance work, alongside developing the transferable skills needed by professional dance artists in the current ecology, applying those skills across a range of contexts. Students will also be supported to develop self-awareness and reflective skills to enhance their ability to contribute effectively in both individual and group situations. These skills will support students in developing autonomous approaches to their work, supporting their progression into the professional world and emphasising the importance of life-long learning.

**Learning Outcomes**

<b>Learning Outcomes</b>	
<i>On completion of the module students will be able to:</i>	
Subject Learning Outcomes (SLO)	
<b>SLO-1</b>	Demonstrate advanced proficiency in a variety of contemporary dance techniques, applying physical and interpretive skills to execute complex movements with precision and expression.
<b>SLO-2</b>	Effectively apply collaborative and technical rehearsal skills to refine and enhance dance works in performance.
<b>SLO-3</b>	Cultivate the ability to work effectively within a group, contributing to creative processes and performance development while maintaining flexibility and adaptability in collaborative environments.
<b>SLO-4</b>	Build a strong sense of professionalism, including punctuality, focus, and commitment to rehearsals and class, fostering a positive and proactive attitude within the company.
<b>SLO-5</b>	Develop reflective skills that allow for self-assessment and improvement, using feedback from peers, instructors, and

	personal observation to refine technical, creative, and performance skills.
<b>SLO-6</b>	Evaluate and articulate insights from reflective practice, demonstrating an ability to integrate theoretical frameworks with professional experience to enhance decision-making, continuous learning, and professional development.
Graduate Learning Outcomes (GLO)	
<b>GLO-1</b>	Students will be able to take responsibility for the independent learning necessary for continuing professional development
<b>GLO-2</b>	work in planned and improvisatory ways, to anticipate and accommodate change, ambiguity, creative risk taking, uncertainty and unfamiliarity
<b>GLO-3</b>	Students will be able to research and examine information, materials and experiences, formulate independent judgements, and articulate reasoned arguments through observations, personal experiences and reflections
<b>GLO-4</b>	Students will be able to understand group dynamics to operate collaboratively within collective, creative and professional contexts to generate and pursue shared goals
<b>GLO-5</b>	Students will be able to make appropriate and effective decisions within complex and/or unpredictable situations
<b>GLO-6</b>	Students will be able to apply a degree of high personal effectiveness:critical self-awareness, self-reflection and self-management; time management; conflict resolution, the ability to continue to learn through reflection on practice and experience
<b>GLO-7</b>	Students will be able to recognise situational and interpersonal factors and how these can be effectively accommodated to facilitate productive working relationships

**Assessment**

**Assessment**

<b>Task(s):</b>	Item 1: (30%) Continuous Assessment (technical and company practice – creation and devising period) Item 2: (40%) Continuous Assessment (technical and company practice – rehearsal and performance period) Item 3: (30%) Reflective Portfolio (equivalent to 2,000-4,000 words or 15-25 minute presentation) – pass compulsory
<b>Reassessment:</b>	<i>Like for Like</i>

<b>Breakdown of Hours</b>	
<i>Class, rehearsal, performance &amp; tutorials</i>	<i>425 hours</i>
<i>Independent study</i>	<i>175 hours</i>
<b>Total</b>	<b>600 hours</b>

<b>Module Specification (2025 entry)</b> Northern School of Contemporary Dance	
<b>Module Title:</b>	Device and Creation
<b>Teaching Institution:</b>	<i>Equilibrio Dinamico</i>
<b>Credit Level:</b>	<i>Level 7</i>
<b>Credit Value:</b>	<i>30 Credits (30 ECTS)</i>

<b>Pre-requisite Modules:</b>	<i>n/a</i>
<b>Co-requisite Modules:</b>	<i>n/a</i>
<b>Indicative Teaching Schedule:</b>	Terms 1, 2

**Module Synopsis:**

Students will actively participate in the life of a contemporary dance company, having the opportunity to experience a range of creative processes and rehearsals. The module emphasises how all the elements of company life combine and overlap to form a holistic experience where the student is constantly involved in the 'process'.

In this module students will develop and refine their ability to contribute effectively in the devising and creation of new dance works. The exact processes will depend on the specific choreographic artists, with students experiencing processes involving taking on and developing given material and in generating new movement material based on a given theme or idea. Through these experiences students will develop their ability to devise and refine distinctive movement material to a high level, including integrating it into their own bodies and individual performance qualities.

Students will cultivate the skills necessary to contribute meaningfully to creative processes, both through individual artistic input and as collaborative, dynamic members of the group. Each creative process will culminate in the preparation of the works for performance, most often in the form of a technical rehearsal of a group, recognising and negotiating their own individual needs.

**Learning Outcomes**

<b>Learning Outcomes</b> <i>On completion of the module students will be able to:</i>	
Subject Learning Outcomes (SLO)	
<b>SLO-1</b>	Generate a range of distinctive movement material based on given themes and ideas.
<b>SLO-2</b>	Utilise advanced technical and artistic skills to refine and develop movement material based on direction.
<b>SLO-3</b>	Collaborate effectively with choreographers and dancers in the development and co-creation of the artistic work.

<b>SLO-4</b>	Learn given material effectively with understanding of the underlying movement principles, adapting with sensitivity to best utilise individual performance qualities.
<b>SLO-5</b>	Integrate embodied research and reflective practice to the creative process, working effectively both under direction and autonomously.
Graduate Learning Outcomes (GLO)	
<b>GLO-1</b>	critically use information retrieval skills, involving the ability to gather, sift, manipulate, synthesise, and organise material
<b>GLO-2</b>	work in planned and improvisatory ways, to anticipate and accommodate change, ambiguity, creative risk taking, uncertainty and unfamiliarity
<b>GLO-3</b>	make appropriate and effective decisions within complex and/or unpredictable situations
<b>GLO-4</b>	apply a degree of high personal effectiveness: critical self-awareness, self-reflection and self-management; time management; conflict resolution, the ability to continue to learn through reflection on practice and experience
<b>GLO-5</b>	recognise situational and interpersonal factors and how these can be effectively accommodated to facilitate productive working relationships

### **Assessment**

<b>Assessment</b>	
<b>Task(s):</b>	Item 1: (40%) Continuous Assessment (devising period 1) Item 2: (60%) Continuous Assessment (devising period 2)
<b>Reassessment:</b>	<i>Like for Like</i>

<b>Breakdown of Hours</b>	
<i>Devising, creation and tutorials</i>	225 hours
<i>Independent study</i>	75 hours
<b>Total</b>	<b>300 hours</b>

<b>Module Specification (2025 entry)</b> Northern School of Contemporary Dance	
<b>Module Title:</b>	Performance Practice
<b>Teaching Institution:</b>	<i>Equilibrio Dinamico</i>
Module Code:	NS7_PP3a
<b>Credit Level:</b>	<i>Level 7</i>
<b>Credit Value:</b>	<i>30 Credits (15 ECTS)</i>
<b>QAA Benchmarks:</b>	<i>QAA Subject Benchmark Statements: Dance, Drama and Performance (April 2024)</i> <i>The Frameworks for Higher Education (Feb 2024) – section 4.17 Descriptor for Level 7 (FHEQ)</i>
<b>Pre-requisite Modules:</b>	<i>n/a</i>
<b>Co-requisite Modules:</b>	<i>n/a</i>
<b>Indicative Teaching Schedule:</b>	Terms 2 and 3

**Module Synopsis:**

This module represents the culmination of study undertaken in the Devising & Creation, and Company & Technical Practice modules, with students realising, through performance, a significant body of work. Here, the focus will be on applying their technical skills, integrating their performance skills sympathetically to the performance mode, and helping realise the shared artistic and choreographic vision of the works. Students will also be expected to take on corrections given and apply them to their performance practice.

Typically, students will be involved in a number of performances, experiencing the opportunities and challenges of performing work a number of times. Students will also learn how to adapt to different performance venues, situations and environments, learning to work effectively and in a professional manner.

Students will participate in live performance opportunities throughout their MA programme, and reflection on these experiences will provide a basis for ongoing professional development. Emphasis is placed on adapting the skills acquired to meet the demands of the company's performance repertoire. Students will work with professional choreographers in the creation of new works and/or the revival of existing works, engaging with and participating in rehearsal situations through which they will experience a variety of choreographic approaches and methods offered by different choreographers. In developing performance skills, emphasis is placed on integrating students' own distinctive performance strengths and qualities into the work(s), whilst continuing to realise the artistic vision of the choreographer. Students will develop the skills to research choreographers' ideas and find their own way through the works they perform, developing the versatility needed to support their progression into the professional world.

### **Learning Outcomes**

*On completion of the module students will be able to:*

<b>Learning Outcomes</b> <i>On completion of the module students will be able to:</i>	
Subject Learning Outcomes (SLO)	
<b>SLO-1</b>	Explore the physical, creative and interpretative possibilities within a range of performance work
<b>SLO-2</b>	Apply knowledge and understanding to support versatility in the performance process, including strategies to support collaborative working
<b>SLO-3</b>	Embody movement material and refine interpretive skills to develop a distinctive personal performance style
<b>SLO-4</b>	Engage with all aspects of performance including working with props, set, music and costume

<b>SLO-5</b>	Communicate artistic ideas and intentions with embodied and detailed understanding of technical, creative and interpretative skills
Graduate Learning Outcomes (GLO)	
<b>GLO-1</b>	Take responsibility for the independent learning necessary for continuing professional development
<b>GLO-2</b>	Work in planned and improvisatory ways, to anticipate and accommodate change, ambiguity, creative risk taking, uncertainty and unfamiliarity
<b>GLO-3</b>	Understand group dynamics to operate collaboratively within collective, creative and professional contexts to generate and pursue shared goals
<b>GLO-4</b>	Make appropriate and effective decisions within complex and/or unpredictable situations
<b>GLO-5</b>	Strengthening the ability to analyse problems, evaluate information, and make thoughtful decisions.
<b>GLO-6</b>	Apply a degree of high personal effectiveness: critical self-awareness, self-reflection and self-management; time management; conflict resolution; the ability to continue to learn through reflection on practice and experience

### **Assessment**

<b>Assessment</b>	
<b>Task(s):</b>	Item 1: (40%) Summative Assessment (performance) Item 2: (60%) Summative Assessment (performance)
<b>Reassessment:</b>	<i>Like for Like</i>

<b>Breakdown of Hours</b>
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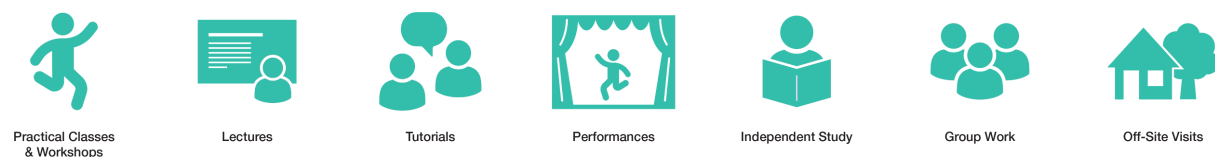
<i>Performance, rehearsals &amp; tutorials</i>	<i>200 hours</i>
<i>Independent study</i>	<i>100 hours</i>
<b>Total</b>	<b>300 hours</b>

## Research Module

In this module students will undertake a substantial and focused research project based on a critical and systematic understanding of current knowledge. Research outcomes may take a range of forms including performative or choreographic work, lecture demonstration or dissertation. Students will be expected to draw on their experiences from earlier in their MA programme, with the opportunity to utilise this expertise within practice centred research frameworks.

The module will equip students with a range of supporting skills to undertake this project successfully, including individual tutorial support focused on their research work and to work in a structured research environment. Student outcomes will be presented in the most effective mode for their work as appropriate to research at level 7, including supporting contextual information as appropriate to the research field. Where any students work collaboratively, they will provide evidence for their individual contribution and research enquiry.

## HOW YOU WILL STUDY



## HOW YOU WILL BE ASSESSED

