

MODULE SPECIFICATION

<b>Module Title:</b>	Contemporary Theatre in Practice	<b>Level:</b>	5	<b>Credit Value:</b>	40
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<b>Module code:</b>	HUM553	New <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Code of module being replaced:</b>	HUM521
		Existing <input type="checkbox"/>		

<b>Cost Centre:</b>	GATP	<u>JACS3</u> code:	W400
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<b>Trimester(s) in which to be offered:</b>	2	<b>With effect from:</b>	September 16
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<b>School:</b>	School of Creative Arts	<b>Module Leader:</b>	Elen Mai Nefydd
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Scheduled learning and teaching hours	120 hrs
Guided independent study	280 hrs
Placement	0 hrs
<b>Module duration (total hours)</b>	<b>400 hrs</b>

<b>Programme(s) in which to be offered</b>	Core	Option
BA (Hons) Theatre, Television and Performance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Office use only

Initial approval September 16

APSC approval of modification *Enter date of approval*

Version 1

Have any derogations received SQC approval?

Yes  No

**Module Aims**

- To analyse key texts and the work of significant dramatists and directors of the Twentieth and Twenty-first Centuries.
- To explore a range of contemporary performance practices from a historical, theoretical and practical perspective.
- To develop understanding and further critical reflection and investigation of the elements and stages of the realization of 'texts' into 'performances'.
- To encourage students to develop innovative and experimental perspectives on performance through the application and practical experience of transgressive and experimental theatre.

**Intended Learning Outcomes**

Key skills for employability

- KS1 Written, oral and media communication skills
- KS2 Leadership, team working and networking skills
- KS3 Opportunity, creativity and problem solving skills
- KS4 Information technology skills and digital literacy
- KS5 Information management skills
- KS6 Research skills
- KS7 Intercultural and sustainability skills
- KS8 Career management skills
- KS9 Learning to learn (managing personal and professional development, self-management)
- KS10 Numeracy

At the end of this module, students will be able to		Key Skills	
1	Discuss the evolution of Twentieth and Twenty-first century key texts and directors, with reference to key forms and patterns of development in the theatre.	KS1	KS6
		KS7	KS9
2	Discuss, develop and practically experiment with innovative performance practices.	KS1	KS2
		KS3	KS4 KS5
		KS6	KS7 KS9
3	Show a detailed understanding and appreciation of appropriate rehearsal techniques and approaches to staging texts.	KS1	KS2
		KS3	KS9

4	Apply critical perspectives and approaches to the range of texts and practitioners covered within the module in relation to important developments in theatre.	KS1	KS6
		KS7	KS9
5	Independently organise and direct a 15-20 minute project and follow the development of casting, rehearsal and public presentation	KS2	KS3
		KS8	KS9
		KS10	
Transferable/key skills and other attributes			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Written, oral and media communication skills</li> <li>2. Leadership, team working and networking skills</li> <li>3. Opportunity, creativity and problem solving skills</li> <li>4. Information technology skills and digital literacy</li> <li>5. Information management skills</li> <li>6. Research skills</li> <li>7. Intercultural and sustainability skills</li> <li>8. Career management skills</li> <li>9. Learning to learn (managing personal and professional development, self-management)</li> <li>10. Numeracy</li> </ol>			
<b>Derogations</b>			
None			

**Assessment:**

The assessment for this module will consist of a 100% coursework and based on two assessments, one practical assessment weighting at 50% and one written assessment weighting at 50%.

**Assessment 1 (Practical):**

The ability to discuss, develop and practically experiment with innovative performance practices.

The ability to demonstrate a detailed understanding and appreciation of appropriate rehearsal techniques and approaches to staging texts.

The ability to apply critical perspectives and approaches to the range of texts and practitioners covered within the module in relation to important developments in theatre. Independently organise and direct a 15-20 minute project and follow the development of casting, rehearsal and public presentation

**Assessment 2 (Portfolio):**

The ability to discuss the evolution of Twentieth and Twenty-first century key texts and directors, with reference to key forms and patterns of development in the theatre.

Evidence of critical analysis.

Technical competence: effective structuring of the essay; grammar; use of references; and bibliography

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting (%)	Duration (if exam)	Word count (or equivalent if appropriate)
1	1, 2, 5	Practical	50%	15 – 20 minutes	
2	3, 4	Written portfolio	50%		3,000 words

**Learning and Teaching Strategies:**

The module will be delivered through lectures, seminar sessions and practical workshops. The module will include, where possible, theatre visits, the viewing of DVDs and web-based and written documentation of theatre and performance. Guided learning will be included to support the lecture content.

Students will have the opportunity to submit work through Turnitin/Moodle.

**Syllabus outline:**

- This module will introduce students to a range of texts, dramatists, practitioners and key artistic developments of the Twentieth and Twenty-first Centuries, and consider them from a global, historical, intercultural, theoretical and practical perspective.
- Each session will introduce and critically examine a specific artistic movement, text, practitioner, and their practical application towards performance and direction in theatre.

- Students will be introduced to directing practice and major directorial influences in the theatre.
- Students will develop the ability to critically analyse key artistic movements, texts and the approach of key practitioners and then apply this knowledge to practical application in the form of a directing project.
- Students will organise their own rehearsal schedules, warm-up's, casting, location and choose a suitable extract from an approved play or text. These sessions will be over seen by the tutor.

**Bibliography:**

**Essential reading**

Brayshaw, T. & Witts, N. (Editors) (2014) *The Twentieth-Century Performance Reader: Third Edition*, London & New York: Routledge.

Cole, T & Chinoy, HK. (1976) *Directors on Directing – a source book of the Modern Theatre*: New York Publishing.

Hauser, F & Reich, R. (2006) *Notes on Directing*: Atlantic Books.

Mitchell, K. (2008) *The director's craft: A handbook for the theatre*: Routledge.

**Other indicative reading**

Allain, P. & Harvie, J. (2014), *The Routledge Companion to Theatre and Performance Second Edition*, London & New York: Routledge.

Artaud, A. (1958) *The Theatre and Its Double* (Translated by Richards, M. C.), New York, Grove Press.

Barba, E. & Savarese, N. (1991) *A Dictionary of Theatre Anthropology: The Secret Art of the Performer*, London & New York, Routledge.

Barba, E. (1995) *The Paper Canoe: A Guide to Theatre Anthropology* (Translated by Fowler, R.), London and New York: Routledge.

Barba, E. (2010) *On Directing and Dramaturgy: Burning the House* (Translated by Barba, J.). London and New York: Routledge.

Bermel, A. (2001) *Artaud's Theatre of Cruelty*, London: Methuen.

Bial, H & Brady, S. (Editors) (2007) *The Performance Studies Reader: Second Edition*, London & New York: Routledge.

Brook, P. (1968) *The Empty Space*, London: Penguin.

Delgado, M. M. and Rebellato, D. (2010) *Contemporary European Theatre Directors*, London and New York: Routledge.

Fischer-Lichter, E. (2004) *History of European Drama and Theatre*, London & New York: Routledge.

Gale, M. B. and Deeney, J. F. (2010) *The Routledge Drama Anthology and Sourcebook: From Modernism to Contemporary Performance*, London & New York: Routledge.

Heddon, D. and Milling, J. (2006) *Devising Performance: A Critical History*, Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan.

Hodge, A. (Editor) (2010) *Actor Training: Second Edition*, London & New York: Routledge.

Innes, C & Shevtsova, M. (2013) *The Cambridge Introduction to Theatre Directing*: Cambridge University Press.

Lavender, A. (2016) *Performance in the Twenty-First Century: Theatres of Engagement*, London: Routledge.

Nagy, P., Rouyer, P. and Rubin, D. (Editors) (2001) *World Encyclopedia of Contemporary Theatre Volume 1: Europe*, London & New York: Routledge.

Schechner, R. (2013) *Performance Studies: An Introduction, Third Edition*, London & New York: Routledge.

Zarrilli, P. B., McConachie, B., Williams, G. J., & Fisher Sorgenfrei, C. (2010) *Theatre Histories An Introduction*

**ELECTRONIC RESOURCES**

Hodge, A. (Editor) (2010) *Actor Training: Second Edition*, London & New York: Routledge.

Companion website: <http://cw.routledge.com/textbooks/actortraining/>

*National Theatre Discover*: <http://www.youtube.com/user/ntdiscovertheatre>

Schechner, R. (2013) *Performance Studies: An Introduction, Third Edition*, London & New

York: Routledge. Companion website: [http://www.routledge.com/cw/schechner-](http://www.routledge.com/cw/schechner-9780415502313/)

[9780415502313/](http://www.routledge.com/cw/schechner-9780415502313/)

*Theatre in video*: <http://ativ.alexanderstreet.com>

*The Guardian Culture*: <http://www.theguardian.com/stage>

*The Sunday Times Culture*: <http://www.thesundaytimes.co.uk/sto/culture/>

Zarrilli, P. B., McConachie, B., Williams, G. J., & Fisher Sorgenfrei, C. (2010) *Theatre Histories An Introduction: Second Edition*, London & New York: Routledge. Companion

website: <http://cw.routledge.com/textbooks/9780415462242/>

Research journal database: <http://www.jstor.org>

Journals:

*New Theatre Quarterly*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

*Contemporary Theatre Review*, London: Routledge

*TDR: The Drama Review*, Cambridge, Massachusetts: MIT Press

*Women & Performance: a journal of feminist theory*, London: Routledge

*Text and Performance Quarterly*, London: Routledge