

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

NOTE: ANY CHANGES TO A CSD MUST GO THROUGH ALL OF THE RELEVANT APPROVAL PROCESSES, INCLUDING LTPC.

Academic School/ Department: Communications, Arts & Social Sciences

Programme: Performance and Theatre Arts

FHEQ Level: 4

Course Title: The Play's the Thing

Course Code: THR 4200

Course Leader: Dr Michael Barclay

Student Engagement Hours: 120

Lectures: 33

Theatre visits : 12

Independent/ Guided learning 75

Semester: Fall

Credits: 12 UK CATS credits
6 ECTS credits
3 US credits

Course Description:

Introduces concepts concerning the relationship between performance and human cultures. Different types of theatrical genre are examined and skills in forming critical judgments are developed. Attendance at various performances in Greater London are an important aspect of this course.

Prerequisites: None

Aims and Objectives:

The aim of this course is to introduce students to a wide range of play texts and performance practices and to equip student with the tools to verbally and in writing to analyse drama as text and in performance.

Programme Outcomes:

At the end of this course, the students will have achieved the following programme outcomes.

A1, A3,A4,,A5,A6,A7A8,A9,A11,A12,B1, B6,B7,B12,C1,C2,C3,C4,C8,C9,D1,D8.

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification. This is located at the Departmental page of the portal.

Learning Outcomes:

- Students are expected to have developed an understanding of cultural and political contexts of the plays discussed, and an awareness of current areas of debate in contemporary theatre studies.
- Students will develop the ability to analyze a range of information using pre-defined principles or criteria and be able to relate these to specific plays and performance traditions.
- Students will have developed skills to carry out defined investigative strategies and communicate results effectively in essay form that demonstrate principles and concepts related to the underlying theoretical frameworks and approaches to specific play texts and performance traditions covered in this course.

Indicative Content:

- Introduction to a range of different theatre genres including tragedy, comedy, political theatre and musicals
- Theatre visits to see plays in performance and analysis of performances in class
- Understanding of historical, political, and cultural contexts of plays studied
- Understanding of the development of key currents in theatre and the performing arts
- The influence of Berthold Brecht
- The emergence of naturalism and realism
- Appreciating the differences between modes of performance
- Evaluating the success or failure of specific performances of plays

Assessment:

This course conforms to the Richmond University Standard Assessment Norms approved by Academic Council on 28 June 2012.

Teaching Methodology:

Lectures, theatre visits, classroom discussions, video.

