

## **COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT**

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

<b>Academic School/ Department:</b>	Communications, Arts & Social Sciences
<b>Programme:</b>	Performance and Theatre Arts
<b>FHEQ Level:</b>	6
<b>Course Title:</b>	Modern Acting: Style and Technique
<b>Course Code:</b>	THR 6215
<b>Course Leader:</b>	Dr. Michael Barclay
<b>Student Engagement Hours:</b>	120
Lectures:	15
Seminar / Tutorials:	5
Screenings:	5
Practical Acting; Assignments:	20
Independent / Guided Learning:	75
<b>Semester:</b>	Spring
<b>Credits:</b>	12 UK CATS credits 6 ECTS credits 3 US credits

### **Course Description**

With a focus on European and American playwrights students are introduced to theories and practices for performance of modern plays, from Ibsen, Chekov, and Wilde, to contemporary writers such as Shaffer, Genet, Pinter and others. Class work includes exercises in interpreting, rehearsing and performing from modern texts.

### **Course Aims and Objectives:**

This course aims to afford students the experience of developing characters and exploring acting styles based on the canon of modern dramatic literature.

### **Prerequisites:** THR 5210

### **Programme Outcomes:**

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

A1, A2,A3,A4,A5,B1,B2,B3,B4,B5,B6,B7,B8,B9,C1,C2,C3,C4,C7,D2,D3,D4,D5,D6,D7.

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:**

1. Students will demonstrate their performance skills in use of voice and body for onstage performance in Modern plays.
2. To provide students with a systematic understanding of knowledge relating to theories of acting which have evolved during the Modern Age.
3. To encourage students to analyse new and novel Modern Acting theories and approaches in preparing excerpts from a variety of Modern dramas to classroom performance.
4. To provide students with a systematic understanding of the major works by Modern dramatists from which scenes will be performed.
5. To develop student's understanding of the influence of the Modern director on Modern approaches to acting.

### **Indicative Content:**

- Realism in drama
- Stanislavsky
- Symbolist style
- Constructivism
- Non-verbal physical theatre
- Bio - mechanics.
- Meyerhold
- Moscow Studio Theatre
- Realistic acting for the camera and its influence on stage acting.
- Sergei Eisenstein and the Socialist-Realist cinema.
- Theatre in France, 1920's-1930. The work of Antonin Artaud, and emergence of *Theatre of Cruelty*.
- Expressionist Drama in Germany, and the influence of Ernst Toller and Erwin Piscator.
- Post World War II theatre in England.
- A survey of styles associated with mid-20th Century theatre in the United States.
- A survey of contemporary directing and acting.

### **Assessment:**

This course conforms to the Richmond University Special Programme Assessment Norms for Theatre approved by Academic Council on 28 June 2012.

### **Teaching Methodology:**

Theatre workshop techniques including practical exercises and games will be used alongside theoretical approaches to character development and interpretation. Students will be coached and directed in each of their presentation assignments and receive individual critiques and feedback.

