Participatory Theatre for Development

PGPII (Elective)

Instructors

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Budhan Theatre
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Course Outline: Among the pedagogies for learning, the participatory theatrical form is innovative in its contribution to developing social analysis and empathy skills. Through enacted physicality, participants are able to enter the hitherto (un)experienced worlds in order to develop a deep relational understanding of rationality, justice, systems (of thought and action) and processes that have a profound impact on the way social lives are constructed whether in an urban informal settlement, an elite gated housing society, a government department or a corporate boardroom.

The design of this course engages participants with the methods and techniques of participatory developmental theatre, towards enacting social change. This engagement will consist of facilitation of group and individual theatrical processes. This training will be in a form of a workshop that will be conducted both at IIMA as well as Ahmedabad's *Budhan Theatre.*

The core objective of this course is to add to the skill set of future managers by developing communicative strategies in group/teamwork that are based on the lived experiences of the team members, privileging the development of collective goals and shared values, and the capacity for empathetic leadership.

The Budhan Theatre, Ahmedabad is not only a theatre performance group but also a site of profound social complexity and change; brought about through theatrical engagement. Here, the Budhan Theatre's actors, who are both actors in the traditional sense, as well as the 'en-actors' of their own communities transformation will facilitate the course participants' thinking processes enabling them to enter their own world through a variety of theatrical techniques.

The outcome of the course will include performances using a variety of forms of expression chosen by participant groups over the duration of the course.

Maximum Participants: 30

Prerequisites in terms of courses or any prior experience with theatrical forms are not required for this course.

Assessment: 50% Diary of Participatory Process and Technique, 50% Performance-Discussion

<u>Sessions and Readings:</u>

This course will be conducted in workshop format over 5 contiguous days.

Day 1:

<u>Pedagogy of the Oppressed - 'Education' as instrument of Oppression and Liberation</u>

Freire, Chapter 1, 2 & 3
Theatre of the Oppressed - Theatre as force of social transformation.
Boal. Preface: The Unruly Protagonist(x –xxii) &
Chapter 4: Poetics of the Oppressed;
Boon, Richard and Jane Plastow. 2004. Chapter 9: Theatre a space for empowerment: Celebrating Jana Sanskritis Experience In India By Sanjoy Ganguly
Three Models of Social Development: Analyzing Participation

Day 2: <u>Facilitating Participatory Theatre: Budhan Theatre</u>
Exposure to Participatory Theatre in India through lecture-demonstrations by external facilitators
Guided Exercises to engage participants in facilitating participatory processes in developmental setting
Da Costa,Dia.Chapter 5: 'Spoiled Sons and Sincere Daughters': Schooling, Security and Empowerment.
Epskamp.Chapter 11: The Importance of Art Education

Day 3:

<u>Performances of Oppression and Liberation using Participatory theatre</u>
Boal and Jackson. 2006. The Aesthetics of the Oppressed. Pages 13-25

<u>Scripting Narratives of Liberation and Social Transformation of 'The Mainstream'</u>
Boal and Jackson. 2006. The Aesthetics of the Oppressed. Pages 27-38

Mohandas K. Gandhi. . Hindswaraj.

Day 4:

<u>Visual, Written, Spoken media in Developmental Theatre:</u> Enacting Liberation in the context of Social Marginalization
<u>Reading:</u> Boon, Richard and Jane Plastow. 2004. Chapter 8. South Asia's Child Rights Theatre for Development: the empowerment of children who are marginalized, disadvantaged and excluded. By Michael Etherton.

<u>Roy, Arundhati. 2013. Broken Republic. Penguin.</u>

<u>Mohandas K. Gandhi. . Trusteeship. Navajivan Publishing House.</u>

Day 5: Diary Readings & Performance-Discussions

Pickard James. 1979. The Humane Society. *Sociology*

Kivel, Paul. 2000. Social Service or Social Change? : Who Benefits from your Work.

----2004. Are you mentoring for Social Justice?

Optional Selected Readings:
Boal, Augusto. 1993. *Theater of the Oppressed.* New York: Theatre Communications Group.
Freire, Paulo. 1971/2000. Pedagogy of the Oppressed. Continuum International Publishing Group
McCarthy, Julia, Karla Galvao, Robert Chambers. 2004. Enacting participatory development: theatre-based techniques. Earthscan.
Epskamp, Kees, Tim Prentki. 2006. Theatre for Development: An Introduction to Context, Applications and Training. Zed Books.
DaCosta, Dia. 2009. Development Dramas. Routledge.
Chhara, Dakxin. 2010. Budhan Bolta Hai.
Boal Augusto and Adrian Jackson. 2006. The Aesthetics of the Oppressed. Routledge.
Mathur, Madhav, 2009 "Diary of an unreasonable man", Penguin.
Subramaniam, KG. The King and The Little Man. Seagull Books.

Films:
The East, Dir: Zal Batmanglij, 2013
The Edukators, Dir: Hans Weingartner, 2004
Motorcycle Diaries, Dir: Walter Salles, 2004
The Yamuna Gently Weeps. Dir: Ruzbeh Barucha, 2005.
Bulldozer. 2006. Dir: Dakxin Bajrange
The Yes Men Fix The World. 2009. Dirs: Dan Olman, Sarah Price, and Chris Smith
The Factory. 2015. Rahul Roy.
The City Beautiful. 2009. Rahul Roy

Court. 2015. Chaitanya Tamahane.
The World Before Her. 2013. Nisha Pahuja.

Relationship of course with overall program objectives and related courses The course seeks to provide students with communication and leadership skills that are more in line with open and equitable relationships in their sphere of work. These communicative forms encourage ideas about organizational, social, cultural transformation rooted in cooperative group processes, departing from an orientation that privileges authoritative individuals as agents of change. It also seeks to develop alternative learning pedagogies where the students of higher education can learn more directly about the social experiences of those who are marginalized, in order to develop skills of empathetic leadership.

The course will build on the exposure they have received via Socio-Cultural Environment of Business, Business Ethics, Power and Politics in Organization, Public Policy and Social Entrepreneurship.