UNSW Course Outline

ARTS2121 Theatre in Our Times - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : ARTS2121
Year : 2024
Term : Term 1
Teaching Period : T1
Is a multi-term course? : No
Faculty : Faculty of Arts, Design and Architecture
Academic Unit : School of the Arts and Media
Delivery Mode : In Person
Delivery Format : Standard
Delivery Location : Kensington
Campus : Sydney
Study Level : Undergraduate
Units of Credit : 6

Useful Links

Handbook Class Timetable

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

Performance matters in the world. Artists always respond to the problems of their time. And theatre-makers can be the first to respond when issues emerge. In this course, you will explore how artists create performances that engage audiences in contemporary debates of our time.

For example, how is performance intervening in race relations, gender issues, and our engagement with animals, machines and the environment? You will explore the social origins of current issues and the methods theatre-makers are using to respond. With the skills that you develop, you will come to understand how theatre-makers use innovation in performance to transform our relation to the world. You will learn how the world works within theatre and how theatre works in the world.

Relationship to Other Courses

This course is the core course for all Theatre & Performance Studies Majors and Minors. It builds on ARTS1120 Experiencing Theatre's introduction to theatre studies, ARTS1121 Performance and Pop Culture's introduction to performance studies, and ARTS1122 Creativity's introduction to creative process and practice. That said, it does not assume that students have completed any or all of these courses and takes the opportunity to reintroduce and consolidate key concepts.

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Identify and define key forms and genres of theatre and performance today.
CLO2 : Explain and apply some of the critical frameworks that have influenced both the production and reception of contemporary theatre and performance.
CLO3 : Analyse and experiment with contemporary performance approaches to text, space, time, performing and spectating.

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Identify and define key forms and genres of theatre and performance today.	• Case Study Description • Essay
CLO2 : Explain and apply some of the critical frameworks that have influenced both the production and reception of contemporary theatre and performance.	• Group Performance • Case Study Description • Essay
CLO3 : Analyse and experiment with contemporary performance approaches to text, space, time, performing and spectating.	• Group Performance • Essay

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Learning and Teaching in this course

Please see Moodle

Additional Course Information

Please see Moodle

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Case Study Description Assessment Format: Individual	20%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: 01/03/2024 05:00 PM Post Date: 15/03/2024 05:00 PM
Essay Assessment Format: Individual	50%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: 02/04/2024 05:00 PM Post Date: 16/04/2024 05:00 PM
Group Performance Assessment Format: Group	30%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: Week 10: 15 April - 21 April Post Date: 17/05/2024 05:00 PM

Assessment Details
Case Study Description

Assessment Overview

Students are to write a 800-word close description of one production or playtext included in the list of case studies for Assessment 2, the essay.

Feedback via LMS

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Identify and define key forms and genres of theatre and performance today.
- CLO2 : Explain and apply some of the critical frameworks that have influenced both the production and reception of contemporary theatre and performance.

Detailed Assessment Description

Please see Moodle for detailed instructions

Assessment Length

500-800 words

Submission notes

Please see Moodle

Assessment information

Please see Moodle

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Essay

Assessment Overview

2,000-2,200 words. Students compare, contrast, and analyse key performance case studies.

Feedback via LMS

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : Identify and define key forms and genres of theatre and performance today.
- CLO2 : Explain and apply some of the critical frameworks that have influenced both the production and reception of contemporary theatre and performance.
- CLO3 : Analyse and experiment with contemporary performance approaches to text, space, time, performing and spectating.

Detailed Assessment Description

Please see Moodle for detailed instructions

Assessment Length

2,000-2,500 words

Submission notes

Please see Moodle

Assessment information

Please see Moodle

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Group Performance

Assessment Overview

Duration: 10 minutes. Students conceive, devise, and deliver a short performance.

Feedback via LMS.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO2 : Explain and apply some of the critical frameworks that have influenced both the production and reception of contemporary theatre and performance.
- CLO3 : Analyse and experiment with contemporary performance approaches to text, space, time, performing and spectating.

Detailed Assessment Description

Please see Moodle for detailed instructions

Assessment Length

No more than 10 minutes

Submission notes

In class

Assessment information

Please see Moodle

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This is not a Turnitin assignment

General Assessment Information

For guidance about assignment and essay writing, please consult the following UNSW Sydney online documents:

https://student.unsw.edu.au/essay-and-assignment-writing

Referencing Systems

You are welcome to use a referencing system that you have a good grasp of and that is relevant to your university studies. Whichever system you choose to use, the golden rule is to follow it carefully and be consistent. Here are some systems commonly used in Theatre & Performance Studies if you would like to use one of them:

* Oxford footnote/bibliography system:

https://student.unsw.edu.au/footnote-bibliography-or-oxford-referencing-system

* Harvard "in-text' referencing system:

https://student.unsw.edu.au/harvard-referencing

* Chicago Author-Date referencing system (17th edition):

Quick Guide: http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/toolscitationguide/citation-guide-2.html

Full Guide: http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org.wwwproxy1.library.unsw.edu.au/book/ed17/frontmatter/toc.html

The UNSW Library offers many services to students seeking help with their essays and study skills. See https://www.library.unsw.edu.au/students

Grading Basis

Standard

Requirements to pass course

To pass this course you must achieve a composite mark of at least 50 out of 100. If you fail to participate in your group's presentation for Assessment 3, and you do not provide good cause within two weeks of the presentation date, you will receive a fail mark for Assessment 3. In such a situation it would be more difficult to pass the course.

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 12 February - 18 February	Lecture	Ecocriticism in Contemporary Theatre: Case Studies
	Tutorial	Discussion of case studies, course and assessments
Week 2 : 19 February - 25 February	Lecture	Ecocriticism in Contemporary Theatre: Theories
	Tutorial	Discussion of readings and practical exercises
Week 3 : 26 February - 3 March	Lecture	First Nations in Contemporary Theatre: Case Studies
	Tutorial	Discussion of case studies and practical exercises
	Assessment	Case Study Description: Please see Moodle
Week 4 : 4 March - 10 March	Lecture	First Nations in Contemporary Theatre: Theories
	Tutorial	Discussion of readings and practical exercises
Week 5 : 11 March - 17 March	Lecture	Gender and Feminism in Contemporary Theatre: Case Studies
	Tutorial	Discussion of case studies and practical exercises
Week 6 : 18 March - 24 March	Lecture	Flex Week. There are no lectures of tutorials this week. Use this period instead to prepare Assessment 2 (due Week 8) and to come up with some ideas for Assessment 3.
Week 7 : 25 March - 31 March	Lecture	Gender and Feminism in Contemporary Theatre: Theories
	Tutorial	Discussion of readings and practical exercises
Week 8 : 1 April - 7 April	Lecture	Choose Your Own Adventure (see Moodle for details)
	Tutorial	Discussion of case studies and practical exercises; group work.
	Assessment	Assessment Essay: Please see Moodle
Week 9 : 8 April - 14 April	Studio	Dedicated to group work
	Tutorial	Dedicated to group work
Week 10 : 15 April - 21 April	Studio	Dedicated to group work
	Tutorial	Presentation of Group Performances. Students must attend their regular tutorial slot, and are welcome to also attend the other tutorial slot to see that tutorial group's presentations. Course feedback forum
	Assessment	Group Performance

Attendance Requirements

Attendance at all Lectures and Tutorials is mandatory in this course as they are directly associated with Course Learning Outcomes. If a student fails to attend without good cause the class in which their group is presenting their performance for assessment, this will be counted as a non-submission of Assessment 3.

It is the responsibility of each student to make sure they sign the class roll. If a student is unable to attend a class, they should inform the Convenor, preferably in advance of the class. Where relevant, supporting documentation should be provided as soon as possible. During the preparatory period for the Group Performance (Weeks 9 & 10), students should also inform the student Facilitator(s) in their group.

General Schedule Information

Please see the Class Timetable: https://timetable.unsw.edu.au/2024/ARTS2121.html and Moodle

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

The set readings are available in the course Moodle site and via the UNSW Library.

Recommended Resources

The recommended readings are available in the course Moodle site and via the UNSW main library. Students are also encouraged to check the UNSW Library's Theatre and Performance Subject Guide: https://subjectguides.library.unsw.edu.au/arts/theatre

For further study resources, see also the UNSW Library's Students page: https://www.library.unsw.edu.au/students

Additional Costs

Not applicable

Course Evaluation and Development

We welcome constructive feedback not only at the conclusion of the course, but also as we go along. Please feel free to email the course convenor, Dr Caroline Wake (c.wake@unsw.edu.au) with problems, suggestions and ideas any time. At the end of the course we will invite you to provide feedback using UNSW's course experience survey.

Many aspects of this course are the result of innovative student feedback from previous years. For example, the number of critical perspectives, the genre of case studies, and the nature and timing of Assessment 1 in this course have all been changed in response to student feedback.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Dr Caroline Wake		Room 246E, Level 2, Robert Webster	9385 0720	Wed 11-12; other times by appointment	Yes	Yes

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

Due to evolving advice by NSW Health, students must check for updated information regarding online learning for all Arts, Design and Architecture courses this term (via Moodle or course information provided).

Please see: https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/student-life/resources-support/protocols-guidelines for essential student information relating to:

- UNSW and Faculty policies and procedures;
- Student Support Services;
- Dean's List;
- review of results;
- credit transfer;
- cross-institutional study and exchange;
- examination information;
- enrolment information;
- Special Consideration in the event of illness or misadventure;
- student equity and disability;

And other essential academic information.

Academic Honesty and Plagarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

- Copying: Using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This includes copying materials, ideas or concepts from a book, article, report or other written document, presentation, composition, artwork, design, drawing, circuitry, computer program or software, website, internet, other electronic resource, or another person's assignment without appropriate acknowledgement.
- Inappropriate paraphrasing: Changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original information, structure and/or progression of ideas of the original without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit and to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without appropriate referencing.

- Collusion: Working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student for the purpose of them plagiarising, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.
- Inappropriate citation: Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.
- Duplication ("self-plagiarism"): Submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

The UNSW Academic Skills support offers resources and individual consultations. Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study. One of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items. UNSW Library has the ELISE tool available to assist you with your study at UNSW. ELISE is designed to introduce new students to studying at UNSW, but it can also be a great refresher during your study.

Completing the ELISE tutorial and quiz will enable you to:

- analyse topics, plan responses and organise research for academic writing and other assessment tasks
- effectively and efficiently find appropriate information sources and evaluate relevance to your needs
- use and manage information effectively to accomplish a specific purpose
- better manage your time
- understand your rights and responsibilities as a student at UNSW
- be aware of plagiarism, copyright, UNSW Student Code of Conduct and Acceptable Use of UNSW ICT Resources Policy
- be aware of the standards of behaviour expected of everyone in the UNSW community
- locate services and information about UNSW and UNSW Library

Use of AI for assessments

As AI applications continue to develop, and technology rapidly progresses around us, we remain committed to our values around academic integrity at UNSW. Where the use of AI tools, such as ChatGPT, has been permitted by your course convener, they must be properly credited and your submissions must be substantially your own work.

In cases where the use of AI has been prohibited, please respect this and be aware that where unauthorised use is detected, penalties will apply.

[Use of AI for assessments | UNSW Current Students](#)

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Turnitin Submission

If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au

Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin, you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support, you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone, you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally, assessment tasks must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible, alternative submission details will be stated on your course's Moodle site. For information on how to submit assignments online via Moodle: https://student.unsw.edu.au/how-submit-assignment-moodle

Late Submission Penalty

UNSW has a standard late submission penalty of:

- 5% per calendar day,
- for all assessments where a penalty applies,
- capped at five calendar days (120 hours) from the assessment deadline, after which a student cannot submit an assessment, and
- no permitted variation.

Students are expected to manage their time to meet deadlines and to request [Special Consideration](#) as early as possible before the deadline. Support with [Time Management is available here](#).

School Contact Information

School of the Arts and Media

Location: Room 312, Level 3 Robert Webster Building

Opening Hours: Monday -Friday, 9am - 5 pm

Email: sam@unsw.edu.au

Phone: +612 9385 4856

web: https://www.unsw.edu.au/arts-design-architecture/our-schools/arts-media