

THEA 101 The Live Act: Introduction to Theatre

Trimester 1 2013

4 March to 3 July 2013

20 Points



Ong Keng Sen's *Desdemona*, Claire Wong as Desdemona, Madhu Margi as Othello
Adelaide Festival 2000

TRIMESTER DATES

Teaching dates:	4 March to 7 June 2013
Easter break:	28 March to 3 April 2013
Mid-trimester break:	22 to 28 April 2013

WITHDRAWAL DATES

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at
<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds>

NAMES AND CONTACT DETAILS

Course Coordinator	Megan Evans	megan.evans@vuw.ac.nz	463 9793	FT77/Room 303
Teaching Staff	James McKinnon	james.mckinnon@vuw.ac.nz	463 6115	FT77/Room 307
	Lori Leigh	lori.leigh@vuw.ac.nz	463 6712	FT77/Room 304

Additional lectures also taken by Theatre Programme academic staff David O'Donnell (DOD), Bronwyn Tweddle (BT), Nicola Hyland (NH), and James Davenport (JD)

Administrative Tutor Hannah Banks hannah.banks@vuw.ac.nz

Course Administrator Cathy McCullagh cathy.mccullagh@vuw.ac.nz 463 5359 FT83/Room 202

- Staff Office Hours are posted on Blackboard, and we are also available by appointment.
- Lectures will also be taken by James Davenport.
- Tutor names and contact information are posted on Blackboard.

Māori and Pacific Island Tutor

Sarah Hudson mpitutor@vuw.ac.nz Room 304, 83 Fairlie Terrace

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 9am-5pm

facebook.com/seftms

CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

Lectures

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 1.10pm – 2pm Maclaurin LT 101

Tutorials

Tutorials begin in WEEK 2. Please register for tutorials via the THEA 101 site on Blackboard: go to "Tutorials" and then follow the instructions under the "SCubed - Tutorial Enrolment Instructions" link. Please read the instructions carefully. Tutorial rooms will be listed on S-Cubed, Blackboard and on the bulletin board outside the SEFTMS Reception, 83 Fairlie Terrace.

TEACHING/LEARNING SUMMARY

The course is taught in three lectures and one tutorial per week.

COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Any additional information, or changes to the course, will be announced in class and posted on Blackboard. If you are not going to use the Victoria email address set up for you, we strongly encourage you to set a forward from the Victoria email system to the email address you do use.

COURSE PRESCRIPTION

An introduction to drama, theatre, and performance. The course will provide an overview of primarily western theatre history as a basis for introducing standard theatre terminology and critical approaches. These approaches will be applied in lectures to plays from a variety of periods and genres, normally including at least one non-western example, and be explored both dramaturgically and practically in tutorials. The course will also include criticism of live performance. At least one practical workshop will be held during the course.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Students passing the course should:

- recognise the distinctive qualities of live theatrical performance
- explain major concepts and terminology of theatre studies
- list characteristics of a selection of plays of various genres and styles, and discuss their creative possibilities in performance
- list characteristics of major periods of western theatre history and one or more non-western performance forms
- analyse the performative and creative potential of plays through practical workshopping of text
- illustrate understanding of one or more major critical approaches to drama and theatre by drawing examples from studied playtexts

EXPECTED WORKLOAD

The university anticipates that you should be able to devote about 200 hours to a 20-point course. Therefore you should probably expect to spend, on average, about 13 hours per week (apart from class time) in reading, preparation, thinking and essay writing. Some students can pass (though not necessarily well) on less, and some of you will find you need or want to do more. Some additional time will be needed to prepare practical presentations for tutorials. We also encourage you to attend as much Wellington theatre as possible while you are taking this course.

GROUP WORK

15% of your final grade is based on a small group practical presentation requiring:

Performance of a short (3-5 minute section) drawn from the text(s) for that week's tutorial

Contribution to leading a discussion on key questions that have arisen in your group work on the piece

Each member of the group will also write a brief (300-400 word) reflection on what you learned about the dramaturgy of the play from your practical investigation, the group process, your individual contribution and process, and what you might have done differently.

Assessment will be considering:

- Analysis of the dramaturgy and performative options
- Evidence of reflective, constructive, critically engaged appraisal
- Sensitivity to the text, the task, and the group's working process

While you will work in a group for this project, your grade will be based on your individual contribution, including performance, class discussion and written reflection.

READINGS

Essential texts:

THEA 101 Student Notes (available from Student Notes Distribution Centre, approximately \$22.90).
The Cape by Vivienne Plumb. Wellington, Play Press: 2008 (available from Vic Books, approximately \$20).
SEFTMS Guidelines for Students in THEA 101 (Blackboard under 'Course Resources').

All undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer from 11 February to 15 March 2013. After week two of the trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from vicbooks Easterfield Building. You can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered to you or they can be picked up from the shop. You will be contacted when they are available.

MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT

Students are required to purchase at least one theatre ticket (\$12-\$30) in order to complete the first assessment: Dramaturgical Critique of a Play in Production

ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

This course is internally assessed, with assessment comprising three written assignments:

1. Developing a thesis (0% but prep for Comparative essay; ~200 words) **DUE 12 noon Wed 20 Mar**

Marking criteria: Strong thesis, logically developed discussion, accurate and adequate use of examples, clarity and concision

2. Dramaturgical critique of a play in production (25% -- 1,500 words)

a. Step 1: Draft (peer feedback, not assessed)

DUE in tutorial 8 or 9 April

b. Step 2: Final version

DUE 5pm 11 April

NOTE: Allow for the cost of theatre ticket.

Marking criteria: Strong thesis, logically developed discussion, accurate and adequate use of examples, clarity and concision

3. Test (25%), in class

Friday 10 May, 1:10-2:00pm

4. Comparative essay (35% -- 2,000 words)

Comparative analysis of 2 plays taught in the course

DUE 5pm Fri 7 June

Marking criteria: Strong thesis, logically developed discussion, accurate and adequate use of examples, clarity and concision

5. Practical tutorial and workshop exercise (15%)

A group presentation described above under “Group Work”

DUE as scheduled in your tutorial

RELATIONSHIP OF ASSESSMENT TO LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The Dramaturgical Critique requires students to attend and analyse a live performance and to consider its distinctive qualities. The Test gives students the opportunity to demonstrate knowledge of key terms in theatre studies and characteristics of major periods of western history and one or more non-western performance forms. Through the Tutorial Presentation, students explore creative options of studied playtexts. The Comparative Analysis gives students the opportunity to explain major concepts and terminology of theatre studies and illustrate understanding of one or more major critical approaches to drama and theatre by drawing examples from studied playtexts.

ASSIGNMENTS & SUBMISSION

All written work is to be submitted via Blackboard. Be sure to complete a cover sheet (available on Blackboard). Paste the cover sheet into the beginning of your document or upload it separately.

Assignment cover sheets and extension forms can be found on Blackboard.

Feedback and marking for your written work will be uploaded onto Blackboard by your tutor.

EXTENSIONS AND PENALTIES

Extensions will be granted only in exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. Issues of workload do not constitute exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. If you require an extension, you must complete an extension request form (available on your course Blackboard site) prior to the assignment due date. This must be accompanied by relevant documentation (e.g. a doctor’s certificate) where appropriate. Tutors cannot grant extensions.

Work submitted after the deadline will be penalised by a 2.5 percent deduction from your total mark per work day. Late work also receives only minimal comments from your marker.

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

To gain a pass in this course you must:

- Submit the written work specified for this course, on or by the specified dates (subject to such provisions as are stated for late submission of work)
- Attend at least 8 out of 10 tutorials

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students. You can find out more information on Class Representatives on www.vuwsa.org.nz.

STATEMENT ON LEGIBILITY

You are expected to present work that meets appropriate standards. Work submitted during the course (i. e. work that is internally assessed) should be typed or prepared on a computer. Where handwritten work is required you are expected to write clearly. If this is deemed 'illegible', you will be given a photocopy of the work and asked to transcribe it to an acceptable standard (preferably typed) within a specified time frame.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material
- Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website:
<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism>

TURNITIN

Work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://www.turnitin.com>. Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool which compares

submitted work with a very large database of existing material. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted material on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions is not made available to any other party.

WHERE TO FIND MORE DETAILED INFORMATION

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study.

Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at

www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress. Most statutes and policies are available at

www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy, except qualification statutes, which are available via the *Calendar* webpage at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar (See Section C).

Other useful information for students may be found at the website of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic), at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic.

Make arrangements to see one of the following plays in sufficient time to write the draft Dramaturgical critique for discussion in tutorial (8 or 9 April):

***Mike and Virginia* @ Circa Theatre (Circa Two) – showing Saturday 23 March – Sat 20 April; OR
The Clouds @ Bats (Out-of-Site) – showing Tuesday 2 April – Saturday 13 April**

Note: If you choose to write about *The Clouds*, you will need to book early in the season and write your draft quickly. Those needing more time for the writing phase should choose to see *Mike and Virginia*.

School of English, Film, Theatre, & Media Studies
THEATRE PROGRAMME COURSE OUTLINE THEA 101

COURSE PROGRAMME					
	TUTORIAL	READING Title/Topic: pp.	LECTURE Tue 1.10-2pm	LECTURE Thur 1.10-2pm	LECTURE Fri 1.10-2pm
1	Enrol in tutorial via Blackboard/S-cubed	Intro: pp. 1-10 Global: 11-18 <i>THE ISLAND</i> : 19-32	5 MARCH Drama, Theatre, Performance ME	7 MARCH Script Analysis <i>THE ISLAND</i> ME	8 MARCH Performance Analysis <i>THE ISLAND</i> ME
2	Reading/Thinking about plays <i>THE ISLAND</i>	<i>The Cape</i> Separate play script Avail. Vic Books	12 MARCH NZ Theatre DOD	14 MARCH NZ Theatre/ <i>The Cape</i> DOD	15 MARCH <i>The Cape</i> ME
3	Developing a thesis <i>THE CAPE</i>	Athens: 33-46 <i>OEDIPUS</i> : 47-67 Poetics: 68-77	19 MARCH Ritual and community: Ancient Greece JM	21 MARCH <i>Oedipus the King</i> Aristotle & staging JM	22 MARCH <i>Oedipus the King</i> Aristotle & staging JM
			Asst 1 DUE noon Wed 20 Mar; Peer feedback DUE Fri 22 Mar		
4	Testing a thesis in performance: <i>OEDIPUS</i>		26 MARCH Scenography JDAV	EASTER BREAK	EASTER BREAK
5	No tutorials		EASTER BREAK	4 APRIL Lighting/Costume Design ME	5 APRIL Acting LL
6	DRAFT Dramaturgical Critique DUE; Designing <i>OEDIPUS</i>	Japan: 78-94 <i>MATSUKAZE</i> : 95-100 <i>CHUSHINGURA</i> : 101-121 Zeami: 122-131	9 APRIL Japanese theatre traditions: Nō and Kyōgen, <i>MATSUKAZE</i> ME	11 APRIL Japanese theatre: Kabuki, Bunraku,, <i>CHUSHINGURA</i> ME	12 APRIL Japanese theatre: Kabuki, <i>CHUSHINGURA</i> ME
				Dramaturgical critique due Thur 11 April @ 5pm	
7	Testing a thesis in performance: <i>CHUSHINGURA</i>	Medieval and Renaissance: 132-154; <i>SECOND SHEPHERD</i> : 155-166 <i>OTHELLO</i> : 167-216	16 APRIL Commedia dell'Arte BT	18 APRIL Sacred and profane: medieval mystery and morality— Medieval staging LL	19 APRIL Early Modern theatre: Elizabethan staging LL

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THEATRE PROGRAMME COURSE OUTLINE THEA 101

MID-TRIMESTER BREAK					
Monday 22 – Sunday 28 April 2013					
	TUTORIAL	READING Title/Topic: pp.	LECTURE Tue 1.10-2pm	LECTURE Thur 1.10-2pm	LECTURE Fri 1.10-2pm
8	Commedia dell'Arte	<i>OTHELLO</i> : 167-216; Neoclassicism, Romanticism, Melodrama: 217-226	30 APRIL <i>OTHELLO</i> : Dramaturgical Structure LL	2 MAY <i>OTHELLO</i> : Dramaturgical structure LL	3 MAY Neoclassicism, Romanticism, Melodrama ME
9	Testing a thesis in performance: <i>OTHELLO</i>		7 MAY Rise of the Director ME	9 MAY Realist Revolution ME	10 MAY TEST ME
10	Acting & Directing: Open scenes	Thea & Cult to 1950: 227-237; <i>Miss Julie</i> : 245-266	14 MAY <i>Miss Julie</i> ME	16 MAY <i>Miss Julie</i> ME	17 MAY Gender Theory NH
11	Testing a thesis in performance: <i>MISS JULIE</i>	Thea & Culture Since 1950: 238-244 <i>Cloud Nine</i> : 267-295	21 MAY Gender theory/ <i>CLOUD NINE</i> NH	23 MAY <i>CLOUD NINE</i> NH	24 MAY Global & Intercultural Performance ME
12	Testing a thesis In performance <i>CLOUD NINE</i>	Global & Intercultural: 296-309 <i>DESDEMONA</i> : 310-329	28 MAY DESDEMONA ME	30 MAY DESDEMONA ME	31 MAY Post-dramatic theatre DOD
13	No tutorials this week Queen's Birthday		4 JUNE 101 Greatest Hits Could be you! Useful review for comparative essay of studied plays (Nominated by tutors, worth 5% on tutorial presentation mark)	6 JUNE Scenes from THEA 302 productions	7 JUNE Scenes from THEA 323 production
				Comparative Essay is DUE Friday 7 June @ 5pm	