Te Kura Tānga Kōrero Ingarihi, Kiriata, Whakaari, Pāpāho



# THEA 210 Scenography: Introduction to Theatre Technologies and Performance Design

# Trimester 2 2015

13 July to 15 November 2015

20 Points



# **IMPORTANT DATES**

Teaching dates: 13 July to 16 October 2015

Mid-trimester break: 24 August to 6 September 2015

Last assessment item due: 16 October 2015

Withdrawal dates:

Refer to <a href="https://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds">www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds</a>. If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination, refer to <a href="https://www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats">www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats</a>.

#### THEATRE PROGRAMME COURSE OUTLINE THEA 210

# **CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS**

#### Lectures

Tuesday and Wednesday 10:00 – 11:50am 77 Fairlie Tce, 102 (Studio 77)

# **NAMES AND CONTACT DETAILS**

Course Coordinator:	James Davenport	james.davenport@vuw.ac.nz	463 6842	FT77/310
Theatre Technician:	Nick Zwart	nick.zwart@vuw.ac.nz	463 8950	FT77/204
Course Administrator:	Cathy McCullagh	cathy.mccullagh@vuw.ac.nz	463 5359	FT83/202

# **COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Any additional information, or changes to the course, will be announced in class, sent via email, 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.

#### **PRESCRIPTION**

This course explores theoretical and practical elements of scenography and stagecraft necessary in mounting theatrical productions, with intensive training in performance technologies with playtext and production design analysis, and historical research. Students will gain an understanding of the disciplines of performance design, technical production roles, and theatre technologies.

# **COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES (CLOS)**

Students who pass this course should be able to:

- 1. Understand the core technical principles in mounting a theatrical production.
- 2. Have a specialised understanding of performance technologies, stage terminology, stage directions, and identify the different kinds of theatrical spaces and their parts.
- 3. Safely operate the theatre's technical equipment, including lighting fixtures, lighting console, power tools, sound, and AV /multi-media equipment.
- 4. Know and apply the basic elements of performance to inclass design exercises
- 5. Work both independently and collaboratively on in-class practical exercises.
- 6. Communicate their creative design concepts clearly through effective in-class presentations.
- 7. Realise and execute their creative concepts into unified performance designs demonstrated through finished scale models, elevation drawings, lighting plots, and sound scapes composed in QLAB.
- 8. Critique and discuss historical and theoretical design concepts and working methodologies used in live performance.
- 9. Accurately define and distinguish between the different types and styles of live performance and how technologies impact on them.

# THEATRE PROGRAMME COURSE OUTLINE THEA 210

10. Clearly articulate your ideas, design concepts, and creative process through self reflective writing, presentations, and class discussions.

# **TEACHING FORMAT**

This course will be delivered using lectures, practical workshops, and class discussions.

# **MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

All assessed work needs to be submitted on or before the due due dates.

Any student who is concerned that they have been (or might be) unable to meet any of these mandatory course requirements because of exceptional personal circumstances, should contact the course coordinator as soon as possible.

# **WORKLOAD**

The expected workload for a 20-point course is 200 hours over the trimester or 13 hours per teaching week.

# **ASSESSMENT**

As	Assessment items and workload per item		CLO(s)	Due date
1	Mask Presentation with Self Reflective Journal  You will go through the steps of a design process including research, conceptualisation, scale design, rendering, fabrication	40%	1,2,3,4, 5,6,8,10	Mask Presentation Tues 18 Aug
	<ul> <li>and realisation of a theatrical mask, followed by a self-reflective journal.</li> <li>This assessment has two components worth 20% each.</li> <li>The first component focuses on the creation of a theatrical mask and its presentation.</li> <li>The second component you will write a self-reflective journal discussing how your research informed your creative process and realization of the mask.</li> </ul>			Self Reflective Journal Wed 19 Aug
	Marking criteria:			
	<ul> <li>Mask Presentation 20%</li> <li>Strong design concept that incorporates the provocation, research, artistry, originality, and construction.</li> </ul>			
	Self Reflective Journal 20%			
	<ul> <li>Logically developed discussion of your creative process, accurate and adequate use of examples, clarity and concision in you writing. (1000 words)</li> </ul>			
	20–25 hours thinking and writing the first draft (you are encourage			
	you to get feedback from a classmate but this won't happen in			
	class)			

# School of English, Film, Theatre, & Media Studies THEATRE PROGRAMME COURSE OUTLINE THEA 210

	10-15 hours revising the final version				
	30–40 TOTAL HOURS				
2	Final Design Project /Scale Scenic Model with Self Reflective	40%	1,2,3,4,	Scale Model	
	Journal		5,6,8,9,	Tues 6 Oct	
	Marking criteria:		10		
	Scale Model 20%			Self Reflective Journal	
	<ul> <li>10% for strong design concept that includes; supporting</li> </ul>			Wed 14 Oct	
	the dramaturgy of text, unified design aesthetic, artistry,				
	color palette, composition, transformational element,				
	clarity of the kernel of design.				
	• 5% for overall execution of design including; accurate to				
	scale, model construction quality, and attention to detail.				
	• 5% communication of research, design concept, and model				
	presentation.				
	Self Reflective Journal 20%				
	<ul> <li>20% logically developed discussion of your creative process, accurate and adequate use of examples, clarity and concision in you writing. (1000 words)</li> </ul>				
	5 -10 hours reading/re-reading play, scenic breakdown of play				
	10-15 hours construction of preliminary model ( Due 12 September				
	for class feedback)				
	15-20 hours construction off final scale scenic model				
	30-45 TOTAL HOURS				
3	Workshop preparation (10%) and contribution (10%): the following	20%	1,2,3,4,	Awarded week of	
	will be taken into account. Detailed criteria for assessments will be		5,6,7	19 Oct	
	circulated in class.				
	Artistic contribution to creative workshops				
	Ability to work collaboratively with others				
	Ability to work individually				
	Timely completion of required preparation work for classes				
	and out of class creative work				
	Please note that technical and administrative staff may contribute				
	comments which will affect this contribution mark.				
	20 TOTAL HOURS outside of class				

#### THEATRE PROGRAMME COURSE OUTLINE THEA 210

# SUBMISSION AND RETURN OF WORK

Hardcopy assignments are submitted in the drop slot outside the administration office at 83 Fairlie Terrace. Attach an assignment cover sheet found on Blackboard or outside the administration office. Remember to fill in your tutor's name.

Your marked assignment will be handed back by your tutor in tutorials or during their office hours. Any uncollected assignments can be picked up from the Programme Administrator after the last day of teaching. Assignments will be held in the administration office until the end of the following trimester. You need to show your student identification to collect marked assignment from the administration office.

# **EXTENSIONS AND PENALTIES**

#### **Extensions**

In exceptional and unforeseen circumstances an extension may be granted. To apply for an extension, email your Course Coordinator before the assignment is due. If granted, your Course Coordinator will inform you of the new due date. No assignment with or without an extension will be accepted after Wednesday 14 October 2015.

#### **Penalties**

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.

# MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT AND/OR ADDITIONAL EXPENSES

Students are required to purchase a design materials package (NZ \$75.00) from Gordon Harris.

Students must also purchase mask-making supplies from the course coordinator (NZ \$40.00).

#### **SET TEXTS**

Charles Mee, Big Love (http://www.charlesmee.org/html/about.html)

Charles Mee, Notes towards a Manifesto (http://www.charlesmee.org/html/about.html)

**In-Class Handouts** 

#### **RECOMMENDED READING**

Collins Jane and Andrew Nisbet. Theatre and Performance Design. New York, Routledge, 2010

Schechner Richard. Theatre, Spaces, Environments: Eighteen Projects. New York, 1975

Taymor Julie. Playing with Fire. New York, Harry N. Abrams inc, 1999

Pecktal Lynn. Designing and Painting for the Theatre. New York, Harcourt Brace, 1975

# School of English, Film, Theatre, & Media Studies THEATRE PROGRAMME COURSE OUTLINE THEA 210

# **CLASS REPRESENTATIVE**

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course. Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

Class Rep name and contact details:		

# STUDENT FEEDBACK

Student feedback on University courses may be found at <a href="https://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback\_display.php">www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback\_display.php</a>.

Students considered the way the course is organised helped them learn and the amount of work in the course is about right. They valued highly what they learned from the course.

On the basis of the sutdent feedback more practical application of communication skills has been added in particular presentations and group discussion work. Course information has been restructured to more clearly convey the requirements by providing detailed assessment criteria in class.

In week six or seven of the trimester your class representative will be invited to a meeting with the Programme staff. In week five your class representative will ask the class for any feedback on this course to discuss at this meeting.

#### OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: <a href="www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism">www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism</a>
- Aegrotats: <u>www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats</u>
- Academic Progress: <a href="www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress">www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progress</a> (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: <u>www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates</u>
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Resolving academic issues: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications
- Special passes: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/dvc-academic/publications

# THEATRE PROGRAMME COURSE OUTLINE THEA 210

- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute:
   www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: <u>www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support</u>
- Students with disabilities: <u>www.victoria.ac.nz/st\_services/disability</u>
- Student Charter: <u>www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter</u>
- Student Contract: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Subject Librarians: <a href="http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian">http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian</a>
- Turnitin: <a href="www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin">www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin</a>
- University structure: <u>www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure</u>
- Victoria graduate profile: <a href="www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile">www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile</a>
- VUWSA: <u>www.vuwsa.org.nz</u>
- School website: <u>www.victoria.ac.nz/seftms</u>

# School of English, Film, Theatre, & Media Studies THEATRE PROGRAMME COURSE OUTLINE THEA 210

# **210 COURSE PROGRAMME**

Wk	CLASS Tuesday 10:00am to 11:50am	CLASS Wednesday 10:00am to 11:50am	NOTES
1	July 14	July 15	
	Course Intro; Handout. Mask Design Images/Provocation	Mask image Presentation	
2	July 21	July 22	Read: Charles Mee's Maifesto and Big
	Mask workshop #1	Mask workshop #2	Love by July 29
3	July 28	July 29	
	The DMX/LED Universe	Discuss Charles Mee's Manifesto/Big Love	
	Lighting Exercise	Scenic break-down of <i>Big Love</i>	
		Discuss Final Design Project	
4	August 4	August 5	Read Unity, Contrast, and Topology
	Studio 77 FT Mini Me Model	Studio 77 FT Mini Me Model	by Aug 12
	Model Building	Model Building	
5	August 11	August 12	Mask Presentations Aug 18, 19
	Scale Floorplans and Space Configuration	Discuss Unity, Contrast, and Topology	Reflective Journal Due Aug 19
6	August 18	August 21	Read From The Secret of Theatrical
	Mask Presentations	Mask Presentations/Reflective Journal Due	Space Handout by Sept 8
	August 24 – September 6	August 24 – September 6	Preliminary Model Presentation
	Mid -Trimester Break	Mid -Trimester Break	Due Sept 8, 9
7	Sept 8	Sept 9	
	Preliminary Model Presentation	Preliminary Model Presentation	
8	Sept 15	Sept 16	
	Introduction to Power Tools #1	Introduction to Power Tools #2	
9	Sept 22	Sept 23	Read From The Secret of Theatrical
	Scenographic Alien Project	Scenographic Alien Project	Sept 29
10	Sept 29	Sept 30	
	Discuss: From The Secret of Theatrical	Workshop TBA	
11	Oct 6	Oct 7	Design Presentation Due Oct 6, 7
	Design Presentation Finished Set Designs for <i>Big Love</i>	Design Presentation Finished Set Designs for <i>Big Love</i>	Self Reflective Journal Due Oct 14
12	Oct 13	Oct 14	
	Debrief	Theatre Appreciation Day/Jim and Nick's Chili Cook Off	