



The University of Southern Queensland

Course specification

Description: Community and Political Theatre						
Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
THS	2002	54677	2, 2006	ONC	1.00	Toowoomba

Academic group:	FOART
Academic org:	FOA006
Student contribution band:	1
ASCED code:	100103

STAFFING

Examiner: Darryl Chalk
Moderator: Janet McDonald

RATIONALE

This course explores the relationship between art and society within Australian and international contexts. Emphasis will be placed on community and political models developed both in and outside Australia in order to explore their relevance and adaptation capabilities to a range of economic, social and political circumstances.

SYNOPSIS

This course focuses on a range of historical and recently developed theories and methodologies with a community theatre and critical pedagogic relevance. Students will investigate the structures and working applications of a range of political and cultural activities from agitational propaganda, theatre of protest, and community- improvisation-based theatre.

OBJECTIVES

On successful completion of this course students will have:

1. a detailed understanding of the principles of theatrical production as applied to community and politically generated performance material and based on a range of historical and contemporary models. (Assessment items, QUE Project and Living Newspaper Journal/Process refer)
2. a working knowledge of the application of these skills and principles in both a practical and written form. (Assessment items, QUE Project and "How to" Booklet refer)
3. a basic knowledge of the logistical principles, and theatrical methods of practice required to instigate and mount community and political theatre. (Assessment items "How to" Booklet; Scrapbook for Living Newspaper; and Living Newspaper Journal/Process refer)
4. participated in a community theatre project (QUE). (Assessment items, QUE Project; Scrapbook for Living Newspaper; and Living Newspaper Journal/Process refer)

TOPICS

Description	Weighting (%)
1. Political theatre theorists: Piscator, Meyerhold, Boal, Capelin, Federal Theatre project, El Teatro Campesino	20.00
2. Community theatre: Street Arts and Living Newspapers	20.00
3. Pedagogical theatre/didacticism	20.00
4. Collaborative theatre development	20.00
4.1. On campus students will be involved in a political/community performance	
5. Agitational propoganda	20.00

TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED

ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the 'Textbook Search' facility at <http://bookshop.usq.edu.au> click 'Semester', then enter your 'Course Code' (no spaces).

Selected Readings packet from Bookshop.

Capelin, S (ed) 1995, *Challenging the centre: two decades of political theatre*, Playlab Press, Brisbane.

REFERENCE MATERIALS

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.

To be advised during semester.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Others	137.00
Tutorials or Workshops	28.00

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg(%)	Due date
QUE PROJECT	15.00	15.00	24 Jul 2006 (see note 1)
"HOW TO" BOOKLET	25.00	25.00	01 Sep 2006 (see note 2)
SCRAPBOOK FOR LIVING N'PAPER	20.00	20.00	15 Sep 2006 (see note 3)
LIVING NEWSPAPER JNL/PROCESS	40.00	40.00	30 Oct 2006 (see note 4)

NOTES

1. Refer to course addendum given out in first lecture. Assessment is ongoing throughout the semester.
2. Refer to course addendum given out in first lecture.
3. Refer to course addendum given out in first lecture.
4. Refer to course addendum given out in first lecture.

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- 1 Attendance requirements:
It is the students' responsibility to attend and participate appropriately in all activities (such as lectures, tutorials, laboratories and practical work) scheduled for them, and to study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximise their chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related activities and administration.
- 2 Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:
To complete each of the assessment items satisfactorily, students must obtain at least 50% of the marks available for each assessment item.
- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:
If students submit assignments after the due date without prior approval, then a penalty of 10% of the total marks available for the assignment will apply for each of the first FIVE working days late, after which a zero mark will be given.
- 4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:
To be assured of a passing grade, students must demonstrate, via the summative assessment items, that they have achieved the required minimum standards in relation to the objectives of the course by obtaining at least 50% of the total weighted marks for all summative assessment.
- 5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:
The final grades for students will be assigned on the basis of the weighted aggregate of the marks (or grades) obtained for each of the summative assessment items in the course.
- 6 Examination information:
There is no exam for this course.
- 7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:
Given the details under (6) above, there are no deferred exams for this course. However, if any deferred/makeup work is granted, it would have to be submitted by a date set by the examiner.

8 University Regulations:

Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6. Assessment, and 5.10 Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene University Regulations. These regulations can be found at the URL <http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm> or in the current USQ Handbook.

ASSESSMENT NOTES

- 9 (a) The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must lodge the assignment at the USQ. (b) All Faculty of Arts assignments must be lodged in the Faculty Assessment Centre on the Ground Floor of Q Block no later than 12 noon on the due date. (c) Students must retain a copy of each item submitted for assessment. This must be despatched to USQ within 24 hours if requested by the Examiner. (d) In accordance with University's Assignment Extension Policy (Regulation 5.6.1), the examiner of a course may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances such as documented ill-health. (e) Students who have undertaken all of the required assessments in the course but who have failed to meet some of the specified objectives of the course within the normally prescribed time may be awarded the temporary grade: IM Incomplete-Makeup). An IM grade will only be awarded when, in the opinion of the examiner, a student will be able to achieve the remaining objectives of the course after a period of non-directed personal study. (f) Students who, for medical, family/personal, or employment-related reasons, are unable to complete an assignment or sit for an examination at the scheduled time, may apply to defer an assessment in the course. Such a request must be accompanied by appropriate supporting documentation. One of the following temporary grades may be awarded: IDS (Incomplete - Deferred Examination; IDM (Incomplete Deferred Make-up); IDB (Incomplete - Both Deferred Examination and Deferred Make-up).