City University of Hong Kong

Information on a Course
offered by Department of Chinese and History
with effect from Semester A in 2014 / 2015

Part I
Course Title: Society, Theatre and Performance
Course Code: CAH2516
Course Duration: One Semester
No. of Credit Units: 3
Level: B2

Medium of Instruction: English supplemented by Chinese (Cantonese and Putonghua)

Medium of Assessment: English

Prerequisites: (Course Code and Title) Nil

Precursors: (Course Code and Title) Nil

Equivalent Courses: (Course Code and Title) CTL2516 Society, Theatre and Performance

Exclusive Courses: (Course Code and Title) Nil

Part II
1. Course Aims:

This course aims to enable the students to examine the key issues of theatre and performance in society through the reading of texts and a variety of aesthetic experiences. The course will focus mainly on the sociological approaches to the theatre and performing arts studies.
2. **Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)**

*Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>CILOs</th>
<th>Weighting (if applicable)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>To examine the ways in which theatre interacts with various social aspects in life.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>To identify the relationship and differences between theatrical performance and other forms of art.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>To describe the key concepts and approaches used by theatre practitioners, theorists and critics.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>To analyze theatrical performances in a variety of social contexts.</td>
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</table>

3. **Teaching and learning Activities (TLAs)**

*(designed to facilitate students’ achievement of the CILOs)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ILO No</th>
<th>TLAs</th>
<th>Hours/week (if applicable)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CILO 1-4</td>
<td><strong>Readings</strong>&lt;br&gt;Book chapters and articles relevant to the topics of each week</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>CILO 1-4</td>
<td><strong>Lectures and teacher-facilitated analysis and discussion</strong>&lt;br&gt;Theories, concepts, research methodologies, clips of theatrical performances for illustration.</td>
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<tr>
<td>CILO 1-4</td>
<td><strong>Theatre workshops</strong>&lt;br&gt;Experiencing different aspects of the creative process of theatre making. People from the theatre industry can be invited to run some of the workshops.</td>
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<tr>
<td>CILO 1-4</td>
<td><strong>Visits to the live theatre events</strong>&lt;br&gt;At least two visits to professional theatre events, followed by reports on the productions.</td>
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4. **Assessment Tasks/Activities**

*(designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CILO No</th>
<th>Type of assessment tasks/activities</th>
<th>Weighting (if applicable)</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-4</td>
<td><strong>Class participation</strong>&lt;br&gt;Students’ class attendance and general performance in class, for example, their contribution to the class discussion throughout the semester.</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>1-4</td>
<td><strong>Group presentation</strong>&lt;br&gt;Each group will present a short play of 10 minutes, which is written, directed and performed by the group members.</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>1-4</td>
<td><strong>Written assignments</strong>&lt;br&gt;The students are required to accomplish two reports on their guided visits to the live theatre events. Length of each report: 4-6 pages</td>
<td>30%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The examination will cover the entire materials discussed during the semester. The examination will assess students’ knowledge on the subject and their ability to apply the knowledge in solving concrete problems.

Grading is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Criteria</th>
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</table>
| A+A, A- | Excellent                                                                 | 1. Excellent command of background information and knowledge on social issues related to theatrical performances  
2. Excellent understanding of different approaches in studies on the sociological implications of theatrical performances  
3. Excellent linguistic competence in conveying the meaning effectively with few grammatical mistakes  
4. Excellent skills in presenting the mini play (written, directed and performed by the students) |
| B+, B, B- | Good                                                                    | 1. Good command of background information and knowledge on social issues related to theatrical performances  
2. Good understanding of different approaches in studies on the sociological implications of theatrical performances  
3. Good linguistic competence in conveying the meaning clearly with random grammatical mistakes  
4. Good skills in presenting the mini play (written, directed and performed by the students) |
| C+, C, C- | Adequate                                                                | 1. Adequate command of background information and knowledge on social issues related to theatrical performances  
2. Adequate understanding of studies on the sociological implications of theatrical performances  
3. Fair linguistic competence in conveying the meaning with random and systematic grammatical mistakes  
4. Acceptable skills in presenting the mini play (written, directed and performed by the students) |
| D, Marginal | Marginal                                                                | 1. Marginal command of background information and knowledge on social issues related to theatrical performances  
2. Marginal understanding of studies on the sociological implications of theatrical performances  
3. Marginal linguistic competence in conveying the meaning with random and systematic grammatical mistakes  
4. Marginal skills in presenting the mini play (written, directed and performed by the students) |
Part III

Keyword Syllabus:

- Theatre and society, sociological approaches to the study of theatre and performance, theatrical practices in a variety of international, cultural and historical contexts, theatre and audience, consumption of art, theatre and culture, theatre and social values, government and theatre, gender and theatre, theatre and media,
- Theatre and theatre studies, theories of theatre, theories of performance, dramatic genres, the history of the theatre in the East and West, acting, directing and scenography, the audience
- Theatre and other forms of arts, theatre and visual art

Recommended Reading:

Text(s):


方梓勳 (2000) <<香港話劇訪談錄>>。香港: 香港戲劇工程。
方梓勳,蔡錫昌 (1992) <<香港話劇論文集>>。香港: 中天製作有限公司。
高行健 (1996) 《沒有主義》。香港: 天地圖書。
賴聲川 (2006) 《賴聲川的創意學》。台灣: 天下雜誌股份有限公司。
黎鍵 (1993) 《香港粵劇口述史》。香港: 三聯書店。
毛俊輝 (編制) (1999) <<跟住個靚妹氹氹轉>>。香港: 毛俊輝實驗創作。
尼・戈爾恰科夫 (蘇) (1982) 《斯坦尼斯拉夫斯基的導演課》。中國: 中國戲劇出版社。

SELECTED JOURNALS

American Theatre
Asian Theatre Journal Comparative Drama
Essays in Theatre
Gestos
Journal of American Drama and Theatre
Journal of Dramatic Theory and Criticism
Latin American Theatre Review
Modern Drama
New Theatre Quarterly
Nineteenth Century Theatre
Performance Research
Performing Arts Journal
Shakespeare Quarterly
Shakespeare Survey
Slavic and Eastern European Performance
TDR (The Drama Review)
Theater (formerly Yale/Theater)
Theatre Annual
Theatre Arts (1939—64)
Theatre Arts Magazine (1916-39)
Theatre Design and Technology
Theatre History Studies
Theatre Journal
Theatre Notebook
Theatre Quarterly (1970–81)
Theatre Research International
Theatre Survey
Western European Stages
Women and Performance