

TH205-30 Theatre in the Community

26/27

Department

SCAPVC - Theatre and Performance Studies

Level

Undergraduate Level 2

Module leader

Saul Hewish

Credit value

30

Module duration

20 weeks

Assessment

100% coursework

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

N/A.

Module aims

Theatre in the Community provides an exploration of theoretical and practical strategies that are currently in evidence within contemporary community theatre practice, with a particular emphasis on work in criminal justice and social agency settings. The work will include an examination of the key political or social philosophies that have informed such practice as well as an exploration of the role drama process plays in the work. This stage of the module includes an examination of how theories of psychology have informed theatre work with offenders as well as an overview of professional companies and artists working in the criminal justice system. Related fields of psychodrama and dramatherapy are also discussed. It continues with an introduction to practical strategies which encompass games and exercises for use with community groups. Within this there is reference to group-based drama skills, community contexts, and the primary objectives achievable within practice of this kind. The module is designed to prepare students for a practical project. In the final part of the module, participants will get to plan, devise and perform a performance or series of workshops within a criminal justice or social agency context in the Coventry or Staffordshire area.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

Term 1

- Introduction to the course
- Definitions of community - contexts/objectives/strategies
- Historical & political roots of theatre in forensic and social agency settings
- Government policy and the place of theatre in the community
- Criminology, psychology & theatre in prisons
- Workshops - Games & Exercises
- Introduction to facilitation – structuring the drama workshop
- Psychodrama
- Dramatherapy
- Assessed workshop

Term 2

- Devising – skills and methodologies
- Researching the context (preparation for performance project)
- Devising and Rehearsals
- Performances and Workshops

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- By the end of the module, students should be able to: 1)Lead a practice-based exploration of themes or ideas within a community context, working with, for example, young people, older people or offenders. 2)Lead a process of play or project devising appropriate for a community context. 3)Undertake independent research-based investigation to inform written and practical work. 4)Communicate what they have learnt orally and in writing.

Indicative reading list

[Reading lists can be found in Talis](#)

Subject specific skills

Working with community groups

Devising

Group collaboration

Reflection on practice

Transferable skills

Critical thinking
Problem solving
Active lifelong learning
Communication (verbal and written)
Teamwork and working effectively with others
Citizenship (local and global)
Ethical values
Inter-cultural learning and diversity awareness
Professionalism
Organisational awareness

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Other activity	108 hours (36%)
Private study	192 hours (64%)
Total	300 hours

Private study description

Rehearsal
Class preparation

Other activity description

14 x 4 hour workshops
9 x 4 hour rehearsal supervision
Total: 92 hours

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group A1

Weighting Study time Eligible for self-certification

Assessment component

Practical Examination 1 (locally held) 30% No
Initial practical assessment - facilitation of a workshop with peers

Reassessment component is the same

Assessment component

Practical Examination 2 (locally held) 70% No
Held in spring term. A performance and workshop realised in conjunction with a local prison.

Reassessment component is the same

Feedback on assessment

Departmental Feedback Sheet

Availability

Courses

This module is Core for:

- Year 2 of UTHA-W422 Undergraduate Theatre and Performance Studies (with Intercalated Year)

This module is Optional for:

- Year 2 of UTHA-QW34 Undergraduate English and Theatre Studies
- Year 2 of UTHA-W421 Undergraduate Theatre and Performance Studies

This module is Option list A for:

- Year 2 of UTHA-W421 Undergraduate Theatre and Performance Studies