

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: Improvisation and Devising/Storytelling
Status: Definitive
Code: **4015DRAMA** (117587)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2012

Owning School/Faculty: Liverpool Screen School
Teaching School/Faculty: Liverpool Screen School

Team	Leader
Andrew Sherlock	Y
Griff Griffiths	
Charlie Dickinson	
James Frieze	

Academic Level: FHEQ4 **Credit Value:** 24.00 **Total Delivered Hours:** 150.00
Total Learning Hours: 240 **Private Study:** 90

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

Component	Contact Hours
Practical	24.000
Seminar	54.000
Workshop	72.000

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Presentation	AS1	Presentation - Process and Performance for Semester 1	35.0	
Presentation	AS2	Presentation - Process and Performance for Semester 2	35.0	
Reflection	AS3	Reflection	30.0	

Aims

To provide a collaborative and co-operative context in which to explore the creation of new dramatic texts through the introduction of the skills of improvisation and

devising or storytelling.

To provide a collaborative and co-operative context in which to explore Drama as a means of communication for the individual and the group.

To introduce and develop appropriate evaluative and analytical skills.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Demonstrate an understanding of, and skills in, improvisational techniques
- 2 Demonstrate a significant contribution to, and the appropriate skills in, the devising of a small group performance or a solo work.
- 3 Document the processes of rehearsal and performance methodologies and reflect on these employing a broad knowledge of key concepts in the field.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

Presentation (semester 1)	1
Presentation (semester 2)	2
Reflection	3

Outline Syllabus

The course begins by introducing students to the notion of improvised ensemble work and utilises strategies such as focused theatre games and free form improvisation. After the improvisation section, the students then choose between the devising or storytelling routes. The devising route employs a range of methodologies which are applied in practice in groups to the creation of new work whilst storytelling focuses on the individual and places the creation and telling of a story in a historical, cultural and performative context.

Learning Activities

Games and exercises to stimulate the imagination and develop creative and performative skills

Workshops to develop group coherence trust and creativity.

Small scale group and solo work

Seminars, discussion and feedback on relevant concepts and methodology

References

Course Material	Book
------------------------	------

Author	Barker, Clive
Publishing Year	1977
Title	Theatre games
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Methuen
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Boal, Augusto
Publishing Year	1992
Title	Games for Actors and Non Actors
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Routledge
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Bogart, Anne & Landau, Tina
Publishing Year	2005
Title	The Viewpoints
Subtitle	A practical Guide to Viewpoints and Composition
Edition	
Publisher	Theatre Communications Group
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Fo, Dario
Publishing Year	1991
Title	Tricks of the Trade
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Methuen
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Johnston, Chris
Publishing Year	2005
Title	House Of Games
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Nick Hern Books
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Johnstone, Keith
Publishing Year	2007

Title	Impro
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Methuen
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Johnstone, Keith
Publishing Year	1999
Title	Impro for Storytellers
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Faber
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Napier, Mick
Publishing Year	2004
Title	Improvise
Subtitle	Scene from the Inside Out
Edition	
Publisher	Heinemann
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Spolin, Viola
Publishing Year	1963
Title	Improvisation for the Theatre
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Northwestern University Press
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Callery, D
Publishing Year	2001
Title	Through The Body
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Nick Hern Books
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Milling, J & Heddon, D
Publishing Year	2005
Title	Devising Performance
Subtitle	

Edition	
Publisher	Palgrave
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Oddey, A.
Publishing Year	1994
Title	Devising Theatre
Subtitle	A practical and Theoretical Handbook
Edition	
Publisher	Routledge
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Alfreds, M
Publishing Year	1979
Title	The Actor as Storyteller
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Dartington Papers
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Sawyer, R.
Publishing Year	1997
Title	The Way of the Storyteller
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Penguin
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Cassady, M.
Publishing Year	1994
Title	The Art of Storytelling
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	Meriwether Publishing
ISBN	

Notes

All students will complete the Improvisation part of the course. They will then choose either the Devising route or the Storytelling route.