

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: ORIGINS: RITUAL, MYTH AND MASK
Status: Definitive
Code: **4511CMD** (118621)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2014

Owning School/Faculty: Liverpool Screen School
Teaching School/Faculty: Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts

Team	Leader
Ros Merkin	Y

Academic Level: FHEQ4 **Credit Value:** 12.00 **Total Delivered Hours:** 50.00
Total Learning Hours: 120 **Private Study:** 70

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Semester 1

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	15.000
Seminar	15.000
Workshop	20.000

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Presentation	PRESENT	Midwinter Myth Performance	60.0	
Essay	ESSAY	Essay (1500 words)	30.0	
Test	TEST	Theatre History Test	10.0	

Aims

This module investigates the origins of European theatre in ancient ritual and charts its development through Antiquity and the Middle Ages to the birth of the modern stage in the Renaissance. Particular attention will be given to the historical role of popular theatre in community celebration and carnival. In addition students will explore the practical use of mask in the creation of performance.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- LO1 Articulate a broad understanding of the timeline of European theatre history from Antiquity to the Renaissance
- LO2 Demonstrate an ability to analyse and critically assess the impact of past traditions on present practices
- LO3 Develop dramatic material using a variety of mask styles.
- LO4 Devise and deliver a seasonal celebratory theatre event.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

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

PRESENTATION	LO3	LO4
ESSAY (1500 WORDS)	LO2	
THEATRE HISTORY TEST	LO1	

Outline Syllabus

Taking Peter Brook's distinction between Holy, Rough, Immediate and Deadly theatre as a starting point the early part of the module will be characterised by a series of weekly lectures on key developments in early theatre history each of which will be followed by a student led seminar on a related play text. Notions of containment, celebration and liminality will also be explored through an analysis of the role of carnival and popular entertainment. In parallel students will undertake practical workshops exploring the use of mask in performance.

In the latter part of the module students will form small groups to devise and deliver a piece of celebratory theatre featuring the use of mask and grounded in a specific cultural tradition.

Finally, students will sit a short theatre history test and complete a 1500 word essay analysing the impact of a specific historical theatre practice on contemporary theatre/drama.

Learning Activities

This module is delivered in lecture, group workshop and seminar formats. Students are expected to work in pairs or small groups for the purposes of practical assignments and seminar presentations.

Notes

Course Notes