

## Liverpool John Moores University

Title: THEATRE FOR SOCIAL AND POLITICAL PURPOSE  
Status: Definitive  
Code: **4516CMD** (118626)  
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 2

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	25.000
Workshop	25.000

**Grading Basis:** 40 %

### Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Presentation	WORKSHOP	Student led seminar workshop	60.0	
Artefacts	POSTER	Individual poster	40.0	

### Aims

*This module provides the opportunity for students to explore the origins of Community Drama within key theatre movements of the 20th Century and then use this as the basis to explore their own facilitation practice.*

### Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- LO1 Engage creatively and critically with a range of critical and theoretical perspectives
- LO2 Demonstrate the ability to contextualise a specific theatre practice within the design of a workshop seminar.
- LO3 Make efficient use of resources available in terms of group roles, balance between research and delivery, structure, rehearsal and material requirements of a workshop seminar.
- LO4 Identify and interpret critically the political, economic and social frameworks that surround theatre/drama practices and on which these practices impinge

### **Learning Outcomes of Assessments**

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

STUDENT LED	LO1	LO2	LO3
WORKSHOP			
INDIVIDUAL POSTER	LO4		

### **Outline Syllabus**

*The early part of this module will be characterised by a series of lecture/workshops focusing on the key theatre movements/practitioners that influenced the contemporary spectrum of Community Drama practice. Beginning with the use of theatre by various reform movements in the early 20th Century, via the revolutionary period of political theatre in the 20s and 30s through to the counter culture of the 60s and 70s, the lecture/workshops will seek to explore each movement in terms of both theory and practical application, charting links to contemporary practice . In parallel students will engage in a series of critical viewings of documentary and dramatic material that explore the social and political context of each movement. Following the taught session the students will break into groups to design and deliver a workshop-seminar on a given practitioner / theatre movement. Utilising a mixture of participation, performance and presentation each seminar will seek to define and explore the objectives of the practice or genre being looked at by drawing upon and emphasising the intention/efficacy of the group/practitioner. Furthermore each seminar should reflect an awareness of :*

- the social, political, philosophical and historical factors that impacted upon the group/practitioner;*
- the relationship with their audience(s);*
- the theories and realities that linked this to the objective.*

*Finally, each student will design and create a poster articulating a critical response to the theories and practices they have been introduced to .*

### **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**

Indicative list of practitioners/artists/writers covered in taught phase:

Reform: George Bernard Shaw, John Galsworthy

Revolution: Blue Blouse, Piscator, Brecht, 7:84, Boal

Rebirth: Artaud, Grotowski, Welfare State International

Indicative list of practitioners/artists/writers covered in seminar phase:

Bread and Puppet Theatre

Drama Therapy / Psychodrama

Federal Theatre Project: Living Newspaper

Living Theatre

Rainbow of Desire

Theatre Workshop