

Theory of Acting

Code: 43154
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
4313879 Theatre Studies	OT	0	1

Contact

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Use of Languages

Principal working language: catalan (cat)

Teachers

Enric Gallen Miret

Prerequisites

ET

Objectives and Contextualisation

The module intends to offer students the necessary tools to approach the theatrical phenomena from a semiotic perspective whilst considering the complexity of the staging of a theatrical text. This will materialize through the study of theatrical representations that part from artistic texts and that offer possibilities for meaning (1) to materialize in a performance that actualizes its potentialities and that establishes an articulation between two axes of pragmatic dimension (Author-Text / Text-Receptor) (2). In order to achieve this, the following is necessary: a) to highlight the principal agents that intervene in a staging of a performance (authors, translators, directors, actors, spectators), and (b) to point out the different interactions that form the representation as a communicative phenomena.

Competences

- Analyse phenomena in the performing arts on the basis of their potential categorisations and interrelations.
- Assess the social dimension inherent in the performing arts.
- Assess the specific characteristics of research in the performing arts and the great potential provided by their complexity.
- Continue the learning process, to a large extent autonomously
- Evaluate performance phenomena synchronically and diachronically on the basis of specific theoretical paradigms (specialisation A).
- Follow the codes of practice that govern research activity.
- Use acquired knowledge as a basis for originality in the application of ideas, often in a research context.

Learning Outcomes

1. Apply semiologic methods to the study of the components of theatrical representation.
2. Assess the social dimension inherent in the performing arts.

3. Assess the synchronic dimension of the elements that make up theatrical representation from a semiologic perspective.
4. Continue the learning process, to a large extent autonomously
5. Follow the codes of practice that govern research activity.
6. Integrate the theoretical principles of the semiologic perspective for the analysis of theatrical representation.
7. Use acquired knowledge as a basis for originality in the application of ideas, often in a research context.

Content

1st session

a) Presentation of the module

b) 1. The dramatic text

1.1 Dramatic writing. Levels of textuality

2nd session

1.2. Drama diction

1.3 Drama fiction

3rd session

1.4. Space

1.5. Time

5th session

2. Drama representation

2.1. The dramatic convention

2.1.1. The levels of concretion of the dramatic text

6th session

2.2. The Diversity of codes and their articulation. The roll of the director

2.2.1. The director as "dramaturge"

2.2.1.1. Documentation about the text

7th session

2.2.2. Work with the actors

2.2.1.2. Blocking the stage text

2.2.1.3. The conception of performance from a globalizing interpretation of the possibilities of signification

8th session

2.3. The spatial relation. The work of the scenographer

2.3.1. The space of representation

2.3.1.1. The scenographic object

2.3.1.2. Lighting. The creation of a visual space

2.3.1.3. Sound and text as stage deixis

2.3.2. The space of the audience

2.4. Time

2.4.1. The time of representation

2.4.2. Represented time vs. Plot time

10th session

2.5. The actor and the audience

2.5.1 The actor as a creator of characters

2.5.2. The gestural language and the re-creation of dramatic situations

2.5.3. The technics for approaching the character. Actor formation

2.5.4. The audience: empathy vs. distancing

2.6.5. The implicit receptor

2.6.6 The model receptor

Sessions 1st - 4th Prof. Miguel M. Gibert

Sessions 5th - 10th Prof. Enric Gallén

Methodology

The three hours of each session in the classroom will be structured in the following way: the two first hours will focus on a lecture proposed by the professor for that day- sometimes, with the support of audiovisuals; the third hour, will be based on group and individual works supervised by the professor. This work will be focused on the discussion and preparing of the writing of the critical analysis mentioned in section 3. Evaluation. Also, each student will present at the end of the module, a small work in which they will analyze some of the questions dealt with in class - Look equally at section 3.

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Lectures and case solving	30	1.2	1, 5, 6, 4, 7, 3, 2
Type: Supervised			
Debates, tutorials, works	60	2.4	1, 5, 6, 4, 7, 3, 2
Type: Autonomous			
Reading of articles and reports of interest, personal study, development of a	60	2.4	1, 5, 6, 4, 7, 3, 2

Assessment

Given that the module is imparted by two professors, with the distribution outlined in section 4 "Chronogram", the evaluation will be effectuated in the following way: in each class session, starting on the second session, students will hand-in to the professor a written analysis - 4.500 character with spaces, approximately - of a theoretical text delivered by the professor in the session prior. Hence, each professor of the module will gather four analytic texts from every student, who will produce a total of eight texts altogether. Once the sessions have concluded, students will produce either two brief works of synthesis with conclusions or two research works based on some of the themes suggested in the module, with the prior approval of the professor. One of these final works will make direct or indirect reference to one of the themes approached on sessions 1-4 (Professor Miquel M. Gibert), and the other paper will make reference to a theme suggested in sessions 5-10 (Professor Enric Gallén). Each one of these papers will have an extension of 14000-16000 characters with spaces included. The handing-in of the papers to the mentioned professors will be effectuated before 16 January 2020. The sum of the mark obtained from the 8 analytical texts will make for 30% of the global grade for the module, whilst the sum of the two papers will make for 60%. The remaining 10% will be obtained from the assessment of class interventions. The final grades of the module will be decided in a joint session by the professors who impart the module. Students will receive their final grade not later than 25 January 2020, followed up by a report, written by the module coordinator, and focused on each student's activity and level of preparation. Revision dates will open on the following two days of receiving the grade for the module. On 30 January 2020 the definite grades will be published.

Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Assistance and active participation in the classroom	30 %	0	0	1, 5, 6, 4, 7, 3, 2
Assistance to tutorials	10 %	0	0	1, 5, 6, 4, 7, 3, 2
Handing-in of reports and works	60 %	0	0	1, 5, 6, 4, 7, 3, 2

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