

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY FACULTY OF ARTS

SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS – DRAMA DRAM 611 – SELECTED PROBLEMS IN DIRECTING FALL/ 2020

Instructor	Christine Brubaker				
Office	Craigie Hall D22				
Email	Christine.brubaker@ucalgary.ca				
Office Hours	By Appointment				
Day(s),time(s) and	F.R. Matthews Theatre (CHF101)				
location of Class	Fridays 3pm-6:50pm				
	Other online mutually convenient times TBD				
Out of class	Out of class rehearsals are a requirement of the course.				
activities	Attendance of performances of: JawBone, Fragile Like a Paper Moon				
	Attendance at one rehearsal of each				
	Attendance at one production meeting and one tech rehearsal for Jawbone				
Learning resources:	RECOMMENDED READING:				
required readings,	Ball, David; Backwards and Forwards, Southern Illinois University Press, 1983.				
textbooks and	Bogart, Anne; And Then, You Act; Making Art in an Unpredictable World, New York:				
materials	Routledge, 2007.				
	Bogart, Anne; A Director Prepares: Seven Essays on Art and Theatre. London: Routledge, 2001.				
	Borstel, John; Liz Lerman's Critical Response Process. The Dance Exchange: 2003 (see				
	instructor for copies)				
	SUPPLEMENTAL/OPTIONAL READING:				
	Mitchell, Katie; <i>The Director's Craft: A Handbook for the Theatre</i> . London: Routledge,				
	2009.				
	Ball, William; A Sense of Direction. Chicago: Drama Publishers, 1984.				
	Crook, Paul B.; The Art and Practice of Directing for Theatre, Routledge, 2017				
	Boenisch, Paul; Directing Scenes and Senses: the thinking of Regie, University of				
	Manchester Press, 2015 (in Library)				
	Assorted Additional Readings will be provided through the year.				
	MASKS ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL STUDIO EXERCISES AND REHEARSALS.				
Prerequisites	Admission to the MFA Directing Program				
Course description	This advanced course for student directors will investigate both the theoretical and				
	executive functions of the director. Emphasis will be placed on contemporary theatre				
	practices through research and conceptual design, rehearsal and creation methods, and				
	the development and articulation of a personal approach to theatre making.				
Course learning	By the completion of this course, successful students will be able to:				
outcomes	1. Articulate an informed conceptual framework that can be communicated in the				
	realization of a theatrical production.				
	2. Design and execute an effective and individualized process for research, rehearsal and				
	production				
	3. Demonstrate effective leadership and productively engage all creative partners in				
	pursuit of an articulated concept.				
	4. Apply a variety of techniques in rehearsal and production specific and responsive to				
	each process				
	5. Articulate a personal theory and approach to performance creation and research				
	including a foregrounded set of guiding values.				

Course schedule	To be presented on Day One of class				
Assessment	Assignment 1: Annotated Bibliography: What are you Reading and Thinking About?				
components	Value: 10%				
	Due: November 2 nd (5-10 references) and December 7th (additional 10-20)				
	Description: Students will compile and annotate between 15-30 references with				
	bibliographic citations (MLA) and a concise summary of each source. Annotations should				
	be approximately 1-2 paragraphs long (3-8 sentences), summarize the content/argument				
	of the work, the author's/artist's intentions and provide a concise critique with regards				
	to the relevance to the student's individual theatre practice.				
	https://advice.writing.utoronto.ca/types-of-writing/annotated-bibliography/				
	Assignment 2: Project #1: Working with the Actor/Illumination & Disruption				
	<u>Value: 20%</u>				
	Due: Friday Oct 2 nd 3pm (Pass 1)/ Friday October 9 th (Pass 2 – Invited audience)				
	Description: Students will select a text-based scene from dramatic literature between 10-				
	15 minutes long. The student will conduct the appropriate research, text analysis,				
	articulate a conceptual framework, cast, and apply various directorial techniques for				
	performance. Sub-units will include the director's conceptual presentation, observed				
	rehearsal, Pass 1 and Pass 2 assessments				
	Assignment 3: Project #2: The Image Blast/				
	Value: 30%				
	Due: Friday Nov 30th 5pm (Pass 1)/ Friday Nov 20th 5pm (Pass 2 – Invited Audience)				
	Description: Students will be provided with or propose a text from which they will derive				
	a central image. Using this image, they will create a theatrical non-text based				
	performance approximately 10 minutes long. The student will be introduced to a variety				
	of devising approaches, but will again use research, source analysis, articulate a				
	conceptual pitch, cast, and apply various directorial techniques for performance.				
	Inclusion of sound, lighting and/or other technical elements must be included. Sub-units				
	will include the director's conceptual presentation, observed rehearsal, Pass 1 and Pass 2				
	assessments.				
	Assignment 4: Project #3: The Dramatic Whole/Staged Reading				
	<u>Value: 30%</u>				
	Due: December 7 th , 8 th , 9 th (5pm-8pm/ one evening per student for an invited audience)				
	Description: Students will select a one act play from dramatic literature under 1.5 hours.				
	The student will conduct the appropriate research, text analysis, articulate a conceptual				
	pitch, cast, and apply various directorial techniques for a staged reading. Sub-units will				
	include the director's conceptual presentation, observed rehearsal, and assessment of the reading of the work.				
	the reading of the work.				
	Assignment 5: Final Critical Reflection Paper				
	<u>Value: 10%</u>				
	DUE DATE: December 11, 2020				
	Description: This final assignment is a 1500-3000 word paper reflecting on the				
	culminative learnings from the three directing projects over the entire course. The paper				
	should follow the Artist Statement Guidelines to be provided by the instructor.				
	OTHER DEADLINES FOR DIRECTING MFAS				
	General Auditions – September 12 th and 13th				
	Prethesis Proposal Due – November 16 th				

	Thesis Proposal Due – December 17 th						
Assessment	Guidelines for Submitting Assignment						
Expectations	Students will work collaboratively with the instructor to establish presentation dates						
	Criteria That Must Be Met to Pass						
	Students will be expected to complete all assignments and receive a minimum of 70% in						
	order to pass this course as per the Graduate Calendar.						
	Expectations for Writing						
	Writing skills are important to academic study across all disciplines. Consequently,						
	instructors may use their assessment of writing quality as a factor in the evaluation of student work. Please refer to the Undergraduate Calendar E.2 Writing Across the						
	Curriculum policy for details.						
	Missed Units or Required Components						
	All units and components must be completed in order to receive a pass for this course.						
	Should a student be unable to complete a unit due to personal circumstances, these						
	must be discussed with the Instructor						
	Expectations for Attendance and Participation:						
	This course is developmental, experiential and collaborative in nature and therefore						
	attendance is mandatory. Without <i>prior notice</i> to the instructor, lateness or absence will						
	negatively impact the participation grade. When the absence affects a collaborative						
	process, the deduction will increase . Please inform the instructor of any extenuating						
	circumstances or legitimate excuses prior to the class. If for a medical emergency, the						
	student must be late or absent from class, they MUST ADVISE THE INSTRUCTOR BY						
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	EMAIL OR PHONE CALL well before the start of class. Acceptance of all excuses is at the						
	discretion of the instructor. Tardiness indicates a lack of respect for all concerned and is						
	highly unprofessional. Late Assignments						
	Realistic deadlines will be agreed upon between the student and instructor. Each						
	student will also be allowed 3 free late days (24 hour period) which they can use through						
	the course without penalty. After those days have been used, deductions will be applied						
	as follows: Late written assignments will be subject to a 10% per-day-past-deadline						
	penalty. Late performance presentations will be discussed on a case-by-case basis between the student and the instructor.						
Crading scale	For the course as a whole, letter grades should be understood as follows, as outlined in the						
Grading scale	section F.1.1 Undergraduate Grading System of the Undergraduate Calendar for 2019-2020 OR as						
	outlined in the section H.1 Distribution of Grades of the Graduate Calendar for 2019-2020:						
	Grade Point Value						
	A+ 4.00 Outstanding performance						
	A 4.00 Excellent performance						
	A- 3.70 Approaching excellent performance						
	B+ 3.30 Exceeding good performance						
	B 3.00 Good performance						
	B- 2.70 Approaching good performance						
	C+ 2.30 Exceeding satisfactory performance						
	C 2.00 Satisfactory performance						
	C- 1.70 Approaching satisfactory performance.						
	*D+ 1.30 Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject						
	*D 1.00 Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.						

	F	0.00	Failure. Did not meet course requirements. Several Faculties utilize an F grade that does not carry weight in calculating the grade point average. This will be noted in the calendar description as "Not Included in GPA" where applicable.				
	**	0.00	Incomplete. Sufficient work has not been submitted for evaluation, unable to adequately assess. May also be used when a final exam is not submitted.				
	CR		Completed Requirements. Carries no weight in calculating the grade point average. This will be noted in the calendar description as "Not Included in GPA" where applicable				
	Notes: • A grade of "C-" or below may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation, see specific faculty regulations. The number of "D" and "D+" grades acceptable for credit is subject to specific undergraduate faculty promotional policy.						
Academic accommodation	Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS); SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit ucalgary.ca/access/ . Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf						
Academic integrity, plagiarism	The University of Calgary is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are referred to the section on plagiarism in the University Calendar (ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html) and are reminded that plagiarism—using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it—is an extremely serious academic offence. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possibly suspension or expulsion from the university. You must document not only direct quotations but also paraphrases and ideas where they appear in your text. A reference list at the end is insufficient by itself. Readers must be able to tell exactly where your words and ideas end and other people's words and ideas begin. This includes assignments submitted in non-traditional formats such as Web pages or visual media, and material taken from such sources. Please consult your instructor or the Student Success Centre (TFDL 3rd Floor) if you have any questions regarding how to document sources.						
SCPA Librarian	Marc Stoeckle, MLIS, BA Learning & Services Librarian for School of Creative & Performing Arts and School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures & Cultures Libraries & Cultural Resources, University of Calgary Ph: 403.220.6777, Email: mstoeckle@ucalgary.ca, Office: TFDL 160D						
Student misconduct	ucalg	ary.c	a/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html				
FOIP	ucalg	ary.c	a/legalservices/foip				
Emergency evacuation	Assembly points for emergencies have been identified across campus. THE PRIMARY ASSEMBLY POINT FOR CRAIGIE HALL IS THE PROFESSIONAL FACULTIES FOOD COURT. For more information, see the University of Calgary's Emergency Management website: ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints						
Internet and electronic	elearn.ucalgary.ca/category/d2I/ ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/emergency-instructions/uc-emergency-app						

communication	The in-class use of computers may be approved by your Instructor. Cell phones and other					
device	electronic communication devices should be silenced or turned off upon entering the					
	classroom. If you violate the Instructor's policy regarding the use of electronic					
	communication devices in the classroom, you may be asked to leave the classroom;					
	repeated abuse may result in a charge of misconduct. No audio or video recording of any					
	kind is allowed in class without explicit permission of the Instructor.					
Safewalk	220-5333 anytime. <u>ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk</u>					
Students' union	GSA: ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/grad/current/graduate-students-association-gsa-					
and ombudsperson	grad.html					
contacts	Student Ombudsman: ucalgary.ca/ombuds/contact					
Deferrals of	Instructors are normally free, subject to any established departmental or faculty					
exams/term work	procedures, to administer their own policies regarding deadlines for the completion of					
	term papers or assignments. However, should an extension of time be sought for					
	completion of any such term work beyond five days after the end of lectures, a Deferral					
	of Term Work form must be completed. Deferrals may only be granted at the discretion					
	of the dean and will normally not exceed thirty days. Application forms are available at					
CCDA Claire Va	ucalgary.ca/registrar or at Enrolment Services.					
SCPA Claim Your	1. The Claim Your Seat (CYS) program allows all University of Calgary students to attend					
Seat Program:	on-campus School of Creative and Performing Arts (Dance, Drama and Music) events					
Student Guidelines	free of charge.					
	2. Depending on the performance, there is a limited number of seats available for CYS. There is not a guarantee that tickets will be available for all CYS patrons for every					
	There is not a guarantee that tickets will be available for all CYS patrons for every performance, based on audience size, demand, etc.					
	3. CYS tickets are a privilege. If a student receives a ticket to attend a performance, it is					
	expected that they will respect the value of the admission and attend the					
	performance.					
	4. Process for students: On the date of the performance, from the time the Box Office					
	opens until 15 minutes prior to the performance start time, they arrive to the CYS					
	table next to the Box Office and show their Unicard. If students arrive after 15					
	minutes prior to the performance start time, they can go to the Box Office and					
	purchase a ticket at the student rate. Students should not go to the Box Office unless					
	they are purchasing a ticket.					
	5. If students have a course requirement to attend a performance for a specific date,					
	access to the tickets will be communicated by the instructor to University Theatre					
	Services prior to the event. The best guarantee for a free ticket is to arrive early, up					
	to 45 minutes prior to the performance start time.					
	Respect for the Front of House and theatre staff, performers and fellow patrons is an					
	absolute requirement. Failure to comply with this will lead to being asked to leave the					
	venue and could result in the revoking of CYS privileges.					
Academic standing	ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f.html					
Campus security	220-5333. Help phones: located throughout campus, parking lots, and elevators. They					
	connect directly to Campus Security; in case of emergency, press the red button.					
Copyright	It is the responsibility of students and professors to ensure that materials they post or					
	distribute to others comply with the Copyright Act and the University's Fair Dealing					
	Guidance for Students. Further copyright information for students is available on the					
To the CAR	Copyright Office web page (library.ucalgary.ca/copyright).					
Faculty of Arts	For academic advising, contact the SCPA Graduate Program Administrator Alison Schmal					
program advising	at aschmal@ucalgary.ca					
and student	Specific questions regarding graduate regulations, policies or registration issues, can be					
information	addressed with the Faculty of Graduate Studies, located in the MacKimmie Tower Room					
resources						

	213. They are open 10:00 – 4:30 Monday to Friday except statutory holidays, and the phone number is 403-220-4938 or visit the website at grad.ucalgary.ca/home. For academic success support, such as writing support, peer support, success seminars, and learning support, visit the Student Success Centre on the third floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library (TFDL), email them at success@ucalgary.ca or visit their website at ucalgary.ca/ssc for more information or to book an appointment. For enrolment assistance, including paying fees in person and navigating your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625], by email at futurestudents@ucalgary.ca or visit them at the MacKimmie Block 117.
Course outlines for	It is possible that you will be asked for copies of this outline for credit transfers to other
transfer credit	institutions or for proof of work done. It is the student's responsibility to keep these
	outlines and provide them to employers or other universities when requested. Please
	ensure that outlines of all the courses you take are kept in a safe place for your future
	reference. Departments/Programs do not guarantee that they will provide copies.
Studying at another University	If you wish to study at another institution while registered at UCalgary, you must gain approval from your program and the Faculty of Graduate Studies before the course(s) begin. If the university you wish to attend is not a part of the Western Deans' Agreement or the Canadian Mobility Agreement, you will require a Letter of Permission from your University of Calgary graduate program and the program at the other institution. If you want to go on an exchange, you will need to fill out an Application for Exchange form.
Graduate	Graduate Music Society (GMS) can be contacted at musicgradconference@gmail.com ;
associations	School of Creative and Performing Arts Graduate Society (SCPAGS) can be contacted via
	Facebook at 'University of Calgary SCPA Grads' or by email at uofc.scpags@gmail.com