



**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY**  
**FACULTY OF ARTS**  
**SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS**  
**Course Number and Title: DRAM 613 Selected Problems in Directing II**  
**Session: Winter 2024**

Instructor	<b>Vanessa Porteous</b>
Email	<b>Vanessa.porteous@ucalgary.ca</b>
Office Hours	<b>By appointment</b>
Day(s),time(s):	<b>Classes will be held in person and on Zoom</b> <b>Mondays 9:00-10:50</b> <b>Fridays 14:00-16:45</b>
Learning resources: required readings, textbooks and materials	<b>REQUIRED READING:</b> The student will create their own term reading list in consultation with the professor. This reading list will be specific to the student's practice and research and will be submitted by the second week of the term. DigitalTheatrePlus.com will be an ongoing resource and can be accessed with a UCalgary email. <b>Assorted Additional Readings will be provided through the term.</b>
Learning Technologies and Requirements	There is a D2L site for this course which contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials (see d2L.ucalgary.ca).  In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;</li> <li>• A current and updated web browser;</li> <li>• Webcam (built-in or external);</li> <li>• Microphone and speaker (built-in or external) or headset with microphone;</li> <li>• Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;</li> <li>• Broadband internet connection.</li> </ul> Most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker and microphone.
Prerequisites	Admission to the MFA Directing Program and successful completion of DRAM 611
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 outcomes	By the completion of this course, successful students will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Articulate an informed conceptual framework that can be communicated in the realization of a theatrical production.</li> <li>2. Design and execute an effective and individualized process for research, rehearsal and production</li> <li>3. Demonstrate effective leadership and productively engage all creative partners in pursuit of an articulated concept.</li> </ol>

	<p>4. Apply a variety of techniques in rehearsal and production specific and responsive to each process</p> <p>5. Articulate a personal theory and approach to performance creation and research including a foregrounded set of guiding values.</p>		
Course schedule	To be presented on Day One of class		
Components (Assignment, Paper, Project, Quiz, or Test)	Description	Due Date	Worth (%)
<i>Paper</i>	<p><b><u>Assignment 1: Annotated Bibliography (1)</u></b></p> <p>This is a continuation of the annotated bibliography assignment from DRAM 611. 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.</p> <p><a href="https://advice.writing.utoronto.ca/types-of-writing/annotated-bibliography/">https://advice.writing.utoronto.ca/types-of-writing/annotated-bibliography/</a></p>	Tuesday April 9, 2024	10%
<i>Project incl paper</i>	<p><b><u>Assignment 2: The Height Project</u></b></p> <p>The source material for this project is at the student's discretion though the emphasis on this project is HEIGHT which is defined in this instance as something outside of the student's comfort zone or familiarity be that through text, form, or scale of performance. As per the other projects from 611, the assessment will be on the appropriate research, analysis, conceptual articulation, rehearsal reporting, Pass 1 (Feb 2), Pass 2 (Feb 9), and Pass 3 (February 16<sup>th</sup> – Invited audience) as well as integration of limited scenographics. Final articulation will be offered via a summary of self-reflection on discoveries made throughout the process, based on rehearsal reports, and consisting of approximately 500 words (10% of assignment) and a bibliography or archive or resources (one page). to be submitted via 1 (one) WORD document.</p>	Fri Feb 16, 2024	30%
<i>Presentation</i>	<p><b><u>Assignment 3: Research &amp; Seminar Presentation – Contemporary Director Project</u></b></p> <p>This assignment will consist of research on a single contemporary (living) director of interest that connects directly to the student's area of research. The student will present a 20 minute talk on this director's work, influences, training, background as well as provide specific references to the director's craft including staging, creative partnerships using examples from recorded live performances from Digitaltheatreplus.</p>	Mon April 8, 2024	10%
<i>Project</i>	<p><b><u>Assignment 4: Research/Creation in Performance</u></b> (Production/Rehearsal Process 15%, Presentation 20%)</p>	MFA candidate in	35%

	<p>Description: The project is a performance with limited technical elements and within the constraints of both the festival performance model (MFA directing student) or the articulated terms as outlined by the professor (MFA Theatre studies student). It is created in collaboration with the appropriate departments i.e. Production, acting, technical and design departments for the MFA Director; Acting students and external creative partners for the theatre studies student. The project will be evaluated on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The initial conceptual framework</li> <li>○ Its realization inside of a theatrical production</li> <li>○ The design and execution of the <i>process</i> of research, rehearsal, and production</li> <li>○ The leadership experience and engagement with all creative partners in pursuit of the conceptual framework.</li> </ul>	<p>directing: presentation dates as per Alchemy Festival Schedule. MFA theatre studies students presentation date: Fri April 5, 2024</p>	
<p><i>Paper</i></p>	<p><b>Assignment 5: Pre-thesis Artist/Scholar Statement</b>  This final assignment is a 1500-2500 word paper. The paper is a reflection on Assignment 4, which also integrates culminative learnings from the five directing projects over the entire year (includes 611/613 courses). Base this written self reflection on rehearsal reports kept throughout the year, as well as your research and conceptual documentation. The paper should follow the Artist Statement Guidelines found here:  <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/17EIOeDAX3aC8EKth49A238nzNTNUyklax9p81l5baMc/edit?usp=sharing">https://docs.google.com/document/d/17EIOeDAX3aC8EKth49A238nzNTNUyklax9p81l5baMc/edit?usp=sharing</a>. All citations should be in the most current MLA format.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Reflection on the variety of techniques in rehearsal and production</li> <li>○ Articulation of how the process on Assignment 4, and your work this year, have informed your own process, theory of directing and research, with regards to discoveries, successes, and areas for future opportunities.</li> </ul>	<p>Tues April 9, 2024</p>	<p>15%</p>
<p>Assessment expectations</p>	<p><u>Guidelines for Submitting Assignments:</u> Students will work collaboratively with the instructor to establish presentation dates that are not specified on the course outline.</p> <p><u>Criteria That Must Be Met to Pass</u>  Students will be expected to complete all assignments by deadline and receive a minimum of 70% in order to pass this course as per the Graduate Calendar.</p> <p><u>Late assignments</u>  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.</p> <p><u>Attendance and Participation Expectations:</u> This course is developmental, experiential, and collaborative in nature and therefore attendance is mandatory. 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</p>		

	<p>absent from class, they MUST ADVISE THE INSTRUCTOR BY EMAIL OR PHONE CALL well before the start of class.</p> <p><u>Expectations for Writing:</u></p> <p>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.</p>												
Grading scale	<p>The following numerical rubric will be applied:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>A+ 97.6-100</td> <td>A 92.6-97.5</td> <td>A- 90-92.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B+ 87.6-89.9</td> <td>B 82.6-87.5</td> <td>B- 80-82.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C+ 77.6- 79.9</td> <td>C 72.6-77.5</td> <td>C- 70-72.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D+ 67.6-69.9</td> <td>D 62.6-67.5</td> <td>F 0-62.5</td> </tr> </table> <p><b>Undergraduate:</b> <a href="https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-1.html">https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-1.html</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A grade of "C-" or below may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation, see specific faculty regulations.</li> <li>• The number of "D" and "D+" grades acceptable for credit is subject to specific undergraduate faculty promotional policy.</li> </ul> <p><b>Graduate:</b> <a href="https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-2.html">https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-2.html</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All grades of "C+" or lower are indicative of failure at the graduate level and cannot be counted toward Faculty of Graduate Studies course requirements. Individual programs may require a higher passing grade.</li> </ul>	A+ 97.6-100	A 92.6-97.5	A- 90-92.5	B+ 87.6-89.9	B 82.6-87.5	B- 80-82.5	C+ 77.6- 79.9	C 72.6-77.5	C- 70-72.5	D+ 67.6-69.9	D 62.6-67.5	F 0-62.5
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Guidelines for Zoom Sessions	<p>Zoom is a video conferencing program that will allow us to meet at specific times for a “live” video conference, so that we can have the opportunity to meet each other virtually and discuss relevant course topics as a learning community.</p> <p>To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share the Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor’s permission.</p> <p>The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith, and respect (as per the <a href="#">Code of Conduct</a>). When entering Zoom or other video conferencing sessions (such as MS Teams), you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment. Please be mindful of how your behaviour in these sessions may affect others. Participants are required to use names officially associated with their UCID (legal or preferred names listed in the Student Centre) when engaging in these activities. Instructors/moderators can remove those whose names do not appear on class rosters. Non-compliance may be investigated under relevant University of Calgary conduct policies (e.g <a href="#">Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy</a>). If participants have difficulties complying with this requirement, they should email the instructor of the class explaining why, so the instructor may consider whether to grant an exception, and on what terms. For more information on how to get the most out of your zoom sessions visit: <a href="https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/">https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/</a>.</p> <p>If you are unable to attend a Zoom session, please contact your instructor to arrange an alternative activity for the missed session (e.g., to review a recorded session). Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in Zoom sessions. Students will be advised by their instructor when they are expected to turn on their webcam (for group work, presentations, etc.).</p> <p>The instructor may record online Zoom class sessions for the purposes of supporting student learning in this class – such as making the recording available for review of the</p>												

	<p>session or for students who miss a session. Students will be advised before the instructor initiates a recording of a Zoom session. These recordings will be used to support student learning only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.</p>
Academic Accommodation	<p>It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The Student Accommodations policy is available at <a href="https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations">https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations</a>.</p> <p>Students needing an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<a href="https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Accommodation-for-Students-with-Disabilities-Procedure.pdf">https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Accommodation-for-Students-with-Disabilities-Procedure.pdf</a>).</p> <p>Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfill requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.</p> <p>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 <a href="http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/">www.ucalgary.ca/access/</a>.</p>
Academic integrity, plagiarism	<p>Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.</p> <p>For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit: <a href="https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Academic-Misconduct-Policy.pdf">https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Academic-Misconduct-Policy.pdf</a> and <a href="https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Academic-Misconduct-Procedure.pdf">https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Academic-Misconduct-Procedure.pdf</a>. Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at <a href="https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity">https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity</a>.</p>
Internet and electronic communication device	<p>The use of laptop and mobile devices is acceptable when used in a manner appropriate to the course and classroom activities. Please refrain from accessing websites and resources that may be distracting to you or for other learners during class time. Students are responsible for being aware of the University's Internet and email use policy, which can be found at <a href="https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Electronic-Resources-and-Information-Policy.pdf">https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Electronic-Resources-and-Information-Policy.pdf</a>.</p>
Intellectual Property	<p>Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.</p>
Copyright	<p>All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<a href="https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Material-Protected-by-Copyright-Policy.pdf">https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Material-Protected-by-Copyright-Policy.pdf</a>) and requirements of the copyright act (<a href="https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html">https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html</a>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy <a href="https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html">https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html</a>.</p>
Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy	<p>Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.</p>

Student Support	Please visit this link for important information on UCalgary's student wellness and safety resources: <a href="https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines">https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines</a>
Arts Students' Centre Program Advising:	Have a question but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in the Faculty of Arts. Call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at <a href="mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca">ascarts@ucalgary.ca</a> . You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <a href="http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate">http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate</a> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
Faculty of Graduate Studies:	For graduate studies email: <a href="mailto:graduate@ucalgary.ca">graduate@ucalgary.ca</a> or call 403 220 4938. Visit the Faculty of Graduate Studies for more details: <a href="https://grad.ucalgary.ca/">https://grad.ucalgary.ca/</a>