

**CAPILANO UNIVERSITY, DOUGLAS COLLEGE, LANGARA COLLEGE,  
VANCOUVER COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
COURSE OUTLINE**

<b>TERM:</b>	SUMMER 2013	<b>COURSE NO.:</b>	BPAC 400
<b>INSTRUCTOR:</b>		<b>COURSE NAME:</b>	CONTEMPORARY CULTURAL PRACTICES
<b>OFFICE:</b>		<b>SECTION NO.:</b>	
<b>E-MAIL:</b>		<b>COURSE CREDITS:</b>	3

**COURSE FORMAT:** Instructional hours per week: 4 hours per week for 15 weeks.

**COURSE PREREQUISITES:** None

**MISSION STATEMENT:** The cohort-based BPA program will bring together both recent college graduates and established creative artists to create a dynamic mix of students and arts backgrounds. Students will gain the skills and knowledge they need to succeed within the performing arts milieu, and a breadth of knowledge that will enable them to think critically: they will examine the historical and cultural context of the performing arts, critique the socio-political and cultural environment of the performing arts industry, and acquire the skills and tools to navigate their way through and build their own careers within this industry. They will also form a production company and develop and mount their own collaborative effort – an original, interdisciplinary performance event. Creating the production will challenge students to explore, master and apply the interdisciplinary performance theory and knowledge they have studied, and enhance their creative and performance abilities.

Graduates will demonstrate competency in various aspects of producing and performing interdisciplinary projects: communication, teamwork, leadership, negotiation, critical self-awareness, problem-solving and decision-making. They will possess the core competencies required to succeed in the highly competitive world and business of the professional performing arts. The program's unique, creative and practical blend of academic and applied studies will prime students for the multifaceted and entrepreneurial aspects of the world they are entering.

**Program Student Learning Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of the program, graduates will be able to:

- Demonstrate competency in the critical aspects of producing and performing interdisciplinary productions which may utilize at least one of the performing arts disciplines: music (vocal, instrumental, electronic), theatre, acting, musical theatre, dance, arts administration, technical theatre or production design.
- Conduct research across the performing arts disciplines, and use results to effectively inform performing arts works.
- Analyze the history and socio-economic, political and cultural context of the performing arts.
- Apply conceptual, administrative and technical skills to diverse performing arts projects.
- Communicate about the performing arts and their own work in oral and written form.
- Present work effectively in group settings.
- Participate in self-assessment and respond productively to critique of work.

- Demonstrate a clear understanding of professional ethics.
- Employ project management skills and apply analytical, quantitative, conceptual and problem-solving skills to the performing arts.
- Conduct research into and make informed decisions about career choices in the world of the performing arts.
- Apply the managerial skills and knowledge of business practices required to work as a self-employed individual or administrator in the performing arts field.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

**General:** This interdisciplinary course examines pivotal movements in Western art and performance during the modernist period of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century to the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century. Through analysis of historical and socioeconomic contexts, students explore how artistic disciplines coexist and influence each other. Students identify and examine the parameters and principles behind the paradigm shift that led to new artistic concepts and innovative forms in music, film, video, theatre, dance, writing and visual arts. Students will consider philosophical and political approaches to making art, as well as the practice of key individual artists. Issues such as the “autonomy of the artwork,” the materiality of performance, simultaneity, juxtaposition, collage/montage, and notions of representation will be examined in detail. The goal is to expand the student’s knowledge of performance history, and to draw inspiration and practical knowledge from the work of artists.

**Course Student Learning Outcomes:** Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Think critically about and discuss the historical and social context of the performing arts in the modernist period;
- Analyze and critique the practice, theory and history of several disciplines of the performing arts;
- Integrate learning across the performing arts disciplines;
- Present their work effectively in group settings;
- Describe major movements in art from the modernist period;
- Identify key artists and describe their work;
- Express how performing artists manifested modernist concerns in performance;
- Communicate the character of various multi-media/interdisciplinary approaches to making performance in the modernist period;
- Articulate one’s own artistic practice;
- Conduct research, and use and adapt information to specific projects;
- Convey their work in oral, and written form.

### **REQUIRED TEXT**

Wallace, Jeff. *Beginning Modernism*. Manchester UP. 2011.

Huxley, Michael and Noel Witts. *The Twentieth-Century Performance Reader*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Routledge. 2002.

Additional readings may be assigned during the course by the instructor.

### **RECOMMENDED TEXT:**

*The MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, Seventh Edition.*

**COURSE CONTENT:**

WEEK	CONTENT
1	Introduction to modernism and performance. Breaking with the past.
2-3	Modernism and the visual arts.
4	History and politics.
5-6	Modernist ideas and performance. Critical theories. <b>First essay due Week 6.</b>
7	Manifestos and performance.
8	Architecture and performance.
9-10	Poetry in action. <b>Second essay due Week 10.</b>
11-12	Popular forms.
13	Total art versus chance operations.
14-15	<b>FINAL EXAM</b>

<b>EVALUATION PROFILE:</b>	1. A weekly journal (10 entries).....	10%
	2. Oral presentation *.....	10%
	3. First essay.....	15%
	4. Second Essay.....	30%
	5. Final exam.....	25%
	6. Attendance and participation.....	10%

TOTAL.....100%

\*Each student will be expected to participate in one oral presentation with one other student with a schedule to be determined by instructor.

**GRADING PROFILE:**

A+ = 90-100%	B+ = 77-79%	C+ = 67-69%	D = 50-59%
A = 85-89%	B = 73-76%	C = 63-66%	F = 0-49%
A- = 80-84%	B- = 70-72%	C- = 60-62%	

**OPERATIONAL DETAILS:*****University Policies:***

Capilano University has policies on Academic Appeals (including appeal of final grades), Student Conduct, Cheating and Plagiarism, Academic Probation and other educational issues. These and other policies are available on the University website.

***Attendance:***

Students are expected to be on time for classes, and to attend all classes and rehearsals. Attendance is essential for successful completion of the course. Students who miss more than 10% of classes will not receive credit for the course. Students are responsible for all material covered in class, even if absent, including announcements and day-to-day assignments.

***Class Participation:***

The grade for class participation is based on both the frequency and the quality of the student's comments, questions and observations, with the emphasis on quality. The quality is determined by, among other things, the relevance, insight and clarity of remarks.

<b><i>Missed Exams and Projects:</i></b>	Missed exams and project presentations cannot be made up except in the case of serious illness or accident. An official letter from a doctor must accompany any request.
<b><i>Late Assignments:</i></b>	Late assignments will be reduced half a letter grade (e.g., B+ to B, B- to C+) per day and will not be accepted after 10 days except at the instructor's sole discretion. Normally, late performance and class presentations will not be accepted.
<b><i>Cheating/Plagiarism:</i></b>	Please see University calendar for policy, and Writing Centre for information on what plagiarism is and how to incorporate source materials into written assignments.
<b><i>Incomplete Grades:</i></b>	An "I" grade will be given at the discretion of the instructor only if the student has a reasonable chance of completing the required assignments by the date agreed upon as an extension. Normally, performance and class presentations will not be considered for the "I" grade.
<b><i>English Usage:</i></b>	Students are expected to write clear sentences, organized and developed paragraphs and essays (where assigned), which conform to the MLA (Modern Language Association) style. Please see the Writing Centre for help with writing questions and problems.
<b><i>Professional Behaviour:</i></b>	Students are expected to demonstrate a professional attitude and behaviour towards their work, fellow students and their instructor. Each student should demonstrate reliability, respect for and cooperation with colleagues. A willingness to work calmly and courteously under difficult conditions as well as a determination to achieve first-class work while meeting deadlines is necessary in this course. Students should have respect for equipment and systems, and a constructive response to criticism.
<b><i>Punctuality:</i></b>	Punctuality is essential.