

# HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

## COURSE SYLLABUS

1. **COURSE TITLE**

Directing: from Text to Stage

2. **COURSE CODE**

HUMN 4055

3. **No. OF UNITS**

3 Units

4. **OFFERING DEPARTMENT**

Department of Humanities and Creative Writing

5. **PREREQUISITES**

NIL

6. **MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION**

Chinese

7. **AIMS & OBJECTIVES**

This course aims at introducing the basic ideas about the role of director in theatre production, from choosing a play, play analysis, guiding the actors, to staging, etc. It will also provide training to students by organizing practical exercises like script analysis, group discussions and rehearsal. It will offer students some initial experience in staging a play by scene presentations.

8. **COURSE CONTENT**

I. Choosing the Script

- a) Why this play now?
- b) Commissioning a playwright
- c) Translation and adaptation
- d) Director and dramaturg

II. Play analysis

- a) Theme, subject and plot
- b) Adaptation and cultural difference
- c) Old plays and new interpretation
- d) Background information and referencing
- e) Character analysis

- f) Casting: what kind of actors are needed?
- g) Production requirements: budget, scale, technical requirements

III. Guiding the actors

- a) Read through
- b) Rehearsal and instruction
- c) Making use of the actor's quality and potential
- d) Communication with actors
- e) How much instruction is enough?
- f) Different approaches of guiding actors

IV. Staging the Play

- a) Working with designers
- b) Technical requirements
- c) Rehearsal scheduling
- d) Style, pace and movement
- e) Rhythm and mood of the entire play
- f) Run through

V. Production

- a) Floor plan
- b) Blocking
- c) Visual composition
- d) Scenery, lights, sound
- e) Technical rehearsal
- f) Stage manager, prop crew, running crew, light and sound board operators
- g) Opening night

9. **COURSE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES (CILOs)**

<b>CILO</b>	<b>By the end of the course, students should be able to:</b>
CILO 1	Explain the ideas and theories of theatre directing a play;
CILO 2	Present ideas in play analysis, guiding actors in rehearsals and other aspects of theatre directing
CILO 3	Present selected scene for performance by working with other students in groups

10. **TEACHING & LEARNING ACTIVITIES (TLAs)**

<b>CILO alignment</b>	<b>Type of TLA</b>
CILO 1	Lectures and tutorials are combined to 3 hour sessions. The lectures will introduce the basic ideas and theories about theatre directing.
CILO 2	Students will be given selected plays, or they may choose their own plays. They will have to analyse them and offer their interpretations. They will then be divided into groups for rehearsal, and the student directing a particular play should guide other students who are actors in understanding and rehearsing the plays.

CILO 3	Students should submit a final project by writing up a production plan of the play and present selected scenes.
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11. **ASSESSMENT METHODS (AMs)**

<b>Type of Assessment Methods</b>	<b>Weighting</b>	<b>CILOs to be addressed</b>	<b>Description of Assessment Tasks</b>
Participation	30%	CILO 1	Participation in group discussion, play analysis, rehearsal, guiding actors
Presentation	30%	CILO 2	Presentation of selected scenes through mini-performance
Term Paper	40%	CILO 3	Writing a production plan and presenting selected scenes

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