



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS
Drama 611 – Selected Problems in Directing:
Fall 2021

Instructor Office Email Office Hours	Christine Brubaker Craigie Hall D016 Christine.brubaker@ucalgary.ca By Appointment
Day(s),time(s) and location of Class	Classes will be in person and follow all current COVID Protocols CHF 101 F.R. Matthews Theatre & CHD11 Design Studio Mondays 9am-10:50am Fridays 5pm-8pm
Out of class activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Out of class rehearsals are a requirement of the course. • Attendance of performances of: <i>Cantata</i>, <i>The Bus Stop</i> • Attendance at one rehearsal of each • Attendance at one production meeting and one tech rehearsal for <i>The Bus Stop</i>
Learning resources: required readings, textbooks and materials	<p>RECOMMENDED READING: Ball, David; <i>Backwards and Forwards</i>, Southern Illinois University Press, 1983. Bogart, Anne; <i>And Then, You Act; Making Art in an Unpredictable World</i>, New York: Routledge, 2007. Bogart, Anne; <i>A Director Prepares: Seven Essays on Art and Theatre</i>. London: Routledge, 2001. Borstel, John; <i>Liz Lerman's Critical Response Process</i>. The Dance Exchange: 2003 (see instructor for copies)</p> <p>SUPPLEMENTAL/OPTIONAL READING: Mitchell, Katie; <i>The Director's Craft: A Handbook for the Theatre</i>. London: Routledge, 2009. Ball, William; <i>A Sense of Direction</i>. Chicago: Drama Publishers, 1984. Crook, Paul B.; <i>The Art and Practice of Directing for Theatre</i>, Routledge, 2017 Boenisch, Paul; <i>Directing Scenes and Senses: the thinking of Regie</i>, University of Manchester Press, 2015 (in Library)</p> <p>Assorted Additional Readings will be provided through the year. MASKS ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL STUDIO EXERCISES AND REHEARSALS.</p>
Learning Technologies and Requirements	<p>There is a D2L site for this course which contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials (see d2L.ucalgary.ca).</p> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates; • A current and updated web browser; • Webcam (built-in or external); • Microphone and speaker (built-in or external) or headset with microphone; • Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled; • Broadband internet connection.

	Most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker and microphone.
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 outcomes	By the completion of this course, successful students will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 components	<p><u>Assignment 1: Project #1: Working with the Actor/Illumination & Disruption</u> Value: 20% Due: Friday Oct 1st 5pm (Pass 1)/ 5pm Friday October 8th (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</p> <p><u>Assignment 2: Project #2: The Image Blast/</u> Value: 30% Due: Friday Oct 29th 5pm (Pass 1)/ Friday Nov 5th 5pm (Pass 2)/ Friday Nov 19th - 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 privileged performance approximately 10-20 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, Pass 2 and Final Pass assessments.</p> <p><u>Assignment 3: Project #3: The Dramatic Whole/Staged Reading</u> Value: 30% Due: December (5pm-8pm/ one evening per student for an invited audience) Description: Students will be assigned one act play from dramatic literature under 1 hour. The student will conduct the appropriate research, text analysis, articulate a conceptual pitch, cast, and apply various directorial techniques for a staged reading. The Student will work closely with a designer to express the conceptual ideas in material form through design elements. Sub-units will include the</p>

	<p>director’s conceptual presentation, observed rehearsal, and assessment of the reading of the work and the depth of exploration with the designers.</p> <p><u>Assignment 4: Annotated Bibliography: What are you Reading and Thinking About?</u> <u>Value: 10%</u> Due: November 1st (5-10 references) and December 6th (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/</p> <p><u>Assignment 5: Final Critical Reflection Paper</u> <u>Value: 10%</u> DUE DATE: December 10, 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.</p> <p>OTHER DEADLINES and DATES FOR DIRECTING MFAS Tour of Theatres 10-12noon Monday September 13th Acting/Drama Class visits Week of September 13th General Auditions Friday September 17th Prethesis Proposals Due Monday November 15th Thesis Proposal Due Wednesday December 17th</p>
Assessment expectations	<p><u>Guidelines for Submitting Assignment</u> Students will work collaboratively with the instructor to establish presentation dates</p> <p><u>Criteria That Must Be Met to Pass</u> 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.</p> <p><u>Expectations for Writing</u> 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> <p><u>Missed Units or Required Components</u> 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</p> <p><u>Expectations for Attendance and Participation:</u> 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,</p>

	<p>they MUST ADVISE THE INSTRUCTOR BY 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.</p> <p>Late Assignments</p> <p>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>
Grading scale	<p>For the course as a whole, letter grades should be understood as follows, as outlined in section F.1.Grading System and Transcripts of the Calendar: https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1.html.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.
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 Code of Conduct). 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 Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy). 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: https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/.</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 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 https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations.</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 (https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Accommodation-for-Students-with-Disabilities-Procedure.pdf).</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 www.ucalgary.ca/access/.</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: https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Academic-Misconduct-Policy.pdf and https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Academic-Misconduct-Procedure.pdf. Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity.</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 https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Electronic-Resources-and-Information-Policy.pdf.</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 (https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Material-Protected-by-Copyright-Policy.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html) 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 https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html.</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	<p>Please visit this link for important information on UCalgary’s student wellness and safety resources: https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines</p>