

LEC 5020 Theatre Workshop

Theatre Workshop is a group-work-based, skill-developing, employability-enhancing and personality-development course designed to provide the students a hands-on experience of live theatre praxis and with the larger pedagogic aim of developing their personality especially in inter-personal environments. A holistic and simultaneous engagement of the participants' physical, psychological, ideological and artistic dimensions is envisioned in the course in order to equip them to respond to challenges and opportunities in a creative and sensitive way. After going through the training-phase of the course, the participants will stage a short play as an integral part of the course. Theatre is a powerful form of cultural communication which is simple and sophisticated, entertaining and didactic at the same time. The modules of this course may not necessarily follow a sequential pattern; rather most of them are integrated throughout the course. The technical areas of the course will be handled by a professional theatre director and the theory part will be handled by the course instructor. This course will be organized in collaboration with the a professional theatre director from leading drama schools or theatre organizations in the country like the National School of Drama and Kerala Sangeetha Nataka Akademi.

Module I: Formation of the Ensemble

The Idea of Theatre Praxis; Problems and Politics of Theatre; Group Dynamics; Work Break-up within Ensemble; Ethics and Etiquettes of Ensemble; Selection of Key-Text; Planning of Pre-During-Post Production Activities, etc.

Preparing the Physique

Breathing Exercises; Relaxation Exercises; Drills; Movements; Crouching and Crawling; Standing/Sitting Still; walking; skipping; running; pacing and pausing; Swinging; Jumping, Leaping, etc.

Module II: Activation of the Senses

Augmentation of Listening, Touching, Tasting, Watching and Olfactory Faculties; Concentration Training; Codes of Collaborative Activities; Skills of Observation; Decoding, Analysis of and re-creation of the observed information, etc.

Modulating the Voice

Differentiating between acoustic codes; Grammelot; Single Uttering; Uttering in Pairs, Group Uttering; Miming; Audio signals. Voice Over, Aside, Monologue, Dialogue, Group-logue; Communicating through Silence. Voice Modulation; Mood and Voice; Terrain and Voice; Language, Rhythm and Gestures, etc.

Module III: Music/Props/Makeup in Theatre

Organic Audioscape, Background Track, Digetic and Non-Digetic Sounds; Makeup in Performance—Bare and Type Make-up; Light in Theatre—Natural Vs Artificial; Stage Design, etc.

Engaging the Space:

Alone on stage; Sharing the space with a partner; Group activities on Stage; Entry and Exist methods; Placing and handling of Properties

Module IV: Contemporary Culture through Theatre:

Theatre Research; Theatre Archival Methods and Theatre in the Digital Era. Performance and Performance Studies.