

### Preliminary Web Course Description

\*Please note: This is a preliminary web course description only. The department reserves the right to change without notice any information in this description. The final, binding course outline will be distributed in the first class of the semester.

### School of English and Theatre Studies

Course Code: THST*1040	Course Title: Introduction to Performance	Date of Offering: Winter 2020
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Course Instructor: Peter Kuling	Course Format: Lecture
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#### Brief Course Synopsis:

Theatre 1040 introduces students to theatre and performance studies as an academic discipline. We'll explore research methodologies, theoretical trends, and diverse historical and intercultural aspects of theatrical experiences. This interdisciplinary course will provide overview for using concepts of spectatorship, dramaturgy, semiotics, interactivity, multimedia, and liveness in a variety of texts/productions. We'll look at printed plays and traditional theatre but also performance theories in unconventional environments like video games, sports, escape rooms, social media, and everyday interpersonal interactions. Students will attend live performances as well as read academic articles and play scripts in order to understand how artists create and foster aesthetic and social engagement through performance.

#### Methods of Evaluation and Weight:

- Introduce Yourself Short Write-Up: 5%
- Post-Performance Reflections: 2 x 15%
- Performance Workshop Responses: 2 x 15%
- Final Exam: 35%

#### Texts and/or Resources Required (e.g. Internet access, specific textbook title, lab kit, etc.)

- Knowles, Ric. *How Theatre Means*. Palgrave-McMillan. 2014.
- Taylor, Diana. *Performance*. Duke University Press. 2016.
- All other readings will be posted to ARES and available via Courselink

This course counts towards the following distribution requirement(s) for students who registered at the University prior to the Fall of 2018:

#### Other information about the course (optional):

This course has a lab fee of \$100 that covers tickets to plays / performances. Attending evening performances is required.