School of English and Theatre Studies

Course Code: THST*4280	Course Title: Ensemble Project	Date of Offering: W 2021

Course Instructor: Ann Wilson	Course Format: On-line Workshop

Brief Course Synopsis:
THST*4280 "Ensemble Project" will be different in Winter 2021 than it has been in previous semesters.   Due to the COVID-19, the class will be on-line and will create performances within a digital environment.   While this is a change from previous iterations, change offers opportunities for innovation that expands our understanding of performance.   That's the approach that I hope will be embraced by members of 2021's Ensemble.

THST*4280 "Ensemble Project" is the capstone course for the Theatre Studies program at Guelph.   As instructor, my role is to guide and offer resources that support your creation of work.   For the course to work, I will need your input.   I suggest that the class decides on a theme.   Then, each student writes a monologue—2 minutes—based on the theme.   The monologues could then be developed and linked to create a performance.   Each monologue is important but they will need to be curated and presented in an order that provides the audience wit a coherent experience.   Creating that experience will involve many considerations, including should there be an underlying narrative?   How are bridges created between each monologue?   Bridging will involve the creative use of visuals and sound delivered technologically.   Are there effective strategies engaging an audience in on-line performances?

Methods of Evaluation and Weight:

Participation and collaboration, always important in the creation of theatre, are crucial to the success of an on-line project.
Script: Each member of the Ensemble will write a contribution to the script.   The class will divide into groups that will discuss first drafts and offer constructive feedback.   Then the student will revise—at least once.   The assignment is tiered:

1st draft of contribution to script: 10% of final grade
Critique of work of another student: 10% of final grade
Revisions of contributions to the script: 10%

Reflection on the Process: There will be two reflections, the first will 1800 words in length and the second will be 2700 words in length. The first will be due mid-semester, and the second at the end of the semester.
First Reflection (1800 words in length): 10% of final grade
Second Reflection (2700 words in length): 15% of final grade

Participation: This is a crucial component of the course.   The class will meet once, in December 2020, to determine how participation grades will be allocated and the criteria for evaluation.

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

Internet access is required

Information about mode of delivery (synchronous/asynchronous/other details):

The class will have synchronous meetings for three hours each week.   Some of that time will be allocated to working in groups.