

DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES

Year 1 Student Handbook (1BA DTP) 2023-2024



OLLSCOIL NA GAILLIMHE
UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY



**Discipline of Drama, Theatre and Performance,
School of English and Creative Arts,
O'Donoghue Centre, University of Galway**

This handbook contains an overview of your modules for First Year in Drama and Theatre Studies.

For information on the following general Drama and Theatre Studies policies and guidelines, please refer to the undergraduate student handbook.

Who to contact

Head of Undergraduate Studies Finian O’Gorman (from 1 September)

finian.ogorman@universityofgalway.ie

Important Dates:

15 th September	Introduction to First Year in Drama and Theatre Studies, 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm (G012 Arts Millennium Building) see campus map here: universityofgalway.ie/buildings/maps/
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You can find the full schedule of first year orientation in the College of Arts, Social Sciences and Celtic Studies between 12th-16th September here

<https://www.universityofgalway.ie/colleges-and-schools/arts-social-sciences-and-celtic-studies/student-information/orientation/>

Academic Term and Exam Dates 2023 - 2024

First Semester	
Orientation:	Friday, 15 th September, Introduction to First Year in Drama and Theatre Studies, 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm (G012 Arts Millennium Building) see campus map here: universityofgalway.ie/buildings/maps/
Teaching – 1 st Years (UG):	Monday, 18 th September – Friday, 24 th November 2023 (10 weeks of teaching)
Teaching – all other years:	Monday, 4 th September – Friday, 24 th November 2023 (12 weeks of teaching)
Bank Holiday:	Monday, 30 st October 2023- NO CLASSES
Informational Meeting About Third Year:	To be scheduled between weeks 10-12. Watch email and check in with instructors. See section of handbook about Third Year options for more information.
Study Week:	Monday, 27 th November to Friday, 1 st December 2023
Semester 1 Exams:	None for Year 1 Students
Semester 1 Exams:	Monday, 4 th December – Friday 15 th December (for all other UG Years) (10 days of exams)
Christmas Holidays:	Saturday, 16 th December 2023

Second Semester	
Teaching:	Monday, 8 th January – Thursday, 28 th March 2024 (12 weeks of teaching)
Bank Holiday:	Monday, 5 th February 2024 – NO CLASSES
Drama Reading & Development Week:	Monday, 12 th – Friday, 16 th February 2024 (Week 6)
St. Patrick's Day:	Monday, 18 th March 2024
Easter Holidays:	Good Friday, 29 th March to Easter Monday, 1 st April 2024
Field Trip:	Tuesday, 2 nd April to Friday, 5 th April 2024 (if applicable)
Study Week:	Monday, 8 th April to Friday 12 th April 2024
Semester 2 Exams:	Monday, 15 th April to Wednesday, 1 st May 2024 (13 days of exams)
Bank Holiday:	Monday, 6 th May 2024 Monday, 3 rd June 2024
Autumn Exams 2024	
Autumn Repeat Exams:	Tuesday, 6 th August to Friday 16 th August 2024 (9 days of exams)
Bank Holiday:	Monday, 5 th August 2024

Course Structure

In semester one, all students take DT1115 Introduction to Acting and DT1108 Theatre Histories I.

In semester two, all students take DT1109 Theatre Histories 2 and DT1105 Introduction to Stagecraft.

****NOTE ON ASSESSMENT IN SEMESTER ONE****

Please note that for academic year 2023-2024, the Deputy President and Registrar has mandated that ALL first-year first-semester modules across the university have to be assessed by at least 50% examination with no exceptions.

In Drama and Theatre Studies, your practical assessments are fulfilling this examination mandate and are listed as “departmental assessment/examination” in the module descriptions below.

We will keep you advised of ongoing updates to this policy as this course is overall continuous assessment-based.

Timetable

Module	Semester	Time	Venue
DT1115 Introduction to Acting	1	Tuesday 11-1	Studio 1
DT1108 Theatre Histories 1	1	Wednesdays 1-2 Thursdays 11-12	Studio 2 Studio 2
DT1109 Theatre Histories 2	2	Tuesdays 11 -1	Studio 1
DT1105 Introduction to Stagecraft	2	Monday 10 - 11 Wednesday 1 - 2	Studio 2 Studio 1

Staff Contacts and Office Hours

Staff in Drama aim to be approachable and responsive to students' needs, insofar as possible in the context of their other professional obligations, and while bearing in mind that we can often assist students best by referring them to other professionals within the university, such as the counselling service or the College of Arts office.

Students can also communicate with staff by email (see below for information about email contacts). In general, if your query is complicated or personal, it is better to discuss it with the lecturer during a scheduled online slot.

Many lecturers will also make time to answer individual queries at the end of classes, but please note that it may not always be possible to do this (for example, a lecturer may have another class to get to).

DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES STAFF CONTACTS FOR 2023-2024

- Ian R Walsh, Lecturer [Full-time], Head of Discipline and Head of Postgraduate Studies in DTS, ian.walsh@universityofgalway.ie
- Finian O'Gorman, Lecturer [Full-time], Head of Undergraduate Studies (from 1 September), finian.ogorman@universityofgalway.ie
- Charlotte McIvor, Senior Lecturer [full-time], Head of School of English and Creative Arts, charlotte.mcivor@universityofgalway.ie
- Marianne Kennedy, Lecturer [full-time], Artistic Director, O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance, DTS, marianne.nichinneide@nuigalway.ie

- Patrick Lonergan Professor [full-time], Vice-Dean for Engagement and Student Recruitment, College of Arts, Social Science and Celtic Studies, Head of Third Year Erasmus and Exchanges, DTS and Head of Postgraduate Certificate in Creative Arts Management, patrick.lonergan@nuigalway.ie
- Miriam Haughton Lecturer [full-time], on research leave IRC Laureate 2023-2025), miriam.haughton@nuigalway.ie
- Máiréad Ní Chróinín , Druid Lecturer [part-time], Druid Academy Coordinator, mairiad.nichroinin@universityofgalway.ie
- Teresa O'Donovan- Administrator [part-time], DTS, drama@universityofgalway.ie
- Michael O'Halloran, Technical Officer [part-time], DTS, michael.ohalloran@nuigalway.ie
- Aideen Wylde, Lecturer, Internships and Placements Coordinator [part-time], aideen.wylde@universityofgalway.ie

STAFF OFFICES

Staff offices are in the O'Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance. We are located at no. 8 on the campus map available [here](#).

Teaching Staff

Please find below contact details of most of your lecturers throughout the year, this list is not yet complete and is subject to change:

MODULE	LECTURER	EMAIL	NOTES
DT1105 Introduction to Acting	Maisie Lee	maisie.lee@universityofgalway.ie	
DT1108 Theatre Histories 1	Patrick Lonergan	patrick.lonergan@universityofgalway.ie	
DT1109 Theatre Histories 2	Finian O’Gorman	finian.ogorman@universityofgalway.ie	
DT1105 Introduction to Stagecraft	Michael O’Halloran & Finian O’Gorman	miriam.haughton@universityofgalway.ie michael.ohalloran@universityofgalway.ie	

MODULE OUTLINES 2023-2024

NOTE: These module outlines are PROVISIONAL.

Please check for finalised module outlines on Canvas after fully registering.

SEMESTER 1

DT1115: Introduction to Acting

Instructor: Maisie Lee

The objective of this course is to provide an introduction to the fundamentals of an actor’s process. This introduction is rooted in the dramatic works and teaching approaches of the contemporary Western theatre, with an emphasis on realistic acting technique and texts. You will be engaged in an active and experimental process that draws on your artistic and intellectual skills in order to furnish you with an understanding of basic realistic acting terminology and processes.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this module, successful learners will be able to:

- Demonstrate a basic knowledge of acting terminology in relationship to the genre of realism and naturalism including awareness of major figures in the 20th and 21st century acting theory.
- Employ the relevant acting vocabulary when working on scenes and monologues collaborative with partners.

- Write specifically about their performance work as well as other performance that they have observed using the vocabulary established in class.
- Articulate the ethics, challenges and rewards of collaborative creative work.
- Demonstrate knowledge of repertoire of acting activities including techniques for warm-up and character development.

Assessments

Department Assessments/Examination (70%)

Performance 1: Scene	30%
Performance 2: Monologue	40%

Continuous Assessment (30%)

Final Essay	30%
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DT1108: Theatre Histories 1

Instructor: Patrick Lonergan

This module offers students the opportunity to develop their skills in analysing and staging dramatic texts from diverse periods in the European theatrical tradition. They will trace developments in theatre from Ancient Greece through to the Renaissance in Europe. Students will discuss, stage and analyse theatrical conventions at play in a range of texts, and examine the relationship between space, audience, language, and convention. We will pay particular attention to the practice of theatrical revival, asking how old plays can be performed in a way that is respectful of the past and relevant to the present.

Students will be offered the opportunity to learn, historically situate and evaluate the conventions of the stage. The course aims to foster active learning and creative thinking through developing the practice of analysis in practical sessions, and in the discussion of lecture materials.

Learning Outcomes

Following completion of this module, a learner will be able to:

- Identify and discuss a wide range of theatrical conventions,
- Evaluate and situate the different historical genres covered
- Analyse theatrical texts in terms of performance conventions
- Test and practically investigate how conventions work on stage
- Develop a specialised critical vocabulary for theatre analysis
- Recognise the importance of historical and cultural context in the development of dramatic convention

Assessment

Departmental Assessment/Examination

- Mid-term assessment: Scene Analysis: 30%
- Staged Scene (Group work): 20%

Continuous Assessment

- End of semester essay: 50%

Second Semester

DT1109: Theatre Histories II

Instructor: Finian O’Gorman

Following on from Theatre Histories I, we will investigate the function of theatre as an artistic, cultural, social and political event through engaging in transnational case studies of selected theatrical traditions from the 17th-late 19th centuries. Genres addressed will include Traditional Japanese Theatre (including Kabuki and Noh), Spanish Golden Age Drama, Restoration Comedy, Kathakali Dance-Drama, Romanticism and Melodrama.

This module will consist of a blend of lecture/discussion and practical workshops. In the lecture/discussion portion, you will engage with primary texts and historical materials including documents, images and videos. In the practical workshops, you will test and explore the practical implications of the performance forms and conventions studied in this module in terms of staging and aesthetics.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this module, a learner will be able to:

- Identify and discuss a wide range of theatrical conventions.
- Evaluate and situate the different historical genres covered.
- Analyse theatrical texts in terms of performance conventions.
- Test and practically investigate how conventions work on stage.
- Develop a specialised critical vocabulary for theatre analysis.
- Recognise the importance of historical and cultural context in the development of dramatic convention.

Assessment

- Analytical writing portfolio midterm assignment (750 words): 30%
- Staged Scene or Original Performance responding to theatrical contexts, conventions or dramaturgical principles of form/genre/period: 40%
- End of semester essay (1000 words): 30%

DT1105: Introduction to Stagecraft

Teaching Team: Mike O’Halloran and Finian O’Gorman

This course introduces students to theatre as an event of cultural production. It examines the building blocks of making theatre and performance in relation to historical, aesthetic, and social conditions. This is a 5 ECTS course, meaning students are expected to complete 66-76 hours (or 6-8 hours per week) of reading, rehearsal and self-directed study. This course is intended to be practice-led: students will be offered the opportunity to learn basic core production skills such as stage management, and core technical skills including lighting. These skills will be further developed in Stagecraft 2 in second year. This course will also interrogate, where appropriate, the theoretical frameworks that inform the creation of the theatrical event. The combination of practice and theory will build students' knowledge of roles, skill-sets, and working relationships within theatre, as well as the wider economic and political contexts that inform and surround cultural production. Assessment will be focused on the practice-led aspects of the course, augmented by theoretical analysis.

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module the learner will be able to:

- Consider the specific roles and dynamics of collaboration within the creative team
- Analyse the relation between spaces and places, design, performance, and production
- Apply and test theoretical knowledge and practical skills.
- Produce design and management documents

Assessment:

1. Mid-Term Essay 40%
2. Company Pitch: 50%
3. Submitted preparation documents: 10%