

Nottingham Trent University

Course Specification

GLOBAL SUMMER SCHOOL

	Basic Course information	
1	Course Title:	Language, Communication, and Playwriting
2	Course Code:	GLB_001
3	Credit Points:	10
4	Duration:	10 days
5	School:	AAH
6	Campus:	City
7	Date this version first approved to run:	

8 Pre, post and co-requisites:

You should have the required English language skills of an IELTS score of 5.5 (or equivalent) or higher.

9 Programmes containing the Course

<u>Level</u>	<u>Core/Option</u>	<u>Mode</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Course Title</u>
5	Option	FT		A constituent of the NTU Global Summer School.

10 Overview and Aims

This two-week theatre skills, playwriting, and performing course connects English language learning, intercultural communication training, and theatre-making. Set in a lively, non-traditional, and physically engaging environment, students explore language and culture in interactive, collaborative, and energizing ways. Through hands-on workshops in basic playwriting and intercultural communication, students will create and perform their own two-character plays. The program allows ample time for rehearsal, staging, and performance, giving students the chance to act in each other's plays and gain confidence in public speaking in English. This process fosters cross-cultural communication, as students from diverse backgrounds collaborate and act in roles that may be different to their own lived experiences. This course is intended for students who are learning English as a second language.

11 Course Content

The playwriting workshops will involve drama games and collaborative creative activities. Over the first week, each student will create a short play for two characters. Using techniques from Stanislavski, they will create characters with imagined backgrounds, each having a fundamental objective or want, and an obstacle that makes achieving this objective difficult. The two characters in the short plays will have different objectives, creating simple dramatic conflict from which the dialogue springs. In the second week, students will have opportunities to rehearse, stage, and perform their plays, getting feedback from module tutors. Each student will act in at least two plays. The final day will see our showcase, with students performing their plays to an audience of their peers and tutors.

Students will also have workshops on intercultural communication, facilitated by the course tutor. In non-traditional environments they will reflect on their own understanding of culture and consider how they can integrate cross-cultural communication into their plays.

The course also involves field trips in and around Nottingham to gain a deeper appreciation of the UK theatre tradition. Examples of potential trips include the Nottingham Playhouse, Theatre Royal, Stratford Upon Avon, and Shakespeare's Globe.

12	Indicative Reading
	NA

13	Learning outcomes
Knowledge and understanding. After studying this course, you should be able to:	
<p>K1. Develop Basic Playwriting Skills. By the end of the course, students will be able to write a short, two-character play using foundational playwriting techniques, including character creation, objectives, and obstacles, to establish dramatic conflict.</p> <p>K2. Apply Acting and Performance Techniques. Students will demonstrate an understanding of basic acting techniques through the development of character background and objectives, influenced by Stanislavski's methods, and will participate actively in performances of their own and peers' plays.</p> <p>K3. Enhance Cross-Cultural Communication Skills. Students will gain an understanding of intercultural communication by exploring and reflecting on diverse cultural perspectives, which they will apply creatively to character development, dialogue, and interaction within their plays.</p>	
Skills, qualities, and attributes. After studying this course, you should be able to:	
<p>S1. Gain Confidence in Public Speaking and Performance in English. Through staging, rehearsing, and performing in a supportive environment, students will build confidence in public speaking and performing in English, presenting their work to an audience by the end of the course.</p> <p>S2. Communicate effectively and appropriately in group discussion. Through interaction in non-traditional learning settings, students will gain communication skills and learn to interact in groups using English.</p> <p>S3. English Language Knowledge. Students will improve their English language knowledge by interacting with others, getting input from teachers and peers, and receiving feedback from the course tutors.</p>	

14	Teaching and learning
	<i>Range of modes of direct contact</i>
	Total contact hours: 50
	Reasonable additional hours will be required for reading and research before and during the course.
	<i>Range of other learning methods</i>
	Total non-contact hours: 10

15	Assessment methods
This indicates the type of assessment elements in the course	
<u>Element number</u>	<u>Weighting</u> <u>Type</u> <u>Description</u>
1	100% Performance Students will perform a two-character play they have written, showcasing both their playwriting and acting skills. The assessment will take place in a studio setting, with an audience composed of peers and course tutors. Students will be assessed on two key areas: scriptwriting (50%) and acting performance (50%).
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Further information on assessment	
There will be time during the course for informal feedback sessions with your tutor.	
Final Assessment: You will receive a pass/fail mark for the course. Written feedback from your tutor will identify strengths evident in the body of work and include some pointers on what to focus on to improve your future work.	