Course Specifications
Valid as from the academic year 2017-2018

Ritual Aspects of Theatre and Performing Arts (A000765)

Course

Lecturers in academic year 2019-2020

Driesen, Pauline

N., N.

LW17 staff member

Lecturer-in-charge

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2019-2020

A (semester 2) Dutch lecture 45.0 h
group work 5.0 h

Offered in the following programmes in  2019-2020 crdts offering

Bachelor of Arts in Art History, Musicology and Theatre Studies 5 A

Preparatory Course Master of Arts in Art History, Musicology and Theatre Studies 5 A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Stage and Media arts, ritual, community

Position of the course

This advanced course is intended to help students acquire insight into the connection between ritual, theatre and communication media in history (focus: Antiquity & Shakespeare) and in the present day (focus: contemporary theatre and new social media).

Contents

Antique theatre is the origin of the European tradition, but at the same time has its roots on other continents (e.g. the Arabic continent). Tragedies had a central function in the antique city, and showed collective rituals that engage with kinship, love and death. The ritual aspects in theatre history and in contemporary performances will be questioned on the basis of Greek tragedies. Also William Shakespeare’s oeuvre will be dealt with in its mystic and ritual aspects.

Next to the focus on the restaging of antique tragedies and the oeuvre of Shakespeare, rituals will be dealt with within the frame of contemporary art and daily life, like for example the music festival as an urban ritual and the creation of community (“relational art”) in that context. Also Psy-Trance-festivals will be questioned in regard to their ritual aspects.

Finally, we will also question the newest communication media, such as Youtube, Facebook and Twitter, about their ritual aspects in the formation of individual and collective identities. Does theatre (still) have a ritual function today, and if so, how and for whom? Or has society moved the formative function of theatre towards other media and other art forms?

Initial competences

- Insight into the methods of performance analysis
- Basic knowledge about the new theatre history
- Succesfull participation in ‘Methodologie van de Podium- en Mediale Kunsten’ (2nd bachelor, ‘Introduction into Theatre- and Performance Studies’), or knowledge of the taught content acquired in another way.
- The application of theoretical models to performance analysis.

Final competences

(Approved)
1. Detailed knowledge about the ritual function of antique theatre and of contemporary performances of tragedies.
2. Detailed knowledge about the ritual functions and the community education in contemporary theatre and performances (namely the theatre festival as urban rituals).
3. Detailed knowledge about the theatricality of individual and collective rituals in contemporary (Western) society.
4. Detailed knowledge about the ritual aspects of contemporary communication media (Youtube, Facebook, Twitter,...).

Conditions for credit contract
Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract
This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods
Group work, lecture

Extra information on the teaching methods
Lectures with powerpoints, performance fragments and background literature; it is expected that students prepare the seminars at home by using the texts in the reader.

Learning materials and price
Reader, to buy at Docunet (Martelaarslaan 290) from the first week of the seminars. Estimated cost is 10,00 €

References

Course content-related study coaching
Prof. Dr. Katharina Pewny & Dr. Jeroen Coppens
Interactive support through Minerva
During office hours: every Thursday from 9h until 12h or by appointment

Evaluation methods
end-of-term evaluation and continuous assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period
Written examination

Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period
Written examination

Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation
Participation

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation
examination during the second examination period is possible

Calculation of the examination mark
The "periodegebonden" evaluation (written exam) counts for 70% and the "niet-periodegebonden" evaluation (group presentation) counts for 30%. The student has to participate in each of the evaluation forms in order to get a final exam result. If the student does not pass the "niet-gebonden" evaluation (presentation), there will be a second chance (compensating activity) in between the first and the second exam period.

Facilities for Working Students
1. Possible exemption from educational activities requiring student attendance, a task is imposed in substitution
2. The examination cannot be rescheduled
3. Feedback can be given during an appointment during office hours
For more information concerning flexible learning: contact the monitoring service of the faculty of Arts and philosophy

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