

CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, POMONA

ACADEMIC SENATE

GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

REPORT TO

THE ACADEMIC SENATE

GE-132-156

TH 4250 – Community Based Theater (GE Area D4)

General Education Committee

Date: 06/29/2016

Executive Committee
Received and Forwarded

Date: 08/17/2016

Academic Senate

Date: 08/31/2016
First Reading

BACKGROUND:

This is a revised course seeking GE status. Under the quarter system it is known as TH 425 (3-unit lecture) and TH 425A (1-unit activity), and it currently has GE status. It is going to be taught as a 3-unit lecture discussion course under the semester system.

RESOURCES CONSULTED:

Faculty
Department Chairs
Associate Deans
Deans
Office of Academic Programs

DISCUSSION:

The GE Committee reviewed the ECO for this course and found it to satisfy the GE Student Learning Outcomes and other requirements for GE Area D4.

RECOMMENDATION:

The GE Committee recommends approval of GE-132-156, TH 4250 – Community Based Theater for GE Area D4.

TH - 4250 - Community Based Theatre

C. Course - New General Education* Updated

General Catalog Information

Department* Theatre and New Dance	
Semester Subject Area* TH	Semester Catalog Number* 4250
Quarter Subject Area TH	Quarter Catalog Number 425/425A
Course Title* Community Based Theatre	
Units* (3)	
C/S Classification* C-02 (Lecture Discussion)	

To view C/S Classification Long Description click: http://www.cpp.edu/~academic-programs/scheduling/Documents/Curriculum%20Guide/Appendix_C_CS_Classification.pdf

Component* Lecture
Instruction Mode* Face-to-Face
Grading Basis* Graded Only
Repeat Basis* May be taken multiple times

If it may be taken multiple times, limit on number of enrollments	1
Cross Listed Course Subject Area and Catalog Nbr (if offered with another department)	
Dual Listed Course Subject Area and Catalog number (If offered as lower/upper division or ugrd/grad)	
Choose appropriate type (s) of course(s)*	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major Course <input type="checkbox"/> Service Course <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GE Course <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above
General Education Area / Subarea*	D4

To view the General Education SubArea definitions, click <http://www.cpp.edu/~academic-programs/scheduling/Documents/Ch.3-GeneralEducationProposals.pdf>.

I. Catalog Description

Catalog Description	TH 4250 Community Based Theatre (3)
	History and development of Community Based Theatre in the United States and its effect on social/political dialogue within communities. Community Based Theatre's cultural significance within the broad spectrum of U.S. society through performance techniques. (Upper Division GE D-4)

II. Required Coursework and Background

Prerequisite(s)	GE Areas A1,A2,A3 and D1, D2, D3
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Corequisite(s)

**Pre or Corequisite
(s)**

Concurrent

III. Expected Outcomes

**List the
knowledge, skills,
or abilities which
students should
possess upon**

1. Enhanced communication skills, developed through written work and oral presentations about dance, theatre and related arts. (1a, 1b)

completing the course.*

2. Enhanced skills in researching, processing and organizing information, collecting data and applying ethical and critical thinking when using information, developed while discovering ideas and conclusions about issues in dance, theatre and related arts. (1c,1d)
3. Accumulation of knowledge and understanding of community based theatre, theatre history, contemporary artistic practices and interdisciplinary work, as well as the ability to articulate the historical and cultural significance of the art of theatre. (2b)
4. Demonstrated ability to integrate concepts and ideas from various disciplines, including dance, theatre, art history, performance studies and interdisciplinary studies, to arrive at a deeper understanding of how the arts function in society.(2d)
5. Acquire knowledge of the contributions of diverse cultures in the creation and development of community based theatre, theatre and related arts. Acquire ability to analyze how these contributions helped shape cultural values in society. (3a)
6. Acquire the ability to use the arts to understand social issues, discuss social problems and develop solutions. (3b)

If this is a course for the major, describe how these outcomes relate to the mission, goals and objectives of the major program.

Student Learning Outcomes 1 and 2, that satisfy GE I.a, I.b, I.c, and I.d, also meet the Department of Theatre and New Dance Major Objective I: *Acquire Foundation Skills and Capacities in the Theatre Arts and/or the Dance Arts*. Through the study of the disciplines of Theatre and/or Dance, the students will develop the ability to research, organize and evaluate information, critically evaluate ideas and develop conclusions and opinions, and communicate effectively in written and oral form,

Student Learning Outcomes 3 and 4, which satisfy GE II.d, also meet the Department of Theatre and New Dance Major Objective II: *Develop an Understanding of the Various Branches of Theatre Arts and/or Dance Arts Knowledge and Their Interrelationships*. Students will achieve greater knowledge through the study of dramatic literature, major dance works, master artists and/or significant productions; dance and theatre historical/cultural studies; and/or relevant areas, such as film and performance studies. The integration of this knowledge in the practice of research, criticism, the creative process and/or production activities will support the learning outcomes of the Department. The integration of this knowledge with other disciplines will help

the student to arrive at a deeper understanding of how the arts function in society.

Student Learning Outcome 5, which satisfies GE III.a and III.b, also meets the Department of Theatre and New Dance Major Objective III: *Develop social and global knowledge in context of Theatre and/or dance practices*. Students will learn about diverse cultures and their influence on individuals and society through the study of Theatre and Dance arts and history. Through exploration and creative use of Theatre and Dance, students will discover how the art forms can express ethics and values and address social issues confronting local and global communities. Students will learn through experiences in theatre or dance creative works, production, education, community engagement, social activism, and service learning.

Explain how the course meets the description of the GE SubArea(s). Please select appropriate outcomes according to the GE Area/SLO mapping.

TH 4250 meets the GE Sub-area D-4 requirements in the following ways: 1) there is a significant writing component through essays, reviews, written portfolios and/or research papers; 2) portfolio and program presentations as well as artistic projects develop oral presentation skills. Both areas provide opportunities to work on information gathering and information analysis skills; 3) through class assignments, lectures, and discussions, students analyze major artistic works and explain their significance in society; 4) interdisciplinary content provides opportunities to synthesize knowledge, which, along with exposure to artistic works from multiple areas, leads to intellectual and cultural growth; 5) Classroom content as well as student projects give the opportunity to understand how the arts function as a vehicle for self-expression, community voice and social change.

Describe how these outcomes relate to the associated GE Learning Outcomes listed below.*

I. Acquire foundational skills and capacities.

- a. *Write effectively for various audiences.*
- b. *Speak effectively to various audiences.*
- c. *Find, evaluate, use, and share information effectively and ethically.*
- d. *Construct arguments based on sound evidence and reasoning to support an opinion or conclusion.*

Students are required to engage in reflective writing, written reviews and analysis of artistic works, and written responses to readings. Assigned reports and research papers require information gathering and processing, as well as critical thinking. Written work may be presented orally as part of required presentational projects. Effective speaking skills are also developed in discussion, classroom panels and group activity.

II. Develop an understanding of various branches of knowledge and their interrelationships.

- d. *Integrate concepts, examples, and theories from more than one discipline to identify problems, construct original ideas, and draw conclusions.*

Study and analysis of Community Based Theatre is integrated with information from the disciplines of Art History, Fine and Performing Arts, American and European History, World Dance and Theatre, Performance Studies and Social Activism and Community Development to provide students with an interdisciplinary synthesis and exploration, found in class content, projects, presentations and assignments.

III. Develop Social and Global Knowledge

- a. *Analyze the historical development of diverse cultures and the role they play in shaping core institutions and practices of individuals and societies.*

Diverse cultures and their impact on arts and society are examined and analyzed through class content, student research assignments and presentation of their findings through oral presentations and creative projects.

- b. *Analyze principles, methods, value systems, and ethics of social issues confronting local and global communities.*

Social issues from local and global communities are discussed through readings, lectures, and viewing of artistic works in theatre, dance and other art forms. Projects that address ethical and cultural values are developed to allow students to explore these issues in depth.

General Education Outcomes***Ia. Write effectively for various audiences****Ib. Speak effectively to various audiences.****Ic. Find, evaluate, use, and share information effectively and ethically.****Id. Construct arguments based on sound evidence and reasoning to support an opinion or conclusion.****Ie. Apply and communicate quantitative arguments using equations and graphical representations of data.****IIa. Apply scientific methods and models to draw quantitative and qualitative conclusions about the physical and natural world.****IIb. Analyze major literary, philosophical, historical or artistic works and explain their significance in society.****IIc. Analyze concepts, research methods, and theories pertaining to the study of culture, economics, history, politics, or society.****IIId. Integrate concepts, examples, and theories from more than one discipline to identify problems, construct original ideas, and draw conclusions.****IIIa. Analyze the historical development of diverse cultures and the role they play in shaping core institutions and practices of individuals and societies.****IIIb. Analyze principles, methods, value systems, and ethics of social issues confronting local and global communities.****IVa. Analyze the factors that contribute to individual well-being (such as physical, mental, nutritional, emotional, intellectual, spiritual, financial, social, or environmental)****IVb. Demonstrate activities, techniques, or behaviors that promote intellectual or cultural growth.****IVc. Engage in communities (campus, regional, etc.) or participate in civic activities for the betterment of personal and public life.**

To view the mapping, click <https://www.cpp.edu/~academic-programs/Documents/GE%20SLO%20Mapping.pdf>

IV. Instructional Materials

Provide bibliography that includes texts that may be used as the primary source for instruction, and other appropriate reference materials to be used in instruction. The reference list should be current, arranged alphabetically by author and the materials should be listed in accepted bibliographic form.

**Instructional
Materials***

Core Texts:

Bowles, Norma. *Staging Social Justice: Collaborating to Create Activist Theatre*. Illinois: Southern Illinois University Press, 2013.

Howard, Peter. *Dialogue Guidelines*. Los Angeles: Cornerstone Institute, 2011.

Kuftinec, Sonja. *Staging America: Cornerstone and Community-Based Theater*. Illinois: Southern Illinois University Press, 2003.

Additional Texts used will include:

Sociology:

Burnham, Linda Frye. *Telling and Listening in Public: Factors for Success*. Community Arts Network, 2001.

Mason, Susan. *Finding the Edge: Multiple Community Goals*. Community Arts Network, 1999.

Political Science:

Cohen-Cruz, Jan. *An Introduction to Community Art and Activism*. Community Arts Network, 2002.

Nelhouse, Tobin and Haedicke, Susan C. *Performing Democracy*. Michigan: University of Michigan Press, 1999.

Burnham, Linda Frye. *The Artist as Citizen*. Community Arts Network, 2001.

Brennan, Moira. *Toward a Theatre of Action*. (American Theatre Magazine, 2002.

Burnham, Linda Frye. *A More Perfect Union*. American Theatre Magazine, 2002.

Philosophy:

Fletcher, John. *Identity and Agonism: Tim Miller, Cornerstone, and the Politics of Community-Based Theatre*. Theatre Topics/Johns Hopkins University Press, 2003.

Performing Arts:

Leonard, Robert H. and Kilkelly, Ann. *Knowing the Secrets Behind the Laughter: Findings of The Grassroots Ensemble Theater Research Project*. Community Arts Network, 2003.

Nichols, David C. *The State of Cornerstone Theater's Art*. American Theatre Magazine, 2015.

Rhod, Michael. *Theatre for Community, Conflict and Dialogue*. Heinemann Press, 1998.

Schwartzman, Mat. *Beginner's Guide to Community Based Arts*. New York: New Village Press, 2005.

Solano, Bernardo. *Perseverancia*. Fulbright Colombia, 2010.

Internet Resources:

Community Based Theatre in India:

<http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/play/8174/Community-Based-Theater-CBT->

Alternate ROOTS www.alternateroots.org

American Festival Project www.appalshop.org

Americans for the Arts www.AmericansForTheArts.org/AnimatingDemocracy

Art and Community: www.artandcommunity.com

Community Arts Partnership: www.capinstitute.org

Community Arts Network: www.communityarts.net

Videos:

HBO Films, Cornerstone Theater, 2000.

Cornerstone Theatre, Steelbound and Growing Home.

Fringe Benefits Alliance, Friendly Fire.

Faculty are encouraged to make all materials accessible. Indicate with an asterisk those items that have had accessibility (ATI/Section 508) reviewed. For more information, <http://www.cpp.edu/~accessibility>

V. Minimum Student Material

List any materials, supplies, equipment, etc., which students must provide, such as notebooks, computers, internet access, special clothing or uniforms, safety equipment, lockers, sports

equipment, etc. Note that materials that require the assessment of a fee may not be included unless the fee has been approved according to University procedures.

**Minimum Student
Material***

Recording equipment (video, still photography, and/or audio recording).

Access to Internet.

VI. Minimum College Facilities

List the university facilities/equipment that will be required in order to offer this class, such as gymnastic equipment, special classroom, technological equipment, laboratories, etc.

**Minimum College
Facilities***

Lecture or Classroom with access to Internet

Video Projection System with VCR/DVD player

Video cameras, digital audio recorders

VII. Course Outline

Describe specifically what will be included in the course content. This should not be a repetition of the course description but an expansion that provides information on specific material to be

included in the class, e.g. lecture topics, skills to be taught, etc. This should not be a week-by-week guide unless all instructors are expected to follow that schedule.

Course Outline*

I. Community Based Theatre

A. History of Community-Based Theatre (CBT) in the United States.

B. Defining CBT in relation to American Ideals and Political Science.

1. Contribution of CBT to principles of Democracy.

C. Defining CBT in relation to History, Sociology, and Philosophy.

II. Theoretical Underpinnings of CBT.

A. Importance and goals.

B. Exploration of the many ways to define community.

C. The politics of community-based art making.

1. Alliance of artists and performing arts companies who work with communities.

2. Public and private sector interests.

3. Partnerships between higher education arts schools and community-based organizations that serve youth.

D. CBT effect on social/political dialogue within communities.

1. CBT as a symbolic and expressive medium.

2. CBT an agent of social change.

III. Ingredients of a successful CBT Project

A. Case studies of successful CBT projects (and failures.)

B. Screening of videos highlighting various CBT projects.

C. Selecting Collaborating Communities.

1. Identifying and making contact with community collaborators.

2. Association of creative leaders from business, government and the arts who have succeeded in building bridges between the arts and a wide range of community.

IV. Student CBT Project Research.

A. Students conceptualize final project and articulate goals.

1. Recognize relevant issues and construct original ideas that speak 'by, with and for' communities.

B. The Interviewing Process: Goals and Methods.

1. Story Circles.

2. Field Research.

C. Students conduct interviews and/or story circles with community collaborators, using audio and/or video documentation.

D. Presentation of Field Research data to class and discussion.

1. Evaluation of transcriptions of field research to assess listening and writing skills in terms of interview training and accuracy.

E. Interpretation of Field Research data in relation to Sociology, History, Philosophy, Political Science and Performing Arts.

V. Student CBT Project Creation.

A. Exploration of artistic/theatrical modes of interpreting data.

B. Final Project Presentations. Students present final projects using theatre as the primary medium, although photography, dance, music, film, performance art, etc. are welcome and encouraged.

VI. Service Learning Community Collaboration / 'Learn by doing' (Interviewing techniques, identifying community collaborators, field research, translating research material into theatre, final project integrating Theatre with each student's area of study)

VIII. Instructional Methods

Describe the type(s) of method(s) that are required or recommended for the instruction of this course (lectures, demonstrations, etc.). Include any method that is essential to the course, such as the use of particular tools or software.

**Instructional
Methods***

Lecture/discussion/participation/presentation.

IX. Evaluation of Outcomes

Describe the methods to be used to evaluate students' learning, i.e. written exams, term papers, projects, participation, quizzes, attendance, etc.*

In Class Methods of Evaluation:

1. Class participation and discipline.
2. Assignments and discussions.
3. Oral presentations and showings.
4. Examinations/tests on vocabulary, techniques, facts, concepts, procedures, etc.
5. Feedback and Critiques of creative works and projects.
6. Writing assignments, including critiques, essays, journals, research papers and writing projects.
7. Public presentation and performance.

Out of Class Methods of Evaluation:

1. Contributions to department productions.
2. Critical evaluation of a public production or performance.

Describe the meaningful writing assignments to be included.*

Meaningful writing assignments can include essays, journals, research papers, analysis and critiques of artwork and performances, projects and presentations. The assignment will be evaluated with opportunities for response and re-writing.

Discuss how these methods may be used to address the course and program

	PARTICIPATION & DISCIPLINE	ASSIGNMENTS & DISCUSSIONS		EXAMS
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outcomes, as appropriate. Include or attach a matrix to align the evaluation methods to the outcomes.*

			ORAL PRESENTATIONS & SHOWINGS	
Objective 1		X		
Objective 1		X	X	
Objective 1		X	X	
Objective 1		X	X	
Objective 2		X	X	
Objective 3		X	X	
Objective 3		X	X	

If this is a general education course, discuss how these methods may be used to address the associated GE Learning Outcomes listed below. Include or attach a matrix to

GE SLO	PARTICIPATION & DICIPLEINE	ASSIGNMENTS & DISCUSSIONS	ORAL PRESENTATIONS & SHOWINGS	EXA
I.a		X		

align the evaluation methods to the outcomes.*

I.b		X	X	
I.c		X	X	
I.d		X	X	
II.d		X	X	
III.a		X	X	
III.b		X	X	



X. This OPTIONAL Section is for describing Course/Department/College specific requirements.

Department/
College Required
ECO Information
(Optional)