



## *The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*

### *Syllabus*

## *From Heart to Stage: Writing a short play - 20428*

*Last update 28-08-2017*

*HU Credits: 2*

*Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)*

*Responsible Department: theatre studies*

*Academic year: 0*

*Semester: 1st Semester*

*Teaching Languages: Hebrew*

*Campus: Mt. Scopus*

*Course/Module Coordinator: Michael Morris-Reich*

*Coordinator Email: [drama.skills@gmail.com](mailto:drama.skills@gmail.com)*

*Coordinator Office Hours: Monday 12:30-14:00*

*Teaching Staff:*

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Dr. Michael Morris-Reich

Course/Module description:

*The aim of this course is to function as a safe and supportive habitat for writers who are interested in writing a short personal play. A haven, in which writers will feel free and safe to embark on a personal voyage to their own areas of emotion, imagination and memory. Our feelings will serve as a starting point and inspiration for the writing of a short play. From the personal feelings and experience, we will create imaginary worlds, characters and plots, unique in style and content. Great freedom will be granted to the writers, in the handling and transportation of their memories and experiences to the stage. At the same time, we will learn and practice the fundamental techniques of dramatic and stage writing, focusing on characters , situations ,dramatic action and stage language.*

Course/Module aims:

*To experience and practice central techniques and attitudes of writing for the stage.*

*To embark on a personal and emotional voyage triggered and inspired by our own memories and experiences.*

*To complete a short stage play inspired by our own memories and experiences.*

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

*Learning outcomes*

*On successful completion of this module, students should be able to*

*To write dramatic dialogue*

*To shape dramatic characters*

*To construct plot and structure of a short play*

*To create a personal creative process to accompany and support the writing of the play*

Attendance requirements(%):

*Full attendance according to University regulations*

*Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: Tutoring*

*Watching plays*

*Excercises*

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Course/Module Content:

Personal creative process:  
Nonstop writing  
Morning pages  
Personal biography and the writing  
Dramatic technique:  
Dramatic action  
Characterization  
Shaping plot and structure  
Writing dramatic dialogue  
Thinking stage

Required Reading:

Most materials will be presented in class:  
Julia Cameron, *The Artist Way*  
Lajos Egri, *The Art of Dramatic Writing*  
Buzz Mclaughlin, *The Playwright's Process*  
Robert Mckee, *Story*  
Alexander Mackendrick, *On Film Making*  
Michael Wright. *Playwriting in Process: Thinking and Working Theatrically*  
Plays and films:  
Charlie Chaplin, *The Gold Rush*  
-----, *The Circus*  
Arthur Miller, *Death of a Salesman*  
Volker Schlöndorff, movie based on *Death of a Salesman*  
Luigi Pirandello,  
Arthur Miller, *A View from the Bridge*  
Federico Garcia Lorca, *The House of Bernarda Alba*  
Euripides, *Iphigenia in Aulis*

Additional Reading Material:

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 0 %  
Presentation 0 %  
Participation in Tutorials 20 %  
Project work 0 %  
Assignments 30 %  
Reports 0 %

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*Research project 0 %*  
*Quizzes 0 %*  
*Other 50 %*  
*short play*

*Additional information:*