Syllabus

PETER BROOK: FROM "MARAT/SADE" TO THE PRESENT - 20515

Last update 04-09-2016

HU Credits: 2

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: theatre studies

Academic year: 0

Semester: 2nd Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Jeanette Malkin

Coordinator Email: jmalkin@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Wed. 14:15-15:00

Teaching Staff:
Dr. Jeanette Malkin
**Course/Module description:**
Peter Brook’s search, since the 1960s, for a “holy” theatre to replace what he calls “deadly theatre” in his seminal book *The Empty Space*, has changed the face of post-WW II theatre and performance. Influenced by Artaud and Jerzy Grotowski, as well as by Brecht and Meyerhold, Brook renewed the relevance of Shakespeare for our time, and created both highly physical and lyrical minimalist theatre. Brook’s method of “laboratory theatre” work put the emphasis on the actor; and he created an international ensemble of artists. In this course we will study and view filmic versions of selected stations in his rich work, beginning with *Marat/Sade*.

**Course/Module aims:**
The aim of this course is to familiarize the student with Brook’s ideas and practice of theatre, with his masterworks, and with the course of a life dedicated to clear, meaningful dialogic communication.

**Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:**
Know one of the major theatre directors of the second half of the 20th century

**Attendance requirements(%):**
80%

**Teaching arrangement and method of instruction:** Lectures, film viewing, class discussion

**Course/Module Content:**
Might be modified:

1. Introduction to Brook's biography and aesthetics
2. Brook and *The Empty Space*
3. Peter Brook, Grotowski, and the art of acting
4. Brook between Artaud and Brecht: *Marat/Sade*
5. Brook and Gurdjieff
6. Brook and *Midsummer Night's Dream*
7. Brook and Chekhov
8. Brook and mythology
9. Brook and Hamlet

Required Reading:
OSV 3415 Akropolis. Staged and Directed by Jerzy Grotowski
OSV 2225 The Empty Space
Peter Brook, The Empty Space. 1968
OSV 1857 Marat/Sade
Hunt and Reeves: Chapter 6 “The Thing Itself: The Marat/Sade”
OSV 2897 Meetings with Remarkable Men
Peter Brook, Threads of Time: 58-76; 172-181
Hunt and Reeves: Chapter 10 “Shaking hands in the empty space: The Dream”
OSV 2000 La Cerisaie (The Cherry Orchard)
Hunt and Reeves: Chapter 16 “No samovars in Paris and New York: La Cerisaie and The Cherry Orchard”
OSV 120 The Mahabharata
Hunt and Reeves: Chapter 14 “Carpet shows at the Bouffes: Les Ik and Ubu”
Hunt and Reeves: Chapter 18 “Nirvana at last: The Mahabharata”
OSV 7505 The Tragedy of Hamlet
**Additiona Reading Material:**


McCullough, Christopher. “Peter Brook and Interculturalism (40-45) in Theatre and Europe. Intellect: European Studies Series, 1996.
http://www.intellectbooks.com/europa/number5/mccull.html


1965.


**Course/Module evaluation:**
- End of year written/oral examination 0 %
- Presentation 25 %
- Participation in Tutorials 25 %
- Project work 0 %
- Assignments 0 %
- Reports 0 %
- Research project 50 %
- Quizzes 0 %
- Other 0 %

**Additional information:**