

**DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES**

**Year 4 Student Handbook (4BA DTP) 2023-2024**



**OLLSCOIL NA GAILLIMHÉ**  
**UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY**



**Discipline of Drama and Theatre Studies,  
School of English and Creative Arts,  
O'Donoghue Centre, University of Galway**

This handbook contains an overview of your modules for Fourth Year in Drama and Theatre Studies and some key dates. For full information on Drama and Theatre Studies policies and guidelines, please refer to the general undergraduate student handbook.

### **Who to contact**

Head of Undergraduate Studies Finian O’Gorman - [finian.ogorman@universityofgalway.ie](mailto:finian.ogorman@universityofgalway.ie)

## **FINAL YEAR DRAMA, THEATRE AND PERFORMANCE 2023-2024**

### Term and Exam Dates 2023-2024

<b>First Semester</b>	
Orientations:	Fourth Years: Monday September 4, Studio 2, 11AM ( <i>in place of first session of “DT4101: Contemporary Irish Theatre”</i> )
Arts in Action	Will typically be Thursday at 1PM during teaching term in semesters one and two  Full programme to be launched in September  All events free and open to students and may be integrated as part of your modules
Teaching – 1 <sup>st</sup> Years (UG):	Monday, 18 <sup>th</sup> September – Friday, 24 <sup>th</sup> November 2023 (10 weeks of teaching)
Teaching – all other years:	Monday, 4 <sup>th</sup> September – Friday, 24 <sup>th</sup> November 2023 (12 weeks of teaching)
Drama Reading & Development Week:	Monday, 9 <sup>th</sup> – Friday, 13 <sup>st</sup> October 2023 (Week 6)
Bank Holiday:	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October 2023
Study Week:	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> November to Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December 2023
Semester 1 Exams:	Monday, 4 <sup>th</sup> December – Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December ( 10 days of exams)  <i>First years will have exams in semester one, check module outlines for details.</i>
Christmas Holidays:	Saturday, 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2023

<b>Second Semester</b>	
Teaching:	Monday, 8 <sup>th</sup> January – Thursday, 28 <sup>th</sup> March 2024 (12 weeks of teaching)
Arts in Action	Continues Thursdays at 1PM during teaching with some special performances.
Bank Holiday:	Monday, 1st February 2024
Drama Reading & Development Week:	TBD- Either Week Six or Week Seven <i>THIRD-YEAR PRODUCTION STILL MEETS DURING THIS WEEK</i>
Third Year Production	Technical and Dress Rehearsals- Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> - Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> March-9AM-5PM  Performances- Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March to Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> March 2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thursday 7 March (preview), 7PM</li> <li>• Friday 8 March, 7PM</li> <li>• Saturday 9 March, 2PM and 7PM</li> <li>• (Dark Sunday 10 March)</li> <li>• Monday 11 March at 1PM and 7PM</li> <li>• Tuesday 12 March at 7PM</li> <li>• Wednesday 13 March at 1PM (closing performance for Arts in Action, strike to follow)</li> </ul>
St. Patrick's Day:	Monday, 18 <sup>th</sup> March 2024
Easter Holidays:	Good Friday, 29 <sup>th</sup> March - Easter Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2024
Field Trip:	Tuesday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> April to Friday, 5 <sup>th</sup> April (if applicable)
MA Performance Lab Workshop Showing:	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> April, 4PM, ODT
Study Week:	Monday, 8 <sup>th</sup> April to Friday, 12 <sup>th</sup> April 2024
Bank Holiday:	Monday, 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
Semester 2 Exams:	Monday, 15 <sup>th</sup> April to Wednesday, 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2024 (13 days of exams)
Bank Holiday:	Monday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2024

<b>Autumn Exams 2024</b>	
Autumn Repeat Exams:	Tuesday, 6th August to Friday, 16th August 2024 (9 days of exams)
Bank Holiday:	Monday, 5 <sup>th</sup> August 2024
Repeat assignments due for continuous assessment modules	Friday, 9 <sup>th</sup> August 2024 <i>This deadline applies to those who have failed drama modules and have to repeat them during summer.</i>

## Course Structure

In the first semester, all students take DT4102 Performance Studies and DT4101 Contemporary Irish Theatre.

In the second semester all students take DT4107 Practice-Based Research Project and DT4108 Arts Management.

## TIMETABLE

CLASS	Semester	Day & Time	Venue	ECTS
DT4101 Contemporary Irish Theatre	1	Monday 11am - 12pm  Tuesday, 3-4pm	Studio 1  Studio 1	5
DT4102 Performance Studies	1	Wednesday 4-5pm  Thursday 3-5pm	Studio 1  Studio 1	10
DT4108 Arts Management	2	Monday 11am – 12pm  Tuesday, 3-4pm	Studio 2  Studio 1	5
DT4107 Practice-Based Research Project	2	Wednesday 4-5pm  Thursday 3-5pm	Studio 2 / Sem 1/ Mezzanine Office Studio 2 / Sem 1/ Mezzanine Office	10

## Staff Contacts and Office Hours

Staff in Drama aim to be approachable and responsive to students' needs, insofar as possible in the context of their other professional obligations, and while bearing in mind that we can often assist students best by referring them to other professionals within the university, such as the counselling service or the College of Arts office.

Students can also communicate with staff by email (see below for information about email contacts). In general, if your query is complicated or personal, it is better to discuss it with the lecturer during a scheduled online slot.

Many lecturers will also make time to answer individual queries at the end of classes, but please note that it may not always be possible to do this (for example, a lecturer may have another class to get to).

### DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES STAFF CONTACTS FOR 2023-2024

- Ian R Walsh, Lecturer [Full-time], Head of Discipline and Head of Postgraduate Studies in DTS, [ian.walsh@universityofgalway.ie](mailto:ian.walsh@universityofgalway.ie)
- Finian O’Gorman Lecturer [full-time], Head of Undergraduate Studies in DTS [finian.ogorman@universityofgalway.ie](mailto:finian.ogorman@universityofgalway.ie)
- Charlotte McIvor, Senior Lecturer [full-time], Head of School of English and Creative Arts, [charlotte.mcivor@universityofgalway.ie](mailto:charlotte.mcivor@universityofgalway.ie)
- Marianne Kennedy, Lecturer [full-time], Artistic Director, O’Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance, DTS, [marianne.nichinneide@nuigalway.ie](mailto:marianne.nichinneide@nuigalway.ie)
- Patrick Lonergan Professor [full-time], Vice-Dean for Engagement and Student Recruitment, College of Arts, Social Science and Celtic Studies, Head of Third Year Erasmus and Exchanges, DTS and Head of Postgraduate Certificate in Creative Arts Management, [patrick.lonergan@nuigalway.ie](mailto:patrick.lonergan@nuigalway.ie)
- Miriam Haughton Lecturer [full-time], on research leave IRC Laureate 2023-2025), [miriam.haughton@nuigalway.ie](mailto:miriam.haughton@nuigalway.ie)
- Máiréad Ní Chróinín , Druid Lecturer [part-time], Druid Academy Coordinator, [mairead.nichroinin@universityofgalway.ie](mailto:mairead.nichroinin@universityofgalway.ie)
- Teresa O’Donovan- Administrator [part-time], DTS, [drama@universityofgalway.ie](mailto:drama@universityofgalway.ie)
- Michael O’Halloran, Technical Officer [part-time], DTS, [michael.ohalloran@nuigalway.ie](mailto:michael.ohalloran@nuigalway.ie)
- Aideen Wylde, Lecturer, Internships and Placement Coordinator, [part-time], [aideen.wylde@universityofgalway.ie](mailto:aideen.wylde@universityofgalway.ie)

### STAFF OFFICES

Staff offices are in the O’Donoghue Centre for Drama, Theatre and Performance.

## Teaching Staff

Please find below contact details of most of your lecturers throughout the year, this list is not yet complete and is subject to change:

MODULE	LECTURER	EMAIL
DT4101 Contemporary Irish Theatre	Finian O’Gorman	<a href="mailto:finian.ogorman@universityofgalway.ie">finian.ogorman@universityofgalway.ie</a>
DT4102 Performance Studies	Charlotte McIvor Finian O’Gorman Jamie Bigley (Graduate Teaching Assistant)	<a href="mailto:Charlotte.mcivor@universityofgalway.ie">Charlotte.mcivor@universityofgalway.ie</a> <a href="mailto:finian.ogorman@universityofgalway.ie">finian.ogorman@universityofgalway.ie</a> <a href="mailto:j.bigley1@nuigalway.ie">j.bigley1@nuigalway.ie</a>
DT4108 Arts Management	Máiréad Ní Chróinín	<a href="mailto:mairead.nichroinin@universityofgalway.ie">mairead.nichroinin@universityofgalway.ie</a>
DT4107 Practice-Based Research Project	Ian R. Walsh Jamie Bigley (Graduate Teaching Assistant)	<a href="mailto:ian.walsh@universityofgalway.ie">ian.walsh@universityofgalway.ie</a> <a href="mailto:j.bigley1@nuigalway.ie">j.bigley1@nuigalway.ie</a>

### Course Outlines 2023-2024

Full outlines and schedules will be on Canvas.

**DT 4102:** Performance Studies

**Teaching Team:** Charlotte McIvor (Module Convenor), Finian O’Gorman and James Bigley (Graduate Teaching Assistant)

This module is an introduction to performance theory as utilised in the field of Performance Studies and its relationship to practice and practice-as-research as a critical methodology. It will extend your understanding of performance beyond its role in drama and theatre as related primarily to the role of the actor. Performance Studies is an interdisciplinary field of inquiry that combines tools and methods from theatre studies, anthropology, sociology, cultural studies, literary studies and others. Through the study of this interdisciplinary field, we will investigate the possibilities of ‘performance’ as a theoretical and methodological lens through the study of key thinkers and case studies and

experiment with investigating the relationship practice to this theoretical field and theatremaking more broadly.

### **Learning Outcomes**

- Situate key thinkers and movements within the broader field of Performance Studies
- Identify major key terms and methodologies including performativity, liminality, ritual, play, performance ethnography, and performance art among others
- Apply theoretical concepts to performances or film screenings that you experience
- Experiment with and execute practical performance tasks through the lens of performance studies theories and methodologies
- Understand the relationship between forms of artistic and social performance

### **Assessment**

**Class Group Activity Design Presentation:** 40%: Group project designing an activity/game intended to activate the week's reading or performance examples for the whole class.

These presentations will take place Thursday from weeks 3-8 approximately.

Activity/games must:

- Demonstrate understanding and application of ideas and themes from that week's reading and/or performance examples
- Involve all or part of the class in execution. If the whole class is not involved, the others should be assigned an active watching role.
- Activity and presentation or performance elements as appropriate should last 15-20 minutes in duration with 10-15 minutes of class discussion based on the offering.
  - Students can create a short presentation and/or handouts based on the reading as appropriate. See marking rubric for further details on how the presentation overall will be assessed.
- Obey all university codes of student conduct
- Not create considerable mess or involve extensive use of materials that need set-up or break-down time.

**Performance Project:** 30%

- Performance presented in-class Weeks 11 and 12 as individual or group projects.

**Critical Reflection Essay:** 30%.

- Critical Reflection Essay on Performance Project will be 2500 words and submitted via Turnitin on Canvas.

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**DT4101: Contemporary Irish Theatre**

**Instructor:** Finian O'Gorman

This course introduces students to the major figures and trends in contemporary theatre and performance working and/or touring to Ireland. This course utilises approaches and methodologies from critical theory, including theatre and performance studies, memory and trauma studies,



feminisms, and archival research to grasp the complexity and theatricality of these works, highlighting in particular their cultural, political and social consciousness. Case studies will range from theatre, dance theatre, performance art, theatre advocacy and more. Students will be invited to stage scenes or create new work in responses to the case studies, which will include playwrights, directors, producers, performance artists, theatre companies, festivals and theatre organisations.

### **Learning Outcomes**

- Students will gain a deeper understanding of contemporary texts, practitioners, and dramaturgical approaches in Irish theatre.
- Students will extend their knowledge of the range of research methodologies and theoretical approaches to contemporary dramatic texts.
- Students will improve their knowledge of the performance conventions associated with the texts under consideration through practical workshops.

### **Assessment**

**In-Class Presentation:** (20%)

**Final Performance:** (20%)

**Final Essay:** 1250 words (60%)

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### **DT4108: Arts Management**

**Instructor: Máiréad Ní Chróinín**

This module examines the practical aspects of how young artists can build and sustain their careers. It gives a holistic perspective on artist wellbeing, working as a team, financial management and budgeting for the independent artist, funding applications, and engaging and building an audience for your work.

The module will place the practical aspects of making a life as an artist in Ireland in the context of wider Irish and international debates and discussions in the field of arts management, cultural policy and arts activism, including the question of equality and diversity in the arts, arts and the environment, and building safe workplaces in the arts.

### **Learning Outcomes**

By the end of the module the student will:

- Understand how to communicate who they are as an artist, and develop their ability to conceive and describe a concrete production idea.
- Strengthen their understanding of the value of wellbeing practices and skills to artists and arts workers.
- Build their personal budgeting and financial management skills, including the use of Excel.
- Gain an understanding of the funding environment in Ireland (and internationally) and what funds are available to young artists.
- Strengthen their skills at application writing and budgeting for arts events.
- Strengthen their awareness of the audience and how to create events that offer unique audience experiences.

## **Assessment**

### ***Coursework 1: 20%***

#### **Self-Care Plan:**

In the context of building a wellbeing practice as an independent artist / arts worker, students will reflect on, and develop, a personal self-care plan. (Template provided – Max 500 words).

### ***Coursework 2: 20%***

#### **Audience Proposal:**

Students will research a specific audience cohort and design an event for their local venue that responds to the interests/needs of that audience.

They will also research and propose ways of reaching and engaging that audience. (Template provided – Max 1,500 words).

### ***Coursework 3: 20%***

#### **Funding Application – Arts Council Agility Award:**

Students will complete a funding application for the Arts Council of Ireland's 'Agility Award'.

The application will focus on the following areas, which will be explored through in-class exercises during the module:

- Describing your artistic goal and your project idea
- Identifying and connecting with mentors, partners and creative team members
- Creating a detailed budget and timeline
- Creating and gathering the necessary supporting documentation (Letters of Support, etc.)

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## **DT4107: Practice-based Research Project**

**Teaching Team: Ian R. Walsh (module convenor) and Jamie Bigley (Graduate Teaching Assistant)**

In this module students will draw together the knowledge, skills and experience they have gathered in the previous three years of study to develop and present an independent practice-based research project. Each student will formulate a research question that they will develop through scholarly research and practical tasks. They will present their ideas and process within a series of iterations of practice culminating in a fully realised presentation. After the final presentation students will write up their project as a research case study. The process will also be documented through short assessed written critical reflections on Weeks 5-8.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

1. Develop and complete an independent research project.
2. Test theoretical ideas through practice.
3. Create a new practice piece that can be used as the basis for future activities.
4. Evaluate research and practice through critical reflection.
5. Learn to work independently as a research scholar.
6. Apply acquired analytical and performance skills.

### **Assessment:**

Critical Reflection Worksheets 20% (4 x 5%)

Research Proposal Presentation 20%

Research Project 60% (30% - performance /30% written submission)

- written submission (3,000 words).

