

# DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES

Year 2 Student Handbook (2BA DTP) 2022-2023



**NUI Galway**  
**OÉ Gaillimh**



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

This handbook contains an overview of your modules for Second Year in Drama and Theatre Studies.

For information on the following general Drama and Theatre Studies policies and guidelines, please refer to the undergraduate student handbook.

**Who to contact**

Head of Undergraduate Studies is Dr Charlotte McIvor (charlotte.mcivor@nuigalway.ie)

**Important Date:**

5 September	2BA Introduction, O'Donoghue Theatre 12-1, Studio 1
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**Academic Term and Exam Dates 2022 - 2023**

<b>First Semester</b>	
Orientation:	TBC
Teaching – 1 <sup>st</sup> Years (UG):	Monday, 26 <sup>th</sup> September – Friday, 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2021 (12 weeks of teaching)
Teaching – all other years:	Monday, 5 <sup>th</sup> September – Friday, 25 <sup>th</sup> November 2022 (12 weeks of teaching)
Drama Reading & Development Week:	Monday, 17 <sup>th</sup> – Friday, 21 <sup>st</sup> October 2022 (Week 7)
Bank Holiday:	Monday, 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2022
Study Week:	Monday, 28 <sup>th</sup> November to Friday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2022
Semester 1 Exams:	None for Year 1 Students
Semester 1 Exams:	Monday, 5 <sup>th</sup> December – Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December (for all other UG Years) (10 days of exams)
Christmas Holidays:	Saturday, 17 <sup>th</sup> December 2022
<b>Second Semester</b>	
Teaching:	Monday, 9 <sup>th</sup> January – Friday, 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023 (12 weeks of teaching)
Bank Holiday:	Likely Monday, 6 <sup>th</sup> February 2023 (TBC)
Drama Reading & Development Week:	Monday, 13 <sup>th</sup> – Friday, 17 <sup>th</sup> February 2023 (Week 6)
St. Patrick's Day:	Thursday, 17 <sup>th</sup> March 2022
Easter Holidays:	Good Friday, 7 <sup>th</sup> April to Easter Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> April 2023
Field Trip:	Monday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> April to Thursday, 6 <sup>th</sup> April 2023 (if applicable)
Study Week:	Tuesday, 17 <sup>th</sup> April to Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> April 2023
Bank Holiday:	Monday, 1 <sup>st</sup> May 2023
Semester 2 Exams:	Tuesday, 17 <sup>th</sup> April to Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2023 (13 days of exams)
Bank Holiday:	Monday, 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2023
<b>Autumn Exams 2023</b>	
Autumn Repeat Exams:	Tuesday, 1st August to Friday 11th August 2023 (9 days of exams)
Bank Holiday:	Monday, 7 <sup>th</sup> August 2023

**Course Structure**

In semester one, all students take DT2105 Modern Drama, DT2106 Irish Theatre and DT2107 Stagecraft 2

In semester two, all students take DT204 Introduction to Playwriting, DT2104 Contemporary Theatre and DT2109 Theatre Production Practicum

### Timetable

Module	Semester	Time	Venue
DT2105: Modern Drama	1	Wednesday 12-1 Friday 12-1	Studio 2
DT2107 Stagecraft 2	1	Tuesday 12 - 1 Tuesday 2-3	ODC Theatre
DT2106: Irish Theatre	1	Monday 12 - 1 Monday 2 - 3	Studio 1
DT204: Playwriting	2	Monday 12 - 1 Friday 12 - 1	CR1
DT2109 Theatre Production Practicum	2	Monday 12-1 Monday 2 – 3	Studio 2 BOI
DT2104 Contemporary Theatre	2	Tuesday 12 - 1 Tuesday 2-3	Studio 2

### 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	NOTES
DT2106 Irish Theatre	Dr Miriam Haughton	<a href="mailto:Miriam.haughton@nuigalway.ie">Miriam.haughton@nuigalway.ie</a>	
DT2105 Modern Drama	Dr Finian O’Gorman	<a href="mailto:Finian.ogorman@nuigalway.ie">Finian.ogorman@nuigalway.ie</a>	

DT2107 Stagecraft 2	Marianne Ní Chinnéide & Michael O'Halloran	<a href="mailto:marianne.nichinneide@nuigalway.ie">marianne.nichinneide@nuigalway.ie</a> <a href="mailto:michael.ohalloran@nuigalway.ie">michael.ohalloran@nuigalway.ie</a>	
DT204 Introduction to Playwriting	TBC	TBC	
DT2109 Theatre Production Practium	TBC	TBC	
DT2104 Contemporary Theatre	Dr Miriam Haughton	<a href="mailto:Miriam.haughton@nuigalway.ie">Miriam.haughton@nuigalway.ie</a>	

## MODULE DESCRIPTIONS 2022-2023

**NOTE: Full module outlines will be released in late August in an updated handbook and then available on Blackboard.**

### DT2105 Modern Drama

**Lecturer/Convenor: Dr Finian O’Gorman**

This module introduces students to some of the key theatrical experiments in modern European theatre, from the late nineteenth century to the 1960s. Students will have the opportunity to explore, through both textual analysis and practical staging, a range of plays that represent important modern movements such as realism, naturalism, symbolism, expressionism, the absurd and epic theatre. The module will place particular emphasis on how the dramaturgies of these plays were shaped by their historical and cultural contexts.

### DT2106 Irish Theatre

**Lecturer/Convenor: Dr Miriam Haughton**

This course explores drama, theatre and performance throughout the twentieth and twenty-first centuries in Ireland. Beginning with the foundation of the Irish Literary Theatre in 1897, the course will examine and critique plays and performances that speak to major artistic, cultural, social, and political concerns pervasive in Irish society. The course will interrogate the dominating themes emerging from these works, and also, their dramaturgical forms. Each week, students will read and discuss key Irish plays in their cultural and theatrical contexts, aiming to form a deeper appreciation of the contours and preoccupations of the Irish dramatic tradition. Students will also stage scenes to test the performativity and theatricality of the selected playtexts, developing performance styles and a collaborative ethos.

### DT2107 Stagecraft 2

**Lecturer/Convenor: Michael O’Halloran and Marianne Ní Chinnéide**

Building on work completed in first year, this module provides students with opportunities to develop skills in practical theatre-making, while also focussing on the historical

development of key areas in stagecraft. During the semester, students will learn about the development of directing, stage design, lighting, costume design, and so on. In addition, they will complete practical workshops in one or more of those areas. Students will then work towards the development of independent projects in their chosen area of stagecraft.

### **DT204 Introduction to Playwriting**

**Lecturer/Convenor: TBC**

This class offers the chance for students to assemble their own “toolkit” in the craft of playwriting. Students will read and analyse plays, focusing on a single key element each week (the class may also draw on examples from beyond the world of theatre, such as film, television, graphic novel, etc). These elements represent the building blocks that can be used and adapted to construct a world for the stage. Students will learn to identify structures such as scenes and acts; reversals and recognitions; rising action/falling action, etc. Every second week, students will put their newfound skills into practice, writing a short (1-3 page) scene in response to a given prompt. Students will have the opportunity to hear their work read aloud in class. The final assignment will be to write a one-act play (between 30-45 pages) on a theme of the student’s own choice, selected in consultation with the Lecturer

### **DT2104 Contemporary Theatre**

**Lecturer/Convenor: Dr Miriam Haughton**

This module will analyse seminal plays and processes of production pervading contemporary theatre and performance. It will introduce students to major playwrights, theatre and performance artists, and festivals globally. Plays, performances and encounters will be analysed in conjunction with core processes of staging and production, considering their programming and reception in wider cultural and industry contexts. Dominant themes and issues stemming from this selection of works will be identified and interrogated, such as representations of gender, sexuality, and race, the relationship between people and place, globalization and neoliberalism, the staging of violence, and the body in performance. Theory will be imbricated in practice, and vice versa. Particular focus will be directed at how plays and performances respond to cultural moments and audience expectations.

### **DT2109 - Theatre Practicum II**

**Lecturer/Convenor: TBC**

This module builds on students' practical production skills from the first year of the DTP practical curriculum through transitioning students into supporting leadership roles as well as providing continued acting opportunities. This module will focus on building devised theatre technique skills through the creation of an original piece written and performed by the class in a workshop format.

## **Overview of Preparing for Erasmus/Study Abroad Options in Year Three**

### **1. STUDYING ABROAD**

Drama and Theatre Studies offers students opportunities to study at an international university in the third year. You can go for the first or second semester, or for the entire year.

Some exchanges include an element of financial support, allowing students who might not otherwise be able to afford to travel abroad the opportunity to go on an exchange. Students who wish to go on international exchange must maintain an average of at least 60% and have a good record of attendance and participation.

### Terminology

The term 'Erasmus' refers to the EU scheme for mobility, which covers studying in another European country or a work placement/assistantship, where you study/work in the language of the host country – usually Spain, France, Italy, or Germany. Erasmus exchanges include a grant to support students' travel costs. Note that these arrangements are put in place through the International Office.

'Exchange' refers to studying in another country, usually English-speaking, such as the US.

### Fees, Grants and Funding

When you travel abroad, you pay your fee to NUI Galway, just as students coming to NUI Galway from abroad pay their home universities.

Holders of SUSI grants retain their grants while on international exchange, but you will probably need to provide a letter from the department to show that your exchange is a core part of your studies.

Students on Erasmus also receive a grant.

The university, through Galway University Foundation, has been able to provide financial support to students travelling on non-Erasmus exchanges in recent years. While this cannot be guaranteed from year to year, the opportunity should be borne in mind.

Some of our exchanges to the US provide students with free room and board. These are awarded competitively.

International universities may have costs that would not normally arise in Ireland, for items such as course readers, theatre visits, etc. Students should ensure they are aware of these costs before travelling.

### Drama Exchanges 2023/2024

University	Number of Places	Special features	Academic specialisms
Berea College, Kentucky <a href="https://www.berea.edu/thr/">https://www.berea.edu/thr/</a>	2	Room and board is included for free in the exchange and places are awarded	All students participate in a work programme; for NUI Galway students this has involved working in the college theatre.

		on a competitive basis judged by exchange application and overall academic results.	Opportunity to appear in productions.
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill <a href="http://drama.unc.edu/">http://drama.unc.edu/</a>	4	One of the top-rated theatre schools in USA	On-campus theatre allows for regular visits; strong opportunities in costume, design, and other areas. Broad theatre curriculum. Nice campus, easy to get to from Ireland.
Fraser Valley, BC, Canada <a href="https://www.ufv.ca/theatre/">https://www.ufv.ca/theatre/</a>	2		Opportunities to get hands-on practical experience in a very beautiful part of Canada. Excellent supports for incoming students.
Curtin, Perth, Australia <a href="https://haymantheatre.curtin.edu.au/study/">https://haymantheatre.curtin.edu.au/study/</a>	2	NOTE: Semester rhythm is different here. Check calendar. You will have to arrive in summer for autumn semester.	Practice-based opportunities. Perth hosts one of the world's major theatre festivals every Feb/March.
New School, New York <a href="https://www.newschool.edu">https://www.newschool.edu</a>	2		New York based conservatoire – very high standards but great opportunity. On-campus accommodation.
Tours, France	4	For French students first but others who have an	Opportunities to gain credit for doing Drama in extra-curricular contexts.

		interest may go if spaces available	University very central and easy to get to.
Oviedo, Spain	4	<p>For Spanish students first but others can go if spaces available.</p> <p>NOTE: Be advised that for the autumn term, exams happen AFTER Christmas holidays and the semester goes through the end of January. It is advised to go in semester two if you plan to be at NUI Galway second semester or do another exchange.</p>	Opportunities to do courses in English in Irish Drama and other modules.
University of Illinois, Chicago <a href="https://www.uic.edu">https://www.uic.edu</a>	2		Chicago is one of the U.S.'s most vibrant theatre cities. Range of practice-based modules across theatre arts.

### Who to contact

*Within Drama*



Professor Patrick Lonergan, Third Year Internships and Placements Coordinator,  
Email: [patrick.lonergan@nuigalway.ie](mailto:patrick.lonergan@nuigalway.ie)

### **Applying to go on exchange**

- Places on exchange are necessarily limited, and sometimes are awarded competitively.
- Usually a student will not be permitted to go on exchange unless they have an average of 60% in their exams in first year and second year. Languages are the exception, but these are Erasmus and not Exchanges.
- In order to protect our exchange agreements, we will only send students on exchange if we are confident that they will represent Drama and the university well. Accordingly, we are very unlikely to approve an application for exchange from any student who has shown persistent problems with lateness, absence, failure to submit work, or other lapses in basic professionalism. This will be the case even when absences etc. have been excused by the presentation of a medical certificate.

### **Schedule and Guidelines for Student Applications to Study Abroad**

If you wish to study abroad in the first or second semester, or both semesters, of third year, please adhere to the following deadlines in second year:

**October (second years only, semester one):** Attend an information seminar on studying abroad in October with Drama staff and fourth year students who completed a study abroad. Precise date will be announced in September.

- If you wish to undertake an exchange in the US, Canada, or Australia you express your interest in writing to [Patrick.lonergan@nuigalway.ie](mailto:Patrick.lonergan@nuigalway.ie).
- If you wish to undertake an Erasmus exchange to Oviedo in Spain, or Tours in France, express your interest in writing to [Patrick.lonergan@nuigalway.ie](mailto:Patrick.lonergan@nuigalway.ie).
- If you wish to study in Italy or Germany, you contact your language discipline directly, and they will advise you further regarding dates and availability.
- An application process will be arranged for October of second year, and students will need to complete it then.

**December-April (second years only, semester two):** During these dates, you will be informed if a place is available at the host institution, and how to make an application. It is then your responsibility to liaise with the host institution and NUI Galway international office to provide accurate documentation by the host institution's deadline.

### **Assessment and Registration**

Students who are on Erasmus and/or other Exchange must register with NUI Galway for specific modules. Please pay attention to your college emails so that you can find out the right course codes.

**Assessment for Erasmus:** Students are obliged to complete the equivalent of 20 ECTS of work per semester while abroad. At least 9 ECTS per semester must be in Drama, Theatre and Performance or related subjects (e.g. Literature, Film, Music, Dance, Cultural Studies, etc.). Students should also take classes in the language of their host institution.

**NOTE:** If you are on Erasmus for one semester, you must complete 20 ECTS. If you are on Erasmus for both semesters, you must complete 40 ECTS.

**Assessment for Exchange:** Students on exchange to institutions in the US, Australia and Canada are required to complete the minimum credits demanded by the university and/or state to meet visa requirements and academic requirements. In the US, different states request a different minimum. So, please confer with the host institution and ensure your selection of courses meets the visa requirements of the state, and the academic requirements of the host institution. Please send these in writing to [patrick.lonergan@nuigalway.ie](mailto:patrick.lonergan@nuigalway.ie) in the first week of study.

### **Guidelines and Recommendations**

- Before deciding whether to go on exchange, undertake a detailed examination of the cost of accommodation, food, class materials and visits, etc. It is **your** responsibility to ensure that you find out this information before you leave and that you have adequate funds in place to cover these costs.
- On arrival in your host university, email [patrick.lonergan@nuigalway.ie](mailto:patrick.lonergan@nuigalway.ie) with details of your courses and credits.
- You must send a monthly report of your activities to Drama and Theatre Studies at NUI Galway ([patrick.lonergan@nuigalway.ie](mailto:patrick.lonergan@nuigalway.ie)) throughout your time abroad. This can be short (a few bullet points), but it is your opportunity to bring to our attention any issues that you are facing in a timely manner.
- Express concerns or worries you have immediately with Drama staff in Galway.
- Speak to students who have previously completed an exchange to the location you are going to; Drama and Theatre Studies can facilitate these introductions.
- Research the theatre amenities and resources of the university – is there a theatre building; is there a drama society; are there costs involved in taking theatre classes (e.g. the cost of theatre tickets)?

Many students who study abroad report that the experience is rewarding, but it may also be overwhelming and lonely at times. If you choose to study abroad, it is advisable to request contact with past students who have studied at the same host institution. It is also advisable to make contact with clubs or societies before you travel, and send an introductory email to the academic coordinator. If there is a structure for communication with peers in place, this can ease the settling-in period, which may feel alien or disorientating. Ensuring that a structure of communication with peers is in place can make a major difference to the experience abroad as a whole, and one's engagement with study on campus as well as cultural engagement throughout the semester.