



**UNSW**  
A U S T R A L I A

**Faculty of Arts and Social  
Sciences**

**School of the Arts and Media**

**ARTS2123**

**Musicals, Dance and Popular Culture**

Session 1, 2016

# UNSW Course Outline

## Staff Contact Details

Position	Name	Email	Availability	Location	Phone
Course Authority	Dr Jonathan Bollen	<a href="mailto:j.bollen@unsw.edu.au">j.bollen@unsw.edu.au</a>	Tue 9:30-11am Wed 12-1:30pm Other times by appointment	Robert Webster Room 246D	02 9385 0719
Tutor	Boni Cairncross	<a href="mailto:b.cairncross@student.unsw.edu.au">b.cairncross@student.unsw.edu.au</a>	By appointment in class or email		
Assessor	Dr Erin Brannigan	<a href="mailto:e.brannigan@unsw.edu.au">e.brannigan@unsw.edu.au</a>	By arrangement with course authority		

## School of the Arts and Media Contact Information

Room 312, level 3 Robert Webster Building Phone: 9385 4856

Email: [sam@unsw.edu.au](mailto:sam@unsw.edu.au)

Website: <https://sam.arts.unsw.edu.au>

## Attendance Requirements

- A student is expected to attend all class contact hours for a face-to-face (F2F) or blended course and complete all activities for a blended or fully online course.
- Timetable clash - If a student is unable to attend all classes for a course due to timetable clashes, the student must complete the UNSW Arts & Social Sciences Permissible Timetable Clash Application form: <https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/ttclash/index.php>
- Where practical, a student's attendance will be recorded. The procedure for recording attendance will be set out on the course Learning Management System (Moodle).
- A student who attends less than 80% of the classes/activities and has not submitted appropriate supporting documentation to the Course Authority to explain their absence may be awarded a final grade of UF (Unsatisfactory Fail).
- A student who has submitted the appropriate documentation but attends less than 66% of the classes/activities will be asked by the Course Authority to apply to discontinue the course without failure rather than be awarded a final grade of UF. The final decision as to whether a student can be withdrawn without failure is made by Student Administration and Records.
- A student who arrives more than 15 minutes late may be penalised for non-attendance. If such a penalty is imposed, the student must be informed verbally at the end of class and advised in writing within 24 hours.
- If a student experiences illness, misadventure or other occurrence that makes absence from a class/activity unavoidable, or expects to be absent from a forthcoming class/activity, they should seek permission from the Course Authority, and where applicable, their request should be accompanied by an original or certified copy of a medical certificate or other form of appropriate evidence.

- A Course Authority may excuse a student from classes or activities for up to one month. However, they may assign additional and/or alternative tasks to ensure compliance. A Course Authority considering the granting of absence must be satisfied a student will still be able to meet the course's learning outcomes and/or volume of learning. A student seeking approval to be absent for more than one month must apply in writing to the Dean and provide all original or certified supporting documentation.
- For more information about the SAM attendance protocols, see the SAM policies and guidelines webpage: <https://sam.arts.unsw.edu.au/students/resources/policies-guidelines/>

Attendance will be taken in lectures and tutorials unless official permission for a course clash has been granted. It is your responsibility to ensure your name has been marked off at each class.

### **Essential Information For SAM Students**

For essential student information relating to: attendance requirements; requests for extension; review of marks; occupational health and safety; examination procedures; special consideration in the event of illness or misadventure; student equity and disability; and other essential matters, see the SAM Policies and Guidelines webpage: <https://sam.arts.unsw.edu.au/students/resources/policies-guidelines/>

### **Course details Credit Points: 6**

#### **Summary of the Course:**

This is a course about popular performance in contemporary culture. It looks at live entertainment in a wide range of genres across the arts and media – including musicals, dance, comedy, festivals and parades. With each genre, you will explore where it has come from, who it appeals to, and how it is performed in our culture today. The aim is to learn how cultural industries produce live entertainment with widespread appeal.

#### **Student learning outcomes:**

At the conclusion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Discuss popular performance and the contexts in which it is produced, performed and consumed
2. Explain the historical traditions, contemporary conventions and cultural politics of popular performance
3. Construct an evidence-based argument about the significance of popular performance in contemporary culture
4. Integrate scholarly and creative research into popular performance and access resources independently

#### **Teaching Strategies & Rationale**

Studying popular culture and live performance is an important part of understanding the contemporary world, and requires a mixture of different activities, some teacher-directed and some self-directed. This course uses a combination of lecture/presentations and tutorials. In addition to this students are expected to work independently, outside class time, reading, preparing, taking notes, planning practical activities, etc. These include: going to live performances, reading and reflecting through discussion and writing. The lectures are intended to lay out the issues of the week and set the agenda for tutorial discussion. Lectures provide some information but are expected to research extra material in preparation for class discussion. The tutorials are opportunities for group discussion and reflection.

Performance and Popular Culture extends knowledge of performance studies theory and methodology covered in the gateway course ARTS1121 Reading Performance and the level 2 core course ARTS2121

Critical Perspectives in Theatre and Performance Studies. It extends the curricula of these courses by focusing on popular performance, considering the popular along a continuum of social, cultural and aesthetic events, and integrating self-reflexive and performative learning and teaching strategies in both pedagogy and assessment.

## Assessment

### Assessment Items to Learning Outcomes

#### In Class Test

- Discuss popular performance and the contexts in which it is produced, performed and consumed
- Explain the historical traditions, contemporary conventions and cultural politics of popular performance

#### Major Essay

- Discuss popular performance and the contexts in which it is produced, performed and consumed
- Integrate scholarly and creative research into popular performance and access resources independently
- Construct an evidence-based argument about the significance of popular performance in contemporary culture
- Explain the historical traditions, contemporary conventions and cultural politics of popular performance

#### Group Presentations

- Integrate scholarly and creative research into popular performance and access resources independently
- Explain the historical traditions, contemporary conventions and cultural politics of popular performance

Assessment & Weighting	Length	Due date	Feedback
In Class Test (20%)	40 minutes (20 multiple choice, 4 short answer)	Held in the lecture of week 5 on Wednesday 6 April 2016	Percentage grade and in-class review
Major Essay (55%)	2,500 words	Monday 2 May 2016 before midnight	Rubric indicating level of performance against each assessment criteria, written formative feedback, and percentage grade
Group Presentations (25%)	5-minute performance; time on-task 20 hours	Presented in Studio One on Wednesday 25 May 2016, 3-5pm; group report and peer review due at tutorial in week 12	Rubric indicating level of performance against each assessment criteria, written summative feedback, and percentage grade

**In order to pass this course, you must make a serious attempt at ALL assessment tasks. This is a SAM requirement.**

Task instructions and further details for all assessment tasks are provided on Moodle.

#### Submission of Assessment Tasks

Students are expected to put their **names** and **student numbers** on **every page** of their assignments. If you encounter a problem when attempting to submit your assignment through Turnitin, please telephone

External Support on 9385 3331 or email them on [externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au](mailto:externalteltsupport@unsw.edu.au). Support hours are 8:00am – 10:00pm on weekdays and 9:00am – 5:00pm on weekends (365 days a year). If you are unable to submit your assignment due to a fault with Turnitin you may apply for an extension, but you must retain your ticket number from External Support (along with any other relevant documents) to include as evidence to support your extension application. If you email External Support you will automatically receive a ticket number, but if you telephone you will need to specifically ask for one. Turnitin also provides updates on their system status on Twitter.

Generally in SAM there will no longer be any hard-copy submission; assessments must be submitted electronically via either Turnitin or a Moodle assignment. In instances where this is not possible it will be stated on your course's moodle site with alternative submission details.

### **Late Submission**

PLEASE NOTE THAT THESE RULES APPLY FOR ALL COURSES IN SAM.

If your assignment is submitted after the due date, a penalty of 3% per day (including Saturday, Sunday and public holidays) will be imposed for up to 2 weeks. For example, if you are given a mark of 72 out of 100 for an essay, and your essay were handed in two days late, it would attract a penalty of 6% and the mark would be reduced to 66%. If the same essay were handed in seven days late (i.e. a penalty of 21%) it would receive a mark of 51%. If your assignment is not submitted within 2 weeks of its due date, it will receive a mark of 0. For more information on submission of late work, consult the SAM assessment protocols at <https://sam.arts.unsw.edu.au/students/resources/policies-guidelines/>

### **Extension Procedure**

- A student seeking an extension should submit a SAM extension application form (found in Forms on SAM website) to the Course Authority before the due date.
- The Course Authority should respond to the request within two working days of the request.
- The Course Authority can only approve an extension of up to five days. A student requesting an extension of more than five days should complete an application for Special Consideration.
- If a student is granted an extension, failure to comply will result in a penalty. The penalty will be invoked one minute past the approved extension time.
- This procedure does not apply to assessment tasks that take place during regular class hours or any task specifically identified by the Course Authority as not subject to extension requests.
- A student who misses an assessed activity held within class contact hours should apply for Special Consideration via myUNSW.
- For more information, see the SAM extension protocols on the SAM policies and guidelines webpage: <https://sam.arts.unsw.edu.au/students/resources/policies-guidelines/>

### **Special Consideration**

In the case of more serious or ongoing illness or misadventure, you will need to apply for Special Consideration. For information on Special Consideration please go to this URL:

<https://student.unsw.edu.au/special-consideration>

Students who are prevented from attending a substantial amount of the course may be advised to apply to withdraw without penalty. This will only be approved in the most extreme and properly documented cases.

## Academic honesty and plagiarism

Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of others and presenting them as your own. It can take many forms, from deliberate cheating to accidentally copying from a source without acknowledgement.

UNSW groups plagiarism into the following categories:

- **Copying:** using the same or very similar words to the original text or idea without acknowledging the source or using quotation marks. This also applies to images, art and design projects, as well as presentations where someone presents another's ideas or words without credit.
- **Inappropriate paraphrasing:** changing a few words and phrases while mostly retaining the original structure and information without acknowledgement. This also applies in presentations where someone paraphrases another's ideas or words without credit. It also applies to piecing together quotes and paraphrases into a new whole, without referencing and a student's own analysis to bring the material together.
- **Collusion:** working with others but passing off the work as a person's individual work. Collusion also includes providing your work to another student before the due date, or for the purpose of them plagiarising at any time, paying another person to perform an academic task, stealing or acquiring another person's academic work and copying it, offering to complete another person's work or seeking payment for completing academic work.
- **Inappropriate citation:** Citing sources which have not been read, without acknowledging the "secondary" source from which knowledge of them has been obtained.
- **Duplication ("self-plagiarism"):** submitting your own work, in whole or in part, where it has previously been prepared or submitted for another assessment or course at UNSW or another university.

Details of what plagiarism is can be found on the Learning Centre's Website Plagiarism & Academic Integrity website (<http://www.lc.unsw.edu.au/academic-integrity-plagiarism>), in the myUNSW student A-Z: Guide <https://student.unsw.edu.au/plagiarism> and in Appendix A of the Student Misconduct Procedure (pdf-<https://www.gs.unsw.edu.au/policy/documents/studentmisconductprocedures.pdf>).

It is not permissible to buy essay/writing services from third parties as the use of such services constitutes plagiarism because it involves using the words or ideas of others and passing them off as your own. Further, it is not permissible to sell copies of lecture or tutorial notes as you do not own the rights to this intellectual property.

If you breach the *Student Code* with respect to academic integrity the University may take disciplinary action under the *Student Misconduct Procedure* (see above).

The Learning Centre also provides substantial educational written materials, workshops, and tutorials to aid students, for example:

- Correct referencing practices;
- Paraphrasing, summarising, essay writing and time management

- Appropriate use of and attribution for a range of materials including text, images, formulae and concepts.

Individual assistance is available on request from The Learning Centre. Students are also reminded that careful time management is an important part of study and one of the identified causes of plagiarism is poor time management. Students should allow sufficient time for research, drafting and proper referencing of sources in preparing all assessment items.

## Course schedule

<b>Week 1</b> Lecture: Wednesday 2 March Tutorials: Friday 4 March	The Twist – Performance and popular culture
<b>Week 2</b> Lecture: Wednesday 9 March Tutorials: Friday 11 March	Dancing in the street – Carnival, protest and parades
<b>Week 3</b> Lecture: Wednesday 16 March Tutorials: Friday 18 March	What's entertainment? Cabaret, musicals and escapism
<b>Week 4</b> Lecture: Wednesday 23 March Tutorials: No tutorial on Good Friday	Audition and Aspiration – That's Showbiz
<b>Week 5</b> Lecture: Wednesday 6 April Tutorials: Friday 8 April	<b>Assessment 1: In Class Test</b> – Held in the first half of the lecture Analysing Performance – advice on the essay
<b>Week 6</b> Lecture: Wednesday 13 April Tutorials: Friday 15 April	Anything Goes – Musicals Historical – including <i>Show Boat</i> , <i>The Sound of Music</i> and <i>Company</i>
<b>Week 7</b> Lecture: Wednesday 20 April Tutorials: Friday 22 April	Jazz, Tap and Jive – African-American style from Broadway to Hollywood
<b>Week 8</b> Lecture: Wednesday 27 April Tutorials: Friday 29 April	Let It Go – Musicals Contemporary – including <i>Wicked</i> , <i>Frozen</i> and <i>Matilda</i>
<b>Week 9</b> Lecture: Wednesday 4 May Tutorials: Friday 6 May	<b>Assessment 2: Major Essay</b> due on Monday 2 May before midnight. Burlesque in retrospect – Gypsy, The Tivoli and neo-burlesque I Will Survive – <i>Rocky</i> , <i>Priscilla</i> and performing in drag
<b>Week 10</b> Lecture: Wednesday 11 May Tutorials: Friday 13 May	Looking back on Australian entertainment Stand up and fall flat – comedy and gender in Australia today
<b>Week 11</b> Lecture: Wednesday 18 May Tutorials: Friday 20 May	Pop mythologies – David Bowie & The Cambodian Space Project Ordinary people, extraordinary acts
<b>Week 12</b> Lecture: Wednesday 25 May Tutorials: Friday 27 May	<b>Assessment 3: Group Presentations</b> presented in Studio One on Wednesday 29 May 3-5pm. Tutorial – reflections on performances, submit reports and peer review.

## Times and Rooms

- Lectures (weeks 1-4, 5-12): Wednesday, 15:00 – 17:00, Ainsworth Building 202 (K-J17-202)
- Tutorial 1 (weeks 1-4, 5-12): Friday, 10:00-11:00, Webster 302 (K-G14-302)
- Tutorial 2 (weeks 1-4, 5-12): Friday, 12:00-13:00, Webster 252 (K-G14-252)
- Course timetable: <http://www.timetable.unsw.edu.au/2016/ARTS2123.html>

## **Prescribed Resources**

The required readings for each week are available in the [library](#), with links from Moodle. Some sound and video recordings are also available online.

You are expected to print out or mark up a digital copy of the readings for each week and bring them to class. If you do not arrive at tutorials prepared (with evidence of marked up readings) tutors reserve the right to mark you as absent for that week.

If links to the readings in Moodle do not work, you are expected to source the reading directly from the library catalogue or database yourself and inform the lecturer immediately that the link is not working. Broken links are not an excuse for not having sourced and read the readings yourselves.

## **Recommended Resources**

Suggestions for further research in the library and online are included in the course content on Moodle. You can use these as starting point for researching your essay and as further reading on topics you find interesting. Where resources for further research are not available online, they may be borrowed from the library – a link to the library record is provided for these.

The library offers resources in a variety of formats – online articles, printed books, dvd recordings and streaming video. You can access all the [ARTS2123 library resources](#) directly and you can read more about [library services for students](#).

Students are also encouraged to bring relevant materials into class – including articles in the media, video recordings, performance reviews and information about upcoming performances.

## **Course Evaluation and Development**

### **Valuing your feedback**

Student feedback is gathered throughout this course both by informal feedback sessions, by CATEI processes and via student assessments which, particularly in the case of presentations in this course, are designed to indicate where students would like to see content in this course travelling to. Adjustments to the presentation mode and structure have been made this year based on last year's feedback.

### **What's new**

Students have more opportunities to learn about musical theatre and popular dance in the 2016 iteration of this course. New content has been added, drawing on recent developments and new research, and some content has been removed. Last year, students were given more scope to be active learners in tutorials with a range of activities that will be provided for preparation across the session. Another innovation was the format for group presentations. These activities will continue this year.

## **What We Expect of You**

### **Tutorial conduct**

You are expected to actively participate and be prepared for each tutorial from weeks 2-13 in the form of providing a valuable, critical and thoughtful contribution to observations on performance and performance studies.



Tutorials involve a range of tasks, which will require you to:

1. have read closely, taken notes on, and thought about the week's readings;
2. have attended the lecture and taken notes on the performance works screened;
3. have responded to any emailed provocations on a weekly basis, as evidence of your commitment to the ongoing critical life of the course
4. listen to your peers, feedback to your peers and offer points of discussion to class debates.

In tutorials you may be asked to:

1. provide a spoken or written response to a reading;
2. provide a spoken or written response to a screened performance work;
3. work in a collaborative way with peers to generate creative performance solutions to group tasks;
4. talk 'to' the response you will have prepared prior to class.

### **Weekly readings**

You are expected to print out or mark up a digital copy of the readings for each week and bring them to class. If you do not arrive at tutorials prepared (with evidence of marked up readings) tutors reserve the right to mark you as absent for that week. If links to the readings in Moodle do not work, you are expected to source the reading directly from the library catalogue or database yourself and inform the lecturer immediately that the link is not working. Broken links are not an excuse for not having sourced and read the readings yourselves.

### **Lecture conduct**

We aim to make lectures an enjoyable, informative and critically engaging educational experience. Please respect the work of your lecturer and the needs of your peers by not talking in lectures. The lecturer reserves the right to ask you to leave should your behaviour become disruptive.

### **Email conduct**

Please write to your tutor or lecturer clearly identifying yourself, your tutorial and your concern. Please address your tutor with the appropriate formality. Questions that can be answered by reading the course outline will not be responded to. There may be a 48 hour response time to your email and emails will not be answered after office hours.