



# COM 238 Media and the Performative Arts

Winter 2024

**Course Credits:** 4

**Contact Hours:** 56 hours

**Instructor:** TBA

**Email:** TBA

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

This course explores the intersection of media and performance in contemporary society. This course will provide students with a foundation in the theory and practice of media and performance, equipping them with the skills to critically analyze and engage with various forms of media and performance art. Through a combination of lectures, readings, discussions, and hands-on projects, students will gain a deep understanding of how media and performance shape our culture and contribute to the evolving landscape of communication and expression.

Upon Completion of this Course, students will be able to:

1. Evaluate the use of media in different forms of performance, including theater, dance, and music.
2. Critically assess the ethical and cultural implications of media in performance.
3. Understand the historical and theoretical foundations of media and performance.
4. Collaborate with others to create multimedia content for live performance.
5. Apply the knowledge and skills gained in this course to future projects and coursework.

## **PREREQUISITES**

N/A

## **GRADING**

Grades will be determined by accumulating points, with 100 points being the



maximum, as follows:

ITEM	POINTS
Quizzes	20 Points
Essays	20 Points
Midterm	30 Points
Final Exam	30 Points
Total	100 Points

Late submissions will be graded at the end of the course. Grades will be assigned according to the following rule:

$$A \geq 90 > B \geq 80 > C \geq 70 > D \geq 60 > F.$$

We reserve the right to make adjustments to the overall grading policy.

## COURSE MATERIALS

### Required Texts:

1. Patrick Lonergan, *heatre and Social Media*, 1st Editio, Methuen Drama, 2016.
2. Jacki Apple, *Performance / Media / Art / Culture* 1st Edition, Intellect Books, 2019.

### Recommended (Optional) Texts or Other Materials:

None

## COURSE TOPICS

MODULE	TASKS
Module 1	<p><b>Topics:</b>            Topic 1: Social media and performance            Topic 2: The pre-histories of social media            Topic 3: Computers and theatre            Topic 4: Social media as performance space: the 2009 Iranian ‘rooftop poems’</p> <p><b>Assessments:</b>            Quiz#1</p>



Module 2	<b>Topics:</b> Topic 5: Defining social media Topic 6: Social media in theatre Topic 7: Precursors: Patrick Marber's Closer Topic 8: Social media in theatre: thematic approaches <b>Assessments:</b> Quiz#2 Essay#1
Module 3	<b>Topics:</b> Topic 9: Social media in theatre: formal innovations Topic 10: Performing authorship, performing consumers Topic 11: Once the Musical on stage and online Topic 12: The TV Generation: Media Culture and Performance <b>Assessments:</b> Midterm
Module 4	<b>Topics:</b> Topic 13: Commentary Intermedia: Performance and Video (1983) Topic 14: Spectacle, Film, Collaboration Topic 15: Journeys to Heaven and Hell (2015) Topic 16: Crossing Cultures: Sound, Space, Gesture <b>Assessments:</b> Essay#2
Module 5	<b>Topics:</b> Topic 17: Performance and the Art of Conversation (2015) Topic 18: History Restaged Topic 19: Mining the Past to Change the Future (2017) Topic 20: Prophecies Past Tense <b>Assessments:</b> Final Exam

## ATTENDANCE

1) Class attendance is required. Missing classes without permission will lead to decrease in overall grade.

Missing less than two classes: no penalty.

Missing more than two classes: 7% will be taken off from the overall grade.

If the instructor reports a student's frequent missing of class to the Soochow University Academic Administration Office, the student might get a written warning and might be prohibited from attending final exam.



2) Participants in this course are expected to arrive in class promptly and adequately prepared. The primary objective of this course is to critically engage with the readings and the subject matter. Therefore, course participants are expected to have completed the reading prior to class and prepare thoughtful reflections/commentaries to share with fellow colleagues.

### **LEARNING REQUIREMENTS**

- 1) Late assignments are not acceptable and are subjected to grade deductions.
- 2) Assignments submitted in the wrong format will be counted as not submitted.
- 3) Failure to submit or fulfill any required course component results in failure of the class.
- 4) Make-up for midterm and final exams only with valid excuses, as defined by the University.
- 5) In order to earn a Certificate of Completion, participants must thoughtfully complete all assignments by stated deadlines and earn an average quiz score of 50% or greater.

### **TECHNOLOGY POLICY**

The use of electronic devices in class is distracting, both for the user and for the rest of the class. Only non-programmable calculators can be used in the tests and exam. Any attempts to use cell phones and other electronic communication devices will be seemed as cheating. Laptops are discouraged, unless you use them for activities DIRECTLY related to the course (eg., note taking, reading course documents).

### **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY**

Soochow University highly values the academic integrity and aims to promote the academic fairness, honesty and responsibility. Any academic dishonesty behaviors and any attempts to cheats and plagiarism will be reported to the university administration office. A written warning and the relevant penalties will be imposed. The record might be shown on the official university transcript.

### **DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION**



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Soochow University is committed to maintaining a barrier-free environment so that students with disabilities can fully access programs, courses, services, and activities at Soochow University. Students with disabilities who require accommodations for access to and/or participation in this course are welcome.

Note:

Please contact the University Administrative Office immediately if you have a learning disability, a medical issue, or any other type of problem that prevents professors from seeing you have learned the course material.