

University of Calgary
Faculty of Arts



Photo credit: Alyssa Maturino
Dancers: Kunji Ikeda and Heather Ware
Choreographer: Meghann Michalsky
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SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS

SCPA 499: APPROACHING INTERDISCIPLINARITY
Winter 2022

Instructors: Kunji Ikeda (Drama), Jean-Louis Bleau (Music) and Heather Ware (Dance)

TA: Melike Ceylan

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Office Hours: By appointment with Jean-Louis or any of the other instructors

CLASS TIMES: Monday / 4:00 – 6:45 pm

CLASS LOCATION: The “Forum,” Taylor Institute for Teaching and Learning

Course Description:

SCPA499 provides students with an introductory level understanding of interdisciplinary *principles, strategies and tools* for exchange and collaboration in interarts and interdisciplinary

contexts. In addition to introductory conceptual knowledge and exposure to a wide range of case study examples, students will be offered practical approaches to interdisciplinary creation and interpretation, as well as opportunities to explore these approaches individually and with peers from all three divisions of the SCPA.

Course Learning Objectives:

- 1) Explore theories, concepts, and approaches possible through interdisciplinary collaboration.
- 2) Discover how current understandings of interdisciplinarity relate and apply to performing arts.
- 3) Investigate practical strategies and tools for creation and interpretation in interdisciplinary performance contexts.
- 4) Develop effective skills for creative collaboration across disciplinary boundaries.
- 5) Articulate interdisciplinary performance practice through writing and vocal presentation.

Course Schedule: A detailed course schedule will be provided in class and maintained on D2L.

Learning Resources: Students will be responsible for weekly readings and/or viewings. All resources will be posted on the course D2L site and will be accessed via the **Taylor Family Digital Library** (library.ucalgary.ca) or publicly available online.

Assessment Components:

1) **Class Participation: 15% of overall grade**

All students are expected to attend all classes, arrive on time and fully prepared (having completed all assigned readings and/or viewings), and participate actively in all sections of each class. Cellphones should be *turned off* upon entering the class and *remain out of sight during class unless they are directly employed in an assigned group activity*.

Criteria for assessment will include *attendance, demonstrated preparation, active participation, collaboration, creativity and respectful exchange*. Attendance will be tracked throughout the semester and will serve as one measure of class participation.

Note: given the importance of this aspect of the course, students for whom active in-class participation is difficult or impossible should identify themselves to the instructors within the first 2 weeks of classes.

2) **Assignment #1: Discipline Specific Written Reflections: 5% of overall grade:**

All students are required to select a work specific to your discipline and write a short (250 word) reflection about the work from the perspective of your disciplinary practice. Using the work you have selected, indicate what makes your discipline unique, how you

engage and critically analyze your discipline, and how you suggest others engage with your particular discipline.

3) Written Reflections on 3 or more Performance Works: 15% of overall grade (5% each)

All students are required to view **three** assigned performances during the semester and write a brief (250 word) reflection on each. Performances will be selected by the instructors and will be available online for students to view on their own time. Each work will focus primarily on one of the three key disciplines.

Two of the reflections will be on disciplines outside your practice. For these reflections, analysis of the performance should emphasize key observations about the discipline and how it connects to discipline specific concepts discussed in class.

One of the three reflections will pertain to your particular discipline. For this reflection, discuss insights gained about your discipline in comparison to what you wrote about in assignment #1. Further, describe ways in which the work has been enhanced through interdisciplinary elements and engagement.

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*Students may also write **one additional reflection for extra credit** at the same assignment value per reflection. Live performance reflections must be accompanied by the related **ticket stub** (unless other arrangements are made with the instructor). If a student wishes to view an online interdisciplinary performance, they must provide a clear argument explaining why they consider the work to be interdisciplinary, and include the URL to the work in their reflection.

Please note that in the case of a live performance event, it is the responsibility of each student to plan, book, and (where applicable) pay for their tickets and for their transportation to and from each performance venue.

4) Interdisciplinary Creative Exploration: 25% of overall grade

Each student will individually explore the steps of a creative process using interdisciplinary approaches to further enrich their work in their own discipline. For this assignment, students will look to a discipline other than their own program of study and choose an element (or elements) from that discipline to bring into their work in their primary discipline. (1500 words maximum)

5) Collaborative Creation and Presentation: 40% of overall grade

All students will participate in a collaborative project/presentation with class members from all three SCPA divisions, demonstrating the application of interdisciplinary collaboration principles and strategies explored in the course. The group presentation will involve a short performed excerpt of the larger creative concept, a presentation discussing the groups creative process, and will be accompanied by an individually-authored and graded report, detailing group member contributions and process documentation.

Note: detailed descriptions of evaluation items #2, #3, and #4, above, will be distributed in hard copy and posted to D2L.

Assessment Expectations:

Guidelines for Submitting Assignments: all written assignments should be submitted in the appropriate Dropbox folder on D2L.

Expectations for Writing: writing skills are important to academic study across all disciplines. Assessment of writing quality will figure as a factor in the evaluation of student work. Please refer to the Undergraduate Calendar E.2 Writing Across the Curriculum policy for details. The University also provides one-on-one coaching through the Writing Support in the Taylor Family Digital Library. Information on this service can be found here: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/writing-support>.

Guidelines for Formatting Assignments: all written assignments need to be clearly identified with the date, course number and title, student name, and student number. Formatting: please use Times New Roman, font size 12. Text should be double-spaced. For citations and overall presentation of written assignments, please follow MLA guidelines for writers of research papers. MLA overview and workshops can be found here: https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_overview_and_workshop.html.

Late Assignments: Written assignments for this course must be received prior to the start of class on the due date specified on the individual assignment sheets that will be distributed in hard copy and posted to D2L. The penalty for submission of late assignments is 15 % of the total value of the assignment. Late work submitted after 7 days, including Saturdays and Sundays, will not be accepted. Exceptions to the lateness penalty for valid reasons such as illness and family emergency may be considered by the instructors but will require appropriate supporting documentation.

<p>Grading scale[JW1]</p>	<p>For the course as a whole, letter grades should be understood as follows, as outlined in section F.1.Grading System and Transcripts of the Calendar: https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1.html.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A grade of "C-" or below may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation, see specific faculty regulations. • The number of "D" and "D+" grades acceptable for credit is subject to specific undergraduate faculty promotional policy.
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Academic Accommodation	<p>It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The Student Accommodations policy is available at https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations. Students needing an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Accommodation-for-Students-with-Disabilities-Procedure.pdf).</p> <p>Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfill requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/.</p>
Academic integrity, plagiarism	<p>Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.</p> <p>For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit: https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Academic-Misconduct-Policy.pdf and https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Academic-Misconduct-Procedure.pdf. Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity.</p>
Internet and electronic communication device	<p>The use of laptop and mobile devices is acceptable when used in a manner appropriate to the course and classroom activities. Please refrain from accessing websites and resources that may be distracting to you or for other learners during class time. Students are responsible for being aware of the University's Internet and email use policy, which can be found at https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Electronic-Resources-and-Information-Policy.pdf.</p>
Intellectual Property	<p>Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.</p>

Copyright	<p>All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Material-Protected-by-Copyright-Policy.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html.</p>
Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy	<p>Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.</p>
Student Support	<p>Please visit this link for important information on UCalgary's student wellness and safety resources: https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines</p>