917-AA Master of Dramatic Art (Direction) - School of Drama

Year and Campus:	2009			
Fees Information:	Subject EFTSL, Level, Discipline & Census Date, http://enrolment.unimelb.edu.au/fees			
Level:	Graduate/Postgraduate			
Duration & Credit Points:				
Contact:	Student and Academic ServicesFaculty of the Victorian College of the Arts234 St Kilda Road, Southbank, 3006Tel: 9685 9419			
Course Overview:	An advanced level research project consisting of the following inter-related aspects:			
	 # a 2,500 word course and project proposal outlining the objectives and planned procedures for the year's work; # directed study courses or secondments, arranged in liaison with the course coordinator which act as theoretical and/or practical support for the major research project; # involvement in research methodology coursework, for students with limited research background; # involvement in post-graduate seminars, in which students will be expected to report on their research progress; 			
	 The major research project: # research activity is expected to encompass both practical exploration and historical/ theoretical investigative methodologies; and # will culminate in the public presentation of a work, or series of works directed by the student. This will be supported and complemented by a research paper of 15,000 words. 			
	The research project requires:			
	 # The preparation, rehearsal and presentation of a major performance work or works. Be is a single work or related series of works, it should be the equivalent of at least a full length play. Where possible the student's project will be integrated into the Acting and Producting streams of the School of Drama. The student should however be prepared to organise a production composed of non-VCA personnel. The student may propose a production outside the VCA but must then organise its realisation from outside resources. # A 15,000 word research paper. This paper may include other documentation in recorded form such as sound tape, film, video, and CD Rom, as approved by the course assessment. 			
	In addition candidates will be required to attend some course work seminars in aspects of Directing and/or Research methodology during their candidacy. These will usually be of two hours in length and will occur at various times throughout the year.			
	Candidates may in consultation with their course supervisor seek to undertake secondment to another institution or organisation or to relevant projects within the VCA.			
Objectives:	 The objectives of this course are: # to provide an opportunity for candidates of proven ability to undertake advanced work in direction in a chosen area of specialisation; # to extend the expertise, knowledge, leadership skills, initiative, collaborative skills and self confidence of the candidate; # to develop appropriate skills for the documentation, description and analysis of directorial processes; # to promote the development of theatre in ways relevant for the contemporary age, whilst building upon the traditions of the art form; and, # to make a significant contribution to both theatre and directorial practice in Australia. 			
Subject Options:	Master of Dramatic Art (Direction) Minimum 18 months full-time			
	Subject	Study Period Commencement:	Credit Points:	
	757-601 Master of Dramatic Art (Direction)	Offered as Research	Not Assigned	

Entry Requirements:	Candidates are expected to have an undergraduate degree in Dramatic Art or equivalent plus postgraduate studies in theatre direction or equivalent. Prerequisites # Graduate Diploma in Dramatic Art (Direction); or # a three year degree followed by honours abilities; or # substantial professional experience and demonstrated artistic and leadership ability. Applicants will normally have completed a tertiary course of study in drama. In cases of high aptitude, applicants who have not completed formal educational requirements may be admitted at the discretion of the Selection Committee.
Core Participation Requirements:	For the purposes of considering request for Reasonable Adjustments under the Disability Standards for Education (Cwth 2005), and Student Support and Engagement Policy, academic requirements for this subject are articulated in the Subject Overview, Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Generic Skills sections of this entry.It is University policy to take all reasonable steps to minimise the impact of disability upon academic study, and reasonable adjustments will be made to enhance a student's participation in the University's programs. Students who feel their disability may impact on meeting the requirements of this subject are encouraged to discuss this matter with a Faculty Student Adviser and Student Equity and Disability Support: http:// services.unimelb.edu.au/disability
Generic Skills:	 At the completion of the course students should be able to: # exhibit extensive theoretical and practical knowledge of their discipline including relevant professional knowledge, skills, discipline and ethics as they relate to a practising visual/performing artist; # demonstrate capacities for artistic imagination, creativity, transformation and interpretation. # demonstrate practical skills in respect of critical analysis, problem solving, report writing, team work and oral and written communication; # demonstrate a flexible and innovative approach to the national and international challenges for the professional visual/performing artist in the 21st century; # work at various levels, both as an individual and as a team member, in a wide variety of visual/performing artistic environments; # contribute to a range of visual/performing arts environments as artistic collaborators and leaders; # demonstrate an open, independent and inquiring attitude towards contemporary cultural developments and new ideas # critically and creatively engage with topics of cultural significance across communities; # understand and appreciate how the visual and performing arts connect with the broader society and contribute to its social and economic development; and, # understand their relationship with and responsibility to their cultural environment and society.