

## IB Theatre Networking 10/17/2012

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### Agenda:

The Basics

How to approach the course?

(Chip) 4 semesters = the globe; 2 theatre traditions within each semester

(Trena) 4 traditions/year. Final quarter = Boal.

Shakesp/Eliz; something Asian; ??/Atheniana&Roman; C of Manners; Africa or

Native American; Boal; Conventions (VTA, ITS)

(Shannon) New every year. Incl's Commedia; Noh; Bunraku; PhysTh [Meyerhold/Brooke]; Indonesia puppetry; Peking Opera; African storytelling; Greeks-mask work. Bring research together to inform class work; Journal is the backbone of the course.

(Larry) Research, then pick 4-5 genres to do. e.g. Greeks, make a mask, perform a scene from "their" playwright, in the mask, journal about it and present info to the class. Next-Commedia; African Th (ea kid pick an African country, research, presentation, performance and journal writing).

(Maria) 30 IB students out of 40 in one class. Start w schedule of deadlines, esp with th Pitch, building from 25-250 wds. Research incl bringing in artists (Kyogen); [6-8' puppets used for dream sequ in WestSideStory, representing different races in NY].

(Phillip) Two "types"/year: ThOfAbsurd mixed w Japanese ideas; nxt year some tragedy; Lysistrata/Set Design; By end of year, Direct w justification for choices.

(Tom) Pre-IB prep incl ThHistory, to provide gd background yet not IBTh coursework. Ideas has to interest me. Our FALL play (always an international one) is the anchor, a real conceptualized production, e.g. Antigone (how Brechtian is it??), to contrast later as a point of reference and create the Theme for the semester. Learning HOW to write a pitch, document for a portfolio, how to do research and document = the important things.

Draw on accumulated props, set pieces, etc. Learn from the kids!

Give kids "an IB Day" while instructor teaches the rest of the class.

(George) Work from the interests of the few IB kids in the class.

(Bruce) 6 topics/yr. All do the IB work, whether IB kids or not (it's just not sent). Musical comedy [Pearlie] - integration to Sondheim; Bunraku; Commedia; Puppet-making; Original puppet play; Th of Absurd; This year=Greek Th (incl films- Guthrie; JTaymor; set design; Lincoln Center film); reviews of Ext productions of varied styles; costume designs; Read/study/deisgn a costume from a char from a play read; mask making; lighting, Meisner; Presentation Th; Improv.

(Nicole) Classical Th; Khon Drama (Thailand); Moliere; Commedia; Bhutoh; Scene design; Recently: "Independent World Theatre Exploration" must have NO realism in it. Armenian genocide was a stimulus. Their journal used to make the connections to other projects.

Directing unit. IB Work Day (all IB class :). Emph on assessments, incl giving time in class, really helps the scores. Earlier deadlines.

Four assessments...brush up

### Research Investigation

What to make due when, for a research investigation?

How often to provide input (once only, required)? Inconsistent between Guide vs TeacherGuide

What makes a good research question?

No need to eliminate RI topics if they've been mentioned in class. They can know about it without being familiar with it. More topics makes it easier to make connections.

This is NOT a creative exercise, it's a dramaturgical one.

Contact practitioners!! Get primary sources. Show *persistence & initiative*.

(Nicole - Spring of Junior year= RI question; IPP end of Junior year; Sr yr bring in a prof

dramaturge; fall of st = annotated bibliography; Feb 2 = full draft; PPP/oral - mock versions, then done spring of Sr year.  
Do NOT mix genres/time periods.

## IB Theatre Research Investigation Game Plan

Chip Rome, Robinson Secondary School, Fairfax, VA

These will substitute for Play Evaluations; Each assignment is worth 100 points

### Junior year

Q. 1 – List ten (10) Theatre Traditions or practices; TV-Guide blurb sized explanation including 3 key aspects of each; and one representative play (w playwright) for each. The ten selected traditions/practices must be new to you and not planned for class coverage.

Q. 2 – List five (5) potential Research Investigation topics in Thesis Question form. Each example must include the theatre tradition/practice; the aspect to be investigated; and the representative play to which the investigation is being applied. Include the IB cover sheet. Be prepared to talk about these. There are examples on Blackboard.

Q. 3 – Provide ten (10) supporting materials of various types, which would be appropriate to include in the body or the appendix of a Research Investigation. Pictures; photos; audio files; sketches; cue sheets; design plans; etc. are useful. Each worth 10 pt: 5 pt = content; 3 pt = justifying annotation; 2 pt = source

Q. 4 – Present final Research Investigation (thesis) question; Opening/outline/ closing paragraphs; and ten (10) content cards on your topic from internet based research, including final URL's.

### Senior year

Q. 1 – Provide ten (10) content/source cards on your research topic (each from a different source, with source and OPVL on reverse...OK to staple more than one card together rather than squeeze info on too tightly). Color code your index cards: 2 must be from PRIMARY sources (30pt); 3 from print sources (30 pt); 2 from internet DATABASE sources (not general info search engines) (30 pt.); one from any identified source (10pt).

Q. 2 – Draft of Research Investigation due.

Research question and word count 10pt.

Content 40pt.

Appendices 30pt.

Bibliography (and OPLV for HL) 20pt.

Q. 3 – Final draft of Research Investigation due, as per IB rubric and with cover sheet

Q. 4 – Your last “good old fashioned Play Evaluation” ever! (unless you're doing a Senior Internship J)

### Independent Project Portfolio

CONNECTIONS -

**Journal** - collect on the spot without warning? collect weekly? typed is required? keep the file in school against loss? Record onto a Google doc? Sketches in hard copy are fine, too.

Have kids connect year 1 units together, in writing, to start year 2? Visuals are important, too!!  
pix, drawings, sketches, etc.

How strict to be re: word count? VERY, and DON'T go over at all!

Captions count!...

The portfolio gets graded, not the project (by IB).

Ask directors (e.g.) to generate things: to create a wish-list of actors; the theme of the play; the key line of the play; etc. a storyboard; to create a body of work that can become the portfolio.

### Practical Performance Proposal (PPP)

Check Coordinator Notes in November to get the stimuli.

The Ritual w Director's Tools - collect things in pairs, to present a ritual to the class. Then write about their and their others; which was the most important directors tools (performer, venue, tech areas, music, mvmt, voice, surprise, pauses, levels, style, etc. etc.). Type it out. Then have it performed.

Create a commercial (=pitch,eh?).

Pitch a play for future production to the class.

Supporting materials should ALSO illuminate the PROCESS intended to be used, not just the vision for the final product.

Assure proper citation for images used!

"Starry Night" nature-->Van Gogh-->Don McLean-->write a monologue or scene inspired by song

### **Theatre Performance and Production Presentation (TPPP)**

Curate your journey, like an art exhibition, to select relevant material.

Recipe For Success (like a Cookbook); Connecting the Dots.

Make the connections!!

Tom Clark has a workbook to help students tie the units of study to the assessment requirements.

Use the rubrics periodically to measure progress.

The journal is one big open book test...for the TPPP.

Journaling Guide by Tom on the OCC. Check it out!

2nd year Journal might be used exclusively toward the Independent Project.

What difference does it make to kids who are already into college?.....

Prepare with the assessment criteria in front of you.

### **Random Good Stuff**

Dougagashu - Japanese puppet theatre w sets of screens (cf Basil Twist)

Kennedy Center has online some Kyogen performances among their Millenium Stage perfs

Teng Shong shadow puppets

Directing unit - a different tool to try each week (e.g. diction; movement; etc.)

Synetic Theatre of DC - see that level of physical commitment, shows w/out words!

"Dead Man Cellphone" a fun script

Senior Projects - may include tech, directing, acting

The Sculptor and The Patron (make me a puppet that moves in a certain way)

WikiSpace to share documents w kids