Drama and Medicine: SSM

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Description

Drama and medicine are strongly linked in people’s imagination. This module invites you to look at and explore these links through workshop style sessions focusing on various of drama and medicine.

Sessions

Medicine and the Media
Students will be able to examine and explore the way in which health professionals are portrayed by different aspects of the media. In addition students will get the chance to read and perhaps act out a scene from a TV drama script, to gain an insight into how their chosen profession is presented to the public.

Medicine and Film
Students will have to watch designated films and perform presentations on them. They will also be asked to think about how filmmakers use the themes of medicine and illness and the roles of health professionals as entertainment.
**Medicine and Dramatic Literature**
Students will be asked to prepare a scene from a play that they can either act in or direct. We will explore the way in which playwrights use theatre as a medium to highlight medical issues and how theatre can be a powerful tool in examining the human element of illness and medicine.

**Role Play and Medicine**
As well as examining the uses of role-play within medical education, this session will give students the chance to write a scenario and see how it works both clinically and educationally.

**Drama and Health Education**
You will examine the many opportunities for using drama as a tool for health education and health promotion. You will also get the chance to experience some of the techniques involved in the process of devising a piece of theatre for health education.

**Drama as a Resource for Doctors**
We will be inviting a guest lecturer in to give students an insight into the uses of drama within healthcare. Students will be given an opportunity to experience different methods within a workshop environment.
How the course is taught

During this module students will be able to explore the above using a range of methods – textual, research based and interactive. Students will be given the opportunity to work with various people ranging from senior lecturers, members of the role play team, experienced actors and other associates where applicable and available.

Assessment

Assessment will be a combination of experiential and essay-based components. The essay element will reflect on the course experience, or a related topic suggested by the student and approved by the organisers. You will also have to devise a presentation which will have been motivated by the course content and can take the form that you feel most appropriate for the material, again with approval from course organisers. A mark will also be given for your participation in the course as a whole.

Requirements

*No Acting Experience is necessary* – students will get the opportunity to act but it is not compulsory.

The basic requirements are enthusiasm and an interest in the way that medicine and performance relate to each other. Also, that students are open to learning in a workshop environment where interaction is essential. Preparation work is an integral to the course and students will be expected to come to each session with the appropriate materials.

Course outcomes

By the end of the course students will be able to describe different styles of the presentation of medicine, illness and health professionals in different forms of media. They will also have an understanding of the importance of the relationship between medicine, the public and the media. They will be able to gain an understanding of the uses of dramatic literature in understanding the human condition. Students will clearly understand the uses of role play as a tool for medical education and have an insight into the design of role-play materials. Students will have an understanding into the uses of drama in health education and have an insight into the process’ which may be used to devise a piece of theatre for these means. Students will also have learned about the application of drama in the therapeutic context. We hope that this course will give you a broader understanding of your vocation as well as the confidence to experience something new.