HART1045   **Exploring Puppetry:**
                Creating a Shadow Puppet Production (1-credit)

Course Instructor:	Lydia Ayers (Email: layers@cse.ust.hk)
Program Officer:	Jeff LAI (Rm 6401, Tel: 3469-2048; Email: jefflai@ust.hk)
Time:	Wednesday; 10:00-11:50
Venue:	CYT-G009 A & B, Cheng Yu Tung Building
Office Hours:	By appointment

Course Description

This course provides an introductory and interdisciplinary approach to teach students the theory, history and practice of the art of puppetry. Students will design and build shadow puppets, choreograph and rehearse a show, produce a sound track, design lighting and perform the show. Students will learn about basic puppet types, such as the difference between a puppet and a marionette. We will examine puppets from around the world and how technological innovations, especially lighting, sound, video and special effects, are changing puppetry. Students will see examples of actual puppets before they design and make their own.

Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, students are expected to be able to:

1. Appreciate the theory, history and practice of the art of puppetry
2. Design and create a production (create puppets, design lights, sound & scenery)
3. Rehearse and perform the puppet show in public
4. Reflect on their performance critically in writing and class discussion

Course Schedule & Outline

Week	Date	Topic
1	6 Sep	**Puppetry as an Art** Instructor will present different kinds of puppets from various countries, including shadow puppets, glove puppets, rod puppets, black light marionettes, glow-in-the-dark, el-wire and multimedia
2	13 Sep	**How does a "Mom & Pop" puppet company work** Instructor will present a brief history of puppets, including examples of solo & 2-person companies; and showing the difference between a small puppet company and a ballet or theatre company (hint: generalists vs. specialists)
3	20 Sep	**Casting the Show** Students will choose their characters from the script. Discussion group(s): identification of skills that students already have (writing, music, drawing, computer animation, etc.) to form appropriate groups for the other tasks
4	27 Sep	**Designing and Making Puppets & Scenery** Students will develop black silhouettes by drawing their own or tracing photographs; transferring patterns to cardboard; cutting out the puppet parts and interior details and connecting the parts together with brads
5	4 Oct	**Designing and Making Puppets & Scenery** Make control rods from umbrella spokes – take them apart with pliers; attach the control rods with wires and tape; test the puppets and analyze for possible design improvements; discuss techniques for adding color to puppets
6	11 Oct	**Puppet Manipulation Techniques** Learn the difference between slapping a piece of cardboard around and manipulating a shadow puppet to bring its shadow to life
7	18 Oct	**Designing Sound Tracks** Use a computer lab with Adobe Audition and demonstrate techniques for recording and mixing soundtracks
8	25 Oct	**Rehearsal: Directing Each Other** Groups of performers will rehearse their parts of the show and everyone will watch and make suggestions
9	1 Nov	**Lighting Design** Progress from a single white light to various options, including color-changing lights and projectors
10	8 Nov	**Videotaped Rehearsal** Use video to show the students what their performances look like

11	15 Nov	**"Dress" Rehearsal** Run the full show from beginning to end and discuss any issues that arise
12	22 Nov	**Performance** Public performance on campus
13	29 Nov	**Write a Reflection Report and Discuss the Experience in Class** This will be a paper discussing in detail the work the student did and what he or she learned from it

Assessment Tasks

Attendance (10%)	Students need to collaborate with other students in their group, hence attendance is important Students who arrive 10 minutes after the beginning of each session will be counted as late.
Designing and building the show (30%)	Students will create puppets, scenery, lighting and sound for the final puppet show. In this group assignment, each individual will be assessed on the quality of his or her work during the production process. The planning and execution of the show is an important part of this process. The assessment will evaluate how the students have applied the puppetry tasks and the aesthetic results, as well as how they have worked in teams and performed as individuals.
Written Materials (25%)	Write an Individual Experience Report. Each student will be required to write a report reviewing the whole process in order to consolidate his or her learning experience. This report should specifically cover the creative process, use of previous and new skills and a discussion of the experiences of working on the teams. (Note: A student will probably perform different functions on several teams.) Submission deadline: <u>29 Nov 2017</u>
Performance (35%)	Rehearse & Perform the Show. The ultimate goal of this course is to perform a puppet show, which crystalizes the whole learning process into a performance. The quality of the show and how each student works and interacts in a team will be assessed.

Required Reading Materials
1. *Shadow Puppets & Shadow Play*, David Currell, Crowood, 28 April, 2008 (Amazon.com)

Academic Honor Code
-   You must observe and uphold the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty in all the work you do throughout your program of study.
-   As members of the University community, you have the responsibility to help maintain the academic reputation of HKUST in its academic endeavors.
-   Sanctions will be imposed if you are found to have violated the regulations governing academic integrity and honesty. Regulations for Student Conduct and Academic Integrity (http://publish.ust.hk/acadreg/generalreg/index.html)