**DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND FILM STUDIES**

**M.A. DEGREE PROGRAMMES**

The Department of Theatre and Film Studies offers courses and research supervision leading to the award of the degree of Master of Arts (M.A.) in Theatre Arts and Film Studies. The programme is designed to give students advanced training aimed at preparing them for professional careers in teaching, research and criticism.

To earn an MA degree, a student must undergo a specific period of coursework and research (to be presented in project report) and must satisfy the examiners that he/she has acquired advanced knowledge, skills and sophistication to be professionally competent and capable of contributing new ideas and improved methods to teaching and practice of theatre arts.

In addition to coursework, Masters Candidates take seminars in their areas of specialization. The Masters programme emphasizes comparative and multicultural perspectives and methods and every student is expected to present at least one paper in each seminar every semester.

A postgraduate student may specialize in any of the nine Areas of Specialization listed in this curriculum, in addition to a research project.

**PHILOSOPHY**

Theatre and Film studies are concerned with the depiction of man in his environment – cultural, social, religious, political, economic, educational, etc. The interrelatedness and the impact of these aspects of life in shaping human condition globally and locally is, therefore, the focus of theatre studies. The department, consequently, offers research-based training and skill acquisition programmes intended to equip students with the physical and mental capacity to deal with and surmount existential problems.

**OBJECTIVES**

The objectives are to produce sound and relevant scholars and professionals in theatre and film arts and to theoretically and practically equip them with the capacity to compete effectively in a globalized world of academic and scholarly research and teaching.

**SCOPE**

MA curriculum of theatre and film studies is designed to cover several theoretical and practical aspects of theatre and film studies, such as history, criticism, scripting/playwriting, comparative studies, acting and directing as well as African drama and theatre.

**Admission Requirement**

As stipulated in the Postgraduate Studies Regulations of the University of Nigeria, the following shall qualify the entry requirements for Masters Degree in the Department of Theatre and Film Studies are as follows.

Candidate must hold at least a B. A (Hons) Second Class Lower with GPA not less than 2.50 on a 5-point scale, or its equivalent in Theatre Arts from this University or any other recognised University.

**Mode of Study**

1. By coursework to be examined in written papers together with research work to be presented in a project report, where coursework predominates research and constitutes not less than two-thirds (2/3) of the total credit hours.
2. By research work to be presented in a thesis together with a coursework that will be examined in written papers, where research predominates coursework and constitutes not less than two-thirds (2/3) of the total credit hours.

**Duration of the Programme**

Full-Time: Minimum of **three** semesters and maximum of **four** semesters.

Part-Time: Minimum of **four** semesters and maximum of **six** semesters.

**Employment Opportunities**

Jobs exist in public sectors, particularly in broadcasting, administration, teaching, cultural centres, movie industry, public relations and publishing houses. Graduates of Theatre Arts can also be self-employed as writers, critics, filmmakers, actors and theatre directors, interior decorators and fashion designers.

**Areas of Specialization**

Acting/Directing

African and Caribbean Theatre Studies

Applied Theatre

Dramatic Theory and Criticism

Film and Media Arts Studies

Performance Studies

Playwriting

Scenography

Theatre and Cultural Administration

**Stress Areas**

Research Methods 0

History 1

Theory and Criticism 2

Comparative Studies 3

Seminar 4

Production/Workshop 5

Management 6

Educational Theatre 7

Textual analysis 8

Dissertation 9

**List of Approved MA Supervisors**

**Professors:**

Prof. Emeka Nwabueze

**Senior Lecturers:**

Dr. Ngozi Udengwu

Dr. Uche Nwaozuzu

Dr. Felix Egwuda-Ugbeda

Dr. Nobert Eze

Dr. Ifeanyi Ugwu

Dr. Chinenye Amonyeze

**DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE AND FILM STUDIES**

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

**M.A. in Acting and Directing**

FIRST SEMESTER

**Course Code Course Title Credit Units**

PGC601 ICT/Advanced Research methodology 3

TFS 611 Major Directors and their Ideas 3

TFS 613 Theories of Acting/Directing 3

TFS 641 Seminar 1 3

TFS 651 Workshop on Acting and Directing 3 **Total 15**

SECOND SEMESTER

TFS 610 Major Actors and their Techniques 3

TFS 632 Major Trends in Acting Theory and Criticism 3

TFS 642 Seminar II 3

TFS 690 Dissertation 6

**Total 15**

**M.A. in African and Caribbean Theatre**

FIRST SEMESTER

PGC601 ICT/Advanced Research Methodology 3

TFS 617 Major Trends in African and Caribbean Theatre 4

TFS 623 Postcolonial African and Caribbean Theatre Studies 4

TFS 641 Seminar I 3

**Total 14**

SECOND SEMESTER

TFS 622 Comparative Studies in African and Caribbean Theatre

4

TFS 642 Seminar II 3

TFS 680 Topics in African and Caribbean Theatre Studies 3

TFS 690 Dissertation Defence 6

**Total 16**

**M.A. in Applied Theatre**

FIRST SEMESTER

PGC601 ICT/Advanced Research Methodology 3

TFS 671 Theatre of the Oppressed 3

TFS 673 Theatre in Education 4

TFS 641 Seminar I 3

**Total 13**

SECOND SEMESTER

TFS 670 Feminist Theatre 3

TFS 616 Concept and Evolution of Theatre for Development

3

TFS 640 Community-based Theatre Project 3

TFS 642 Seminar II 3

TFS 690 Dissertation 6

**Total 18**

**M.A. in Dramatic Theory and Criticism**

FIRST SEMESTER

PGC601 ICT/Advanced Research Methodology 3

TFS 633 Theories of Modern Drama 3

TFS 625 Topics in Comparative Drama 3

TFS 627 Dramatic Genres 3

TFS 641 Seminar I 3

**Total 15**

SECOND SEMESTER

TFS 632 Major Trends in Dramatic Theory ad Criticism 3

TFS 682 Readings in Dramatic Literature 3

TFS 642 Seminar II 3

TFS 690 Dissertation Defence 6

**Total 15**

**M.A. in Film and New Media Arts Studies**

First Semester

PGC601 ICT/Advanced Research Methodology 3

TFS 635 Film Theories and Criticism 4

TFS 675 New Media Arts Studies 4

TFS 641 Seminar I 3

**Total 14**

Second Semester

TFS 660 Nigerian Film and Video Arts 3

TFS 654 Documentary Film 3

TFS 644 Cinematography 3

TFS 642 Seminar II 3

TFS 690 Dissertation Defence 6

**Total 18**

**M.A. in Performance Studies**

FIRST SEMESTER

PGC601 ICT/Advanced Research Methodology 3

TFS 663 Performativity and Performance Theories 4

TFS 629 Oral Performance Aesthetics 4

TFS 641 Seminar I 3

**Total 14**

SECOND SEMESTER

TFS 626 Globalization and Intercultural Performance 3

TFS 684 Topics in Performance Studies 3

TFS 664 Critical Issues in Performance Studies 3

TFS 642 Seminar II 3

TFS 690 Dissertation Defence 6

**Total 18**

**M.A. in Playwriting**

FIRST SEMESTER

PGC601 ICT/Advanced Research Methodology 3

TFS 639 Theories of Playwriting 3

TFS 627 Dramatic Genres 3

TFS 614 Major Playwrights and their Works 3

TFS 641 Seminar I 3

**Total 15**

SECOND SEMESTER

TFS 632 Major Trends in Dramatic Theory and Criticism

3

TFS 646 Playwriting Workshop 3

TFS 642 Seminar II 3

TFS 690 Dissertation Defence 6

**Total 15**

**M.A. in Theatre and Cultural Administration**

FIRST SEMESTER

PGC601 ICT/Advanced Research Methodology 3

TFS 621 Popular Theatre and Cultural Studies 4

TFS 677 Theatre and Tourism 4

TFS 641 Seminar I 3

**Total 14**

SECOND SEMESTER

TFS 662 Cultural Policies/Management 3

TFS 664 Creative Economy/ Theatre Entrepreneurship 3

TFS 624 Multiculturalism and Theatre 3

TFS 642 Seminar II 3

TFS 690 Dissertation Defence 6

**Total 18**

**M.A. in Scenography**

FIRST SEMESTER

PGC601 ICT/Advanced Research Methodology 3

TFS 619 Notable Stage Designers and their Ideas 4

TFS 631 Major Innovations in Scenography 4

TFS 641 Seminar I 3

**Total 14**

SECOND SEMESTER

TFS 638 Theory and Practice of Scenography 4

TFS 648 Production/ Organization for the Stage 3

TFS 642 Seminar II 3

TFS 690 Dissertation Defence 6

**Total 16**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

**PGC 601 ICT/Advanced Research Methodology (3 Units)**

Methodology of theatrical research (practical and empirical research of scientific nature, including data collection and strategies for data analysis). Application of necessary ICT skills in research writing and documentation in theatre and film studies.

**TFS 610 Major Actors and their Techniques (3 Units)**

A survey of the theories, approaches, methods and techniques of known actors and how these techniques could be employed in actor training. The course requires a detailed analysis and study of major actors and their techniques. Western, Asian and African actors, are selected as samples for study.

**TFS 611 Major Directors and their Ideas (3 Units)**

An advanced survey of the works of major theatre directors and their ideas, examination of how these methods can be applied by contemporary directors.

**TFS 613 Theories of Acting and Directing (3 Units)**

An advanced study of theories that inform the conventional tools of the director and actor, such as composition, rhythm, tempo, lighting design, and audience reaction and stylistic problems in staging.

**TFS 617 Major Trends in African and Caribbean Theatre (3 Units)**

Major issues and developments in African and Caribbean Theatre are critically examined. African and Caribbean Theatre here are seen to reflect a shared historical, economic and social experiences over time.

**TFS 614 Major Playwrights and their Works (3 Units)**

Examines notable figures whose works have been canonized and celebrated as important contributions to the development and evolution of the art of playwriting from different parts of the world.

**TFS 616 Concept and Evolution of Theatre for Development (3 Units)**

The course involves the history of theatre for development TfD in Africa from Paulo Freier’s pedagogy of the oppressed to the presents trends. The concept of interventionist theatre will be closely examined.

**TFS 619 Notable Stage Designers and their Ideas (3 Units)**

This course involves a detailed and in-depth survey of key designers and their works, tracing the way their art has aided and shaped contemporary theatre design and technology.

**TFS 621 Popular Theatre and Cultural Studies (3 Units)**

This course is a study of the concept, background and elements of popular theatre and its interconnection with the culture of a given society. A study of selected popular theatre groups will form part of the course. Students research and brainstorm into their personal experiences and the life of friends, families and communities and write and enact a play from them. Audience study is an important part of the course.

**TFS 622 Comparative Studies in African and Caribbean Theatre (3 Units)**

Critical investigation of literary and non-literary traditions in African and Caribbean Theatre practice. Features such as form and content will be symbiotically studies.

**TFS 623 Postcolonial African and Caribbean Theatre Studies (3 Units)**

The course is a comparative study of African and Caribbean Theatre and their responses to colonial hegemony and identity. The unique socio-cultural conditions of the areas are studied to enable the student to appreciate fully the impact of colonialism on the theatre in these areas.

**TFS 624 Multiculturalism and Theatre (3 Units)**

The course explores the role of theatre in a culturally diversified society across different national boundaries. The course examines the relationship between theatre and a multi-cultural society with the aims to rationalize, explicate and predict social behaviour through the mediated space of multi-cultural drama performances.

**TFS 625 Topics in Comparative Drama (3 Units)**

This course is an advanced comparative study of both canonized and emergent texts in world drama and their critical interpretations along the lines of diversity and cohesion, paying special attention to theme, style, content and environment.

**TFS 626 Globalization and Intercultural Performance (3 Units)**

Culture is performance since a community’s performances reflect and embody its values, beliefs and traditions. The course explains how globalization brings cultures around the world into contact with one another and how traditional notions of identity and community have become more complex in a globalized. The course strategizes on ways the inter-cultural performance can offer a platform to resist trans-cultural homogenization or precipitate its emergence.

**TFS 627 Dramatic Genres (3 Units)**

This course involves a broad review of the key critical and philosophical ideas that influenced concepts and forms of tragedy, comedy and other mixed dramatic genres.

**TFS 629 Oral Performance Aesthetics (3 Units)**

The course evaluates the narratological concepts of oral-based performances. The course builds on the narrative mode of representation, language and aesthetics. The focus is on the theatrical techniques of dramatizing the narrative process and anesthetization of the oral commentary since all narratives are also performative.

**TFS 632 Major Trends in Acting Theory and Criticism (3 Units)**

A detailed critical examination of the major theories of drama and theatre from Aristotle to the present, including methodologies and approaches. Specific critics, playwrights and particular critical viewpoints are stressed.

**TFS 633 Theories of Modern Drama (3 Units)**

A detailed and in-depth examination of significant theories and theorists in modern drama. Attention will be paid to the influence of each theory in the development of modern dramatic theory and practice.

**TFS 634 Cultural Theories (3 Units)**

The project aims to equip students with cultural knowledge about current issues so that they can question the values and assumptions which the policies and decisions behind their work. The course undertakes a critical engagement with theory and practice of culture with emphasis on developing new approaches towards understanding the society in which culture plays out. The course focuses on how cultural policies affect the creative and media industries, creative management and social development. The course revolves around creativity, cultural consumption, cultural value, policies and cultural development.

**TFS 635 Film Theories and Criticism (3 Units)**

The course exposes students to various theories and critical canons in film studies. It examines essence of the theories and how they have impacted the pedagogy and methodology of film studies.

**TFS 638 Theory and Practice of Scenography (3 Units)**

The course is an intensive exploration of the trends in the development of the visual entity components of scenography – scenery, costume and stage lighting – in relation to the history of drama from 4th century Greece to the medieval periods. The course is designed to encourage in this important area of theatre.

**TFS 639 Theories of Playwriting (3 Units)**

An in-depth investigation of the various theories of playwriting that has shaped form, content and the art, special attention will be paid to the relations between craft and of theories of invention, arrangement, style and nature of the composing process.

**TFS 640 Community-based Theatre Project (3 Units)**

This course involves practical participation in a site-specific original theatre in any of the applied theatre forms to be chosen by the students and their supervisor. Students go through the process of community-based theatre production, including research, evaluation, play building and facilitation skills.

**TFS 631 Major Innovations in Scenography (3 Units)**

The course is an in-depth study of major technical innovations in scenic, lighting, costume, stage machinery and special effects from the late 19th to 20th centuries and the ideas behind them with special attention to the invention of electricity, digital camera and computer, and their impact on contemporary practice of scenography. The course entails a comparative study of these innovations.

**TFS 642**  **Seminar II (Proposal Presentation) (3 Units)**

This involves the oral presentation of students’ well-researched and analyzed scientific inquiry on an approved topic, presented before an approved examination panel.

**TFS 644 Cinematography (3 Units)**

Students offering this course are expected to study the evolution of cinematography, develop a deeper understanding and clarification of the concept of film and video arts. Special attention will be paid to its current prospects and challenges.

**TFS 643 Seminar 1 (3 Units)**

Supervised workshop on the practical work of the director and actor as well as Methods, analysis and application to the problems of acting and directing for the stage. The course involves a collaborative contribution of both the students and the staff director in the choice of the play, planning, and creation of relevant roles and ideas.

**TFS 646 Playwriting Workshop (3 Units)**

Writer’s workshop involving the creation and production of an original play for the stage and discussion of the processes involved in writing different kinds of plays.

**TFS 648 Production/ Organization for the Stage (3 Units)**

This involves practical demonstration of the knowledge of production sequence as well as a study of innovations in theatre organization and production.

**TFS 651 Workshop in Acting and Directing (3 Units)**

In this seminar course students are expected to acquire the skills necessary for a successful public presentation of a written explanation of the significance of their area of specialization. Deep knowledge of the area presented in a PowerPoint format is of special importance.

**TFS 654 Documentary Film (3 Units)**

This course explores the world of non-fiction filmmaking and offers students the opportunity to participate in the process of documentary filmmaking, as well as the acquisition of technical skills in shooting and editing. Students will have the unique opportunity to research, write, and direct their investigative short documentary film.

**TFS 660 Nigerian Film and Video Arts (3 Units)**

The course traces the origin and development of film and video arts in Nigeria. It examines the current praxis of the industry and provides practical directions on the various aspects of the arts.

**TFS 662 Cultural Policies/Management (3 Units)**

Cultural policies are primarily designed to shape educational curricula, cultural production and reception to enhance the public value of a cultural product. This course focuses on how cultural policies, their framers and their executors impact cultural outcomes in society. The course recognizes the role of government and non-governmental agencies as critical players in the field of cultural policy being creators of enabling environments that will positively affect implementation of cultural products and practices. This is against the background of culture as entertainment platform that is constantly negotiated and contested. Critical issues about legitimacy of cultural policies, heterogeneity, and public and non-governmental support for the arts, as well as the identification of sites of possible intervention are keys.

**TFS 663 Performativity and Performance Theories (3 Units)**

The course focuses on the elementary structures of dramatic enactments. The course analyses the strategies and styles employed by drama procedures, the historical situation of the performance and the stylistics of its existence and socio-cultural interpretation. The interconnection between performativity and theatrical practices and dramatic traditions known as performance and the enactment of character in a theatrical context will be examined in the course. The course will examine how performance defines and shapes the values and beliefs of a community.

**TFS 664 Creative Economy/ Theatre Entrepreneurship (3 Units)**

A well trained theatre artist has the capacity for self-sufficiency, sustenance and independence. Every segment of theatre programme is a potential for entrepreneurship. The essence of this course is to inculcate into the students the capacity to be self-reliant through the instrumentality of theatre structure.

**TFS 670 Feminist Theatre (3 Units)**

This course involves a critical study of the history and development of feminist theatre, as well as feminist theories and practice that have shaped the feminist literary and critical standards. Students also engage in the study of the representation of female gender in texts and performances over time and place.

**TFS 671 Theatre of the Oppressed (3 Units)**

This course is designed for students who are interested in the application of the arts of the theatre in addressing societal issues. Students are expected to explore and develop an in-depth knowledge of the theory and practice of the Theatre of the Oppressed as a foundation course for an MA certificate in Applied Theatre.

**TFS 673 Theatre in Education (3 Units)**

The course helps students to develop innovative approaches teaching and learning through the application of dramatic skills and techniques. Theory is translated into practice as students analyze the roles of theatre and education and experiment with using drama and theatre to explore educational contents.

**TFS 675 New Media Arts Studies (3 Units)**

The course reviews the new media arts as alternative performance spaces. The focus is on the new media platforms and their potential as mediating spaces for articulating meaning and new interpretation. The parallel relationship between social changes and new media arts will be put in perspective, as well as technological possibility of increasing theatrical communication.

**TFS 677 Theatre and Tourism (3 Units)**

The course examines the relationship between theatre and tourism through the perspective of theatricalism. The course examines how theatrical performances can be harnessed as powerful commercial strategy for promoting branding of cities and other entertainment sites. The course addresses new questions about the economics of theatrical production, tourism, ecology and the composition of theatre audiences in the culture of a city.

**TFS 680 Topics in African and Caribbean Theatre Studies (3 Units)**

This course is designed to examine major themes that have shaped the growth of African and Caribbean theatre studies, with special emphasis on canonized works.

**TFS 682 Readings in Dramatic Literature (3 Units)**

This course entails an advanced comparative study of dramatic literature and appropriate critical concepts with particular interest in the modern and postmodern critical tensions. Students develop strategies for interpreting dramatic texts about emerging literary and critical theories.

**TFS 684 Topics in Performance Studies (3 Units)**

The course provides a critical approach to literary studies, performance, performance theories and cultural contexts. The course explores the fields of theatre dance and opens a wider interrogation of the methodologies of performance studies.

**TFS 690 Dissertation Defence (6 Units)**

Oral examination of candidates on their research work, presented before an external examiner and an approved examination body including the Head of Department, the Supervisor and an Internal Examiner.