Welcome everyone!

Although our coming semester will look a little different than what we’re all used to, we’re incredibly excited about our line-up of course offerings and invite you to plunge into our community, collaborate with classmates and professors, and enjoy the wide range of opportunities we’ve created.

Several of our Theatre classes will be offered in an in-person or hybrid format where social-distancing permits. Those classes include Scenic Painting and Costume Design (come and express your inner artist), Physical Comedy (discover your inner clown!), Directing I (learn how the magic onstage comes to be), Directing for Film (channel your inner Martin Scorsese or Patty Jenkins), TV in the Age of Change (dive into the complex history of the world’s most widespread media form), Art of the Moving Image (explore the development of world cinema), and Race, Gender, and Ethnicity on the U.S. Stage (examine critical issues of representation).

A number of our Dance classes will also be offered in an in-person or hybrid format. Shake it out with our Modern IV class. Let yourself go with Hip-Hop Dance, Afro-Haitian Dance, or Dance, Movement, and the Creative Process. Explore your interest in dance education with Creative Dance for Children. Or find a sense of quiet with Tai Chi.

The realities of social-distancing and ensuring student, staff, and faculty safety make it impossible for us to offer some of our all-time favorite classes in person. After all, taking a Voice, Acting, or Public Speaking class with a mask on would be next to impossible! So those courses are moving online with streaming instruction from our Acting Studio. And due to the popularity of Acting 1 and Public Speaking, we’ve added extra sessions of those courses.

The size and layout of several of our shops also make it challenging to maintain social distance and still give people safe instruction on equipment or allow them to move freely around the space, so we have developed three new and exciting Design classes specifically tailored for a virtual environment.

The first is a Computer-Assisted Drafting course that will be ideal for students with an interest in theatre technology or engineering. The second is “From Page
to Stage,” that explores all aspects of design, from the first encounter with a script to developing sketches, collages, etc. That course will feature guest lectures from a number of well-known Tufts alums in the design field, as well as award-winning Boston area artists. The third course is the “Evolution of Fashion.” For those with an interest in the history of fashion and costume design, this class is a must!

Our Introduction to Theatre and Modern/Postmodern Theatre classes are perfect for you if you prefer learning about the social and historical context of theatre. These classes take a global perspective on the history of theatre and will engage with a variety of different styles and forms.

For those who may not be returning to campus, but who still want to continue their Dance training, we’ve created several inviting options. Dance Conditioning and Wellness can be practiced from any space. Ballet III has been tailored for more advanced students who are practicing remotely. Kathak and the Solo Artist invites students to explore this well-known form of Indian social dance through both social/historical context and physical experience. Dance Repertory and Performance for Virtual Spaces challenges you to create your stage wherever you happen to be – a backyard, your kitchen, a parking lot – no matter where! And Solo Dance for the Camera lets you channel your inner Pina Bausch and Trajal Harrell in creating choreography for film.

Throughout the fall we will be collaborating with teams from around the university to promote student, staff, and faculty safety. We hope that by taking things slowly in the fall, we’ll be able to move towards a more open spring in our spaces with even more in-person and hybrid classes.

We’re excited to work with you all to sustain the vibrant TDPS community!

Take care of yourselves and your families –

Heather

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