# ARTICULATE BODIES: WRITING INSTRUCTION IN A PERFORMANCE-BASED CURRICULUM

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# **Theatre Arts and Dance**



## Writing in Theatre

### WHY DO WE WRITE IN THEATRE?

•Writing in theatre is a part of the artistic *process*.

•Like artistic practice, writing in theatre *communicates* a vision, experience, or idea.

# WHAT MAKES GOOD WRITING IN THEATRE?

•It is aware of its audience

•It is multi-disciplinary

•It is poetic

•It balances the subjective with the objective

# HOW DO WE GO ABOUT WRITING IN THEATRE?

•Writing in theatre originates in research

•Writing in theatre is similar to the process of rehearsal

•Writing in theatre requires commitment

### WHAT ABILITIES DO WE NEED TO WRITE EFFECTIVELY IN THEATRE?

•Conduct research

•Unlock and explore the imagination

•Create descriptions of performance, design components, and/or dramatic texts

Identify, interpret, and analyze
Create and support a thesis driven argument

Develop an awareness of differences between conventions and genres of writing
Deepen ideas to reach new levels of complexity

•Develop self-reflexivity

•Practice revision

## Theatre and Dance: Expansive definition of writing



## TAD Curriculum Mapping Project Identifying our Strengths and Gaps

## **STRENGTHS**

- Capacious definition of writing
- Ubiquity of writing instruction across the curriculum
- Eliciting process-based, exploratory, expressive dimensions of writing

### GAPS

- Unclear where higher order analysis and synthesis skills are happening
- Revision is primarily happening in WI courses
- Expectations for student 'writing' often implicit, especially with higher level abilities





## Modeling Concrete Teaching Tools & Writing Instruction

## Performing Writing/Writing Performance



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