



What is Mantle of the Expert?



Mantle of the Expert [MOTE] is a drama-based approach to teaching and learning that draws on the principles of inquiry learning and process drama. The approach is the legacy of Dorothy Heathcote. It is used in hundreds of classrooms around the world and has a growing body of active practitioners within Aotearoa NZ.

What does MOTE look like in practice?

Usually a MOTE experience will last a minimum of several weeks. Learners and teacher together agree to imagine themselves in a fictional company, working on an important commission for a client. The teacher takes on a variety of roles and introduces dramatic tensions to keep the learning exciting and to generate authentic situations for learning. The children are positioned as capable co-constructors of the drama and of the learning. Really, it is impossible to define MOTE in a few words - you need to experience and study it to begin to understand it – which is why we offer this course!



ALED515: Drama as a Pedagogy - Dorothy Heathcote's Mantle of the Expert

Lecturer: Dr Viv Aitken

Email: viva@waikato.ac.nz Phone: 07 838 4500 extn 7751

What is the course about?

The paper gives you an opportunity to experience, research, critique and theorise the MOTE approach in a New Zealand context. Starting with a practical experience of MOTE, you will move on to learning about how to plan for your classroom or professional setting. At the same time you will engage with and critique current research and theoretical material related to MOTE.

How is it taught?

The paper combines face-to-face classes on campus, with a follow up period of online learning and support making it accessible for educators from around the country.

When is it?

The paper is offered once every three years. In 2012, the dates are 16-20 January on campus (Windermere Campus, Tauranga). The reading and online discussion continues through until the end of Term 1.

Is it the right paper for me?

People who have taken this paper in the past include secondary specialist teachers of drama, primary generalist teachers and community educators. It is helpful for you to have a working knowledge of drama as a curriculum subject before enrolling. However, knowledge and experience in MOTE is not required. You can opt to take this paper as a stand-alone Professional Development opportunity, or include it in a Postgraduate Diploma or Masters in Education.

Where can I find out more?

For official paper details, fees and enrolment information, Visit: <http://papers.waikato.ac.nz/papers/ALED515>