

# WHY SO SERIOUS? Teaching Comedy in Film Schools

# April 24th to 26th 2023



The National Film School at IADT, Dun Laoghaire is hosting a conference on Teaching Comedy in Film Schools called “Why So Serious?”. The event will be held in Studio 1 on our campus in Dun Laoghaire, Ireland on April 24th to 26th 2023.

A GEECT Teaching Conference, hosted by IADT and supported by CILECT, FilmEU and NAHEMI will bring together, experts in comedy writing and ask them to contemplate and advise on how to teach comedy in film schools across the world.

## Introduction

Comedy, above all genres, provides an insight into the soul. It can speak truth to power or comfort us in our darkest moments. So why is teaching comedy in film schools such a laughing matter? This conference will find out why. Bringing together comedians, writers, researchers and academics specialising in or curious about comedy, will gain new insights into methodologies for teaching and filmmaking in the comedic form.

We are looking for a mix of presentations, case studies, and roundtables which will explore techniques of how to teach comedy, how to develop comedic projects, how to tutor students in best practice and gain a deeper understanding into the nature of `writers’ rooms. This conference is about reshaping how comedy is approached and how it can become a pillar of film education.

## Call for Contributions

We are looking for contributors who can address all aspects of teaching comedy. Some suggested topics are:

* Teaching comedy
* Case studies of comedy modules
* Writers room in the classroom
* How to structure and film comedy
* Comedy in pre-production, production, and post-production
* Economics of Comedy
* Pathways for graduates in the comedy industry
* Writing for television and cinema
* The future of comedy
* Best Practices / Best Kept Secrets

## Deadlines

Please submit concrete suggestions (200 words), names of presenters (with contact details where possible) you believe could be both interesting and inspiring for all of us to whysoserious@iadt.ie by **February 14th, 2023**.

## Where Are We?

Situated in Ireland, close to the port town of Dun Laoghaire, IADT is 12kms away from Dublin City Centre. Dun Laoghaire is a hub for culture and nature. Come enjoy the food, the sea and possibly a pint of Guinness.

<https://iadt.ie/>

Costs & Practicalities

Dates: Arrivals April 23rd, departures from April 26th (after lunch)

Delegate fees:

GEECT / CILECT full members €450 per delegate (full member schools in good standing may send up to two delegates, and candidate and partner members in good standing may send one delegate, at the subsidised rate).

CILECT members from other Regions (CARA, CAPA, CIBA or CNA) can apply for a Fee Waiver: please contact Stanislav Semerdjiev, (places are limited and are assigned on a first-come-first-served basis).

NAHEMI members who are not members of CILECT or GEECT €600

Delegate Full fee: €750 per delegate: non-members/members not in good standing and any additional delegates from member schools.

Conference website and official registration coming soon [www.whysoseriousconference.com](http://www.whysoseriousconference.com)

**We look forward to welcoming you to Dublin!**

**Barry Dignam & Deirdre O’Toole, Conference Directors**

