

INTRODUCTION TO ACTING**DRAMA 200 LEC/LAB 01****FALL/WINTER 2013/14**

INSTRUCTOR: Alyssa Bradac
OFFICE: CH D217
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 12:00 noon-1:00 p.m. (or by appointment)
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CLASS TIMES & LOCATIONS:

Monday	9:00-11:50	CH E004
Wednesday	9:00-10:50	CH E004

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Practical experience in acting; improvisation, ensemble and introductory work from texts; the development of communication skills and personal acting creativity

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

Successful participation in and completion of this course will result in the development of:

- An appreciation of and introductory level skill in the vocal and physical agility of the actor
- The ability to work in collective collaboration with a group
- Techniques of improvisation
- Basic ability in script analysis as it pertains to the actor's process
- Understanding and application of the primary elements of acting technique, including playing objectives, tactics and being in the moment
- Personal confidence in presentation situations
- Critical skills of an audience member and experience of the Calgary theatre scene

COURSE CONTENT AND ACTIVITIES:

This course is an introduction to the principles, process and skill requirements of acting for the stage. Introduction to Acting will allow the student to explore the following concepts: imagination, spontaneity, basic vocal and movement awareness and technique, improvisation, collective creation, overview of acting theory, objectives, tactics, obstacles, truth in acting and journal writing. During the fall term particular emphasis will be placed on developing physical and vocal flexibility, ensemble work, collective creation, personalization and presence. During the winter term particular emphasis will be placed on script analysis and scene study, with a concentration on two-handed scenes and a monologue, as well as a continued component of written analysis, assessment and reflection.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

In this class there will be opportunity to begin identifying and exploring several of the elements that form the actor's preparation and work. Successful participation in this class will require considerable application both in terms of time and effort. In addition to individual preparation of assignments (both written and presentation), students will be required to commit beyond the scheduled class times to several hours of group rehearsal for preparation of projects.

Dress: Clothes in which you can move freely. There will be an element of floor work most classes – sweats or tights, leotards or T-shirts are recommended. Most work will be done in bare feet. No big jewellery – no hats – long hair must be tied back.

Please be prepared to begin class promptly at 9:00 a.m. by arriving a few minutes ahead.

INTERVIEWS:

There will be mandatory personal interviews with the instructor scheduled towards the end of the fall term, arranged at instructor/student convenience. Final individual interviews will be scheduled at the end of the winter term.

ATTENDANCE:

Attendance and participation in all classes and rehearsals is mandatory. Failure to attend classes and rehearsals may result in academic penalty unless excused by medical certificate or equivalent justification.

As an experientially based studio course, in most cases it will not be possible to make up missed classes or presentations. As well, student progress depends on interaction and participation of peers to a greater degree than in a standard lecture based course. The absence of one student may negatively impact several others. The theatre is a collaborative art rather than a solo flight, requiring that participants work together. Please honour this tradition of theatre ethics within this class.

REQUIRED TEXTS:

- Provided readings as assigned.
- A play to be selected and purchased at the beginning of the winter term (for scene work).

RECOMMENDED READING:

- *Acting Power*, Robert Cohen, Mayfield Publishing, 1978.
- *Respect for Acting*, Uta Hagen, Macmillan, 1973.
- *Impro*, Keith Johnstone, Routledge, 1981.
- *An Actor Prepares*, Konstantin Stanislavsky
- *Sanford Meisner on Acting*, Sanford Meisner & Dennis Longwell, Vintage, 1987.

ASSESSMENT:**Fall term: 100%**

Presentations:	40%	
9/30 Myth Project		5%
10/28 Collective Creation (mid-term assignment)		15%
11/23 Monologue #1 (final project)		20%

Written:	20%	
9/16 Class goals (2-3 page paper)		5%
12/04 Journal		10%
12/04 Response to theatre performance (of university, community or professional production)		5%

Growth and Development: 25%

Includes: successful application of studies concepts and skills in class exercises; risk-taking; initiative; working from growing sense of truth for the actor; integration of physical, vocal, emotional, intellectual spheres into creative work; ability to receive and integrate criticism into successive class activities

Participation: 15%

Includes: punctual attendance; works with interest, concentration and focus; commitment to the class and group projects; preparation; ensemble cooperation; overall positive contribution to class discussions and activities

Interviews will be scheduled with the instructor between December 5-10. If you have any questions concerning your progress during the term, please make an appointment with the instructor.

Winter term: /100%

Presentations:	70%	
01/15 Actor's World View		10%
02/26 Scene #1		15%
03/19 Monologue #2 (Mid-term)		20%
04/14 Scene #2 (final)		25%

Written:	20%	
04/14 Journal		10%
04/07 Response to theatre performance (of professional production)		5%
04/09 Final reflections and self-evaluation		5%

Participation: 10%

As detailed above for fall term

Interviews with the instructor will be scheduled during the week of April 15-18th.

If you have any questions concerning your progress during the course, please make an appointment with the instructor.

Numerical to Letter Grade Equivalent

A+	95-100%	4.0	Mastery of material
A	90-94	4.0	Excellent - superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter
A-	85-89	3.7	
B+	80-84	3.3	Very good
B	75-79	3.0	Good - clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete
B-	71-74	2.7	
C+	67-70	2.3	
C	63-66	2.0	Satisfactory - basic understanding of subject matter
C-	59-62	1.7	
D+	55-58	1.3	Poor
D	50-54	1.0	Minimal pass - marginal performance
F	0-49	0	Fail - unsatisfactory performance of failure to meet course requirements

FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS102, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at picarts@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate which has detailed information on common academic concerns. • For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them in their new space on the 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library. • For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.
ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION	http://www.ucalgary.ca/access
FOIP	http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy
ACADEMIC STANDING	http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f.html

CAMPUS SECURITY	220-5333. Help phones: located throughout campus, parking lots, elevators. They connect directly to Campus Security; in case of emergency, press the red button.
COURSE OUTLINES FOR TRANSFER CREDIT	It is possible that you will be asked for copies of this outline for credit transfers to other institutions or for proof of work done. It is the student's responsibility to keep these outlines and provide them to employers or other universities when requested. Please ensure that outlines of all the courses you take are kept in a safe place for your future reference. Departments/Programs do not guarantee that they will provide copies.
DEFERRALS OF EXAMS/TERM WORK	It is possible to request a deferral of term work or final examinations for reasons of illness, accident, family or domestic affliction, or religious obligations. Please check with your advisor if any of these issues make it impossible for you to sit an exam or finish term work by stated deadlines.
EMERGENCY EVACUATION	http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints
LETTER OF PERMISSION	If you wish to study at another institution while registered at the U of C, you must have a letter of permission. You can submit your request through your Student Centre at MyUofC. Students must have the Letter of Permission before they take the course at another school. Failure to prepare may result in no credit awarded and could result in suspension from the faculty.
PLAGIARISM	Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. For details see the University of Calgary Calendar. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possibly suspension or expulsion from the university. You must document not only direct quotations but also paraphrases and ideas where they appear in your text. A reference list at the end is insufficient by itself. Readers must be able to tell exactly where your words and ideas end and other people's words and ideas begin. This includes assignments submitted in non-traditional formats such as Web pages or visual media, and material taken from such sources. Please consult your instructor or the Writing Centre (SS110) if you have any questions regarding how to document sources.
SAFEWALK	220-5333 anytime. http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk
STUDENT MISCONDUCT	http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html
STUDENT UNION CONTACT STUDENT OMBUDSPERSON	Faculty of Arts reps: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca , arts2@su.ucalgary.ca , arts3@su.ucalgary.ca , arts4@su.ucalgary.ca
UNDERGRADUATE ASSOCIATIONS	DUS: Drama Undergraduate Society CH C 005 dusuofc@hotmail.com MUS: Music Undergraduate Society CH F 219 UofC Mus Group on Facebook PIVOT: Dance Undergraduate Society CH E 211 pivot@ucalgary.ca