



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS
DRAM 309 – S01 Foundations of Acting I
Fall 2022

Instructor Office Email Office Hours	Jane MacFarlane CHD 022 Jane.macfarlane2@ucalgary.ca Thursdays 10:00AM – 12:00PM
Day(s),time(s) and location of Class	MW – 9:00AM – 10:50AM CHF 101 – Matthews Theatre
Learning resources: required readings, textbooks and materials	<p>A variety of readings will be provided by the Instructor.</p> <p>Recommended Readings: Actions: The Actors' Thesaurus by Marina Caldarone & Maggie Lloyd-Williams Respect for Acting by Uta Hagen An Actor's Work by Konstantin Stanislavski Audition by Michael Shurtleff Meisner on Acting by Sanford Meisner To The Actor by Michael Chekhov The Actor & the Target by Declan Donnellan Black Acting Methods – Critical Approaches by Sharrell D. Luckett with Tia M. Shaffer</p> <p>Digital Theatre + [https://edu.digitaltheatreplus.com/login] is a new resource available to Drama Division students and is a wonderful tool for your research needs.</p>
Learning Technologies and Requirements	<p>There is a D2L site for this course which contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials (see d2L.ucalgary.ca).</p> <p>In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates; • A current and updated web browser; • Webcam (built-in or external); • Microphone and speaker (built-in or external) or headset with microphone; • Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled; • Broadband internet connection. <p>Most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker and microphone.</p>
Prerequisites	DRAM 209/210 and consent of the Division Lead, Drama <i>DRAM 316/318 are corequisites for this course</i>
Course description	<p>Further development of an actor's interpretation and performance of dramatic text for the stage through investigation of "Naturalism" and contemporary scene study.</p> <p>This course dives into the craft of acting and builds the foundations for a strong acting practice, looking at historical, global and contemporary approaches to the craft. Observation of acting techniques through theatre, movies, television and other performance work is a vital component in learning the HOW of this process.</p>

	<p>We will be accessing material on Digital Theatre+ [https://edu.digitaltheatreplus.com/login?redirect=%2F] for class discussions, opportunities to observe work from around the globe and to see and experience different forms and methods of acting.</p> <p>Seeing work at a variety of professional theatres in Calgary is highly encouraged. This course may not be repeated for credit.</p> <p>December 9th: There will be showings of all DRAMA - Acting classes projects, shared between all levels [300, 400, 500 level acting]. Attendance is mandatory</p>
Course learning outcomes	<p>By the completion of this course, successful students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demonstrate, through application of in-class techniques, how to be physically and mentally present in the space and what it means to be grounded in the work 2. Apply a creative and imaginative process to transport the actor and the audience through time and space, by delving into object and character 3. Engage in impulse and play as a means to connect physically and emotionally to oneself and to a scene partner 4. Research and analyze a text for understanding of the world they are to inhabit as character 5. Apply and embody text analysis to drop into given circumstances 6. Demonstrate integration of acting techniques through engaged scene work with a partner, both through impulse work and text-based scene work
Course schedule	<p>Unit 1: Embodiment – Sept – Oct</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presence – action – object → exercises to free the actor and bring them into a greater sense of what it means to be grounded and present in the work - Object Exercises → building the craft of the actor - Listening and reacting → Impulse <p>Unit 2: Motivation – Oct – Nov</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Impulse work → individual and partner - Connection with a scene partner - Given circumstances, even in improv, leading to objectives, needs, motivations <p>Unit 3: Action – Nov – Dec</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scene work → impulse into text - Text analysis → actor's craft in application - The rehearsal process → integrating all the techniques applied into text-based scene work
Assessment components	<p><u>Assignment 1: Object Exercises</u> Assessment Method: Presentation Description: Based on the in-class acting exercises, students will present a situational improv, created by themselves, that is rehearsed while maintaining the sense of purpose and connection from the first time they work it through to the actual presentation. <i>[further details on D2L]</i> Weight: 20% Due Date: October 5, 2022</p>

	<p>Assignment 2: Song/Monologue presentation Assessment Method: Presentation Description: Student will choose a contemporary song to present as a monologue, applying the in-class work [script analysis, actor's process, presence, etc.] making the song an actor's exploration in connection and revelation. <i>[Further details on D2L]</i> Weight: 10% Due Date: November 2, 2022</p> <p>Assignment 3: Scene Presentation Assessment Method: Presentation and written component Description: Students will present their scenes, based on the in-class work as well as outside rehearsal and preparation, including script analysis to be handed in. This is the Final Project for this course <i>[Further details on D2L]</i> Weight: 20% Due Date: December 7th, 2022</p> <p>Assignment 4: Self-evaluation / journal Assessment Method: Written Description: Students will keep a log of all in-class exercises, detailing the process and their experience of the practice. <i>[further details on D2L]</i> Weight: 30% Due Date: <i>it will be collected after each presentation assignment</i></p> <p>Growth and Development: Participation, Attendance and Preparation Description: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation includes but is not limited to the power of observation when others are working and the ability and willingness to offer feedback and critical response. In addition to these assessed components the student's attendance in class will also fall under this criterion – see below for further definition of this. • Growth and Development includes an evaluation of an individual student's focus, concentration and effort in class – demonstrating concern and accountability toward the objectives and exercises presented to the group. This grade stems from an individual's demonstrated ability and is gauged on the arc of improvement throughout the entire class, but also the singular investment in the progress of the ensemble. • Preparation is connected to work outside of class in regard to learning lines and working scenes – this is your homework and research necessary to actively engage in the work of your group for projects and presentations. This includes the understanding and learning of text. • <i>Please note – cell phones, iPad and computers are not permitted in class in any form, or manner, even during breaks, unless specifically being used for research on designated projects. If a cell phone is needed during a break the student must leave the class. Any cell phones seen in class will be confiscated and returned at the end of class – this event will negatively impact the Growth – Participation – Preparation grade. Please come with a writing instrument and a journal in which to take notes.</i> Weight: 20% Due Date: Ongoing</p>
Assessment expectations	<p>Guidelines for Submitting Assignments: All written work must be submitted via the appropriate drop box on D2L. Assignments must be in the drop box by 4:00 PM on the due date.</p>

Missed or Late Assignments:

No late work will be accepted, aside from the case of extenuating circumstances that have been brought to the attention of and agreed upon by the Instructor well in advance of the due date. Grade deduction will be at the discretion of the instructor based upon the circumstances.

Expectations for Attendance and Participation

DRAM 309 is an experiential course and attendance is mandatory. Students must be in the space and prepared to begin at the scheduled start of class. Arriving as the class is beginning is unacceptable. The work is collaborative in nature and respect for everyone in the space is required.

As Acting is the revelation of the human condition, there is potential for close contact and non-invasive touch in the course work. This will be respectful and part of a dialogue, if needed, in scene work. There is potential for the Instructor to offer suggestions for physical adjustments in the work, to aid the student in advancing their personal process and understanding of the work of an actor. If the student has any questions or concerns with this, please bring this to the attention of the Instructor.

Lateness and absence, **without prior notice to the Instructor**, will be reflected in the students' Participation grade. Phone calls/texts and/or emails regarding absences or lates must be made in advance of the start of class and acceptance of excuse or reasoning is up to the discretion of the Instructor. Lateness and /or absence are not tolerated in the profession and will not be here.

Clothing that allows you to move is required. No clothing that restricts your ability to fully participate is allowed: no jeans, hats, belts, or short skirts.

A water bottle is recommended but no food is allowed in the studio [unless for medical reasons].

No outdoor shoes in the studio. Be prepared to wear indoor shoes.

No cellphone use at any time.

A notebook, pen and pencil are required for each class.

Any concerns or issues must be brought to the Instructors attention immediately. Do not muddle through, but arrange to speak with the Instructor, either in person, or through office hours, as soon as possible to seek a resolution to your concerns

By accepting an offered position in this course, students warrant that they are able and willing to handle the physical and emotional demands of the class.

Students must maintain a minimum of B- in DRAM 309 to be eligible for participation in mainstage and directing studio performances. All casting must be approved by the Division Lead. Grades falling below B- in courses may result in withdrawal from a production or project.

Expectations for Writing:

Writing skills are important to academic study across all disciplines. Consequently, instructors may use their assessment of writing quality as a factor in the evaluation of student work. Please refer to the Undergraduate Calendar E.2 Writing Across the Curriculum policy for details.

Grading scale	<div>F.1.1 Undergraduate Grading System</div> <table><tr><th>Grade</th><th>Grade Point Value</th><th>Description</th></tr><tr><td>A+</td><td>4.00</td><td>Outstanding performance</td></tr><tr><td>A</td><td>4.00</td><td>Excellent performance</td></tr><tr><td>A-</td><td>3.70</td><td>Approaching excellent performance</td></tr><tr><td>B+</td><td>3.30</td><td>Exceeding good performance</td></tr><tr><td>B</td><td>3.00</td><td>Good performance</td></tr><tr><td>B-</td><td>2.70</td><td>Approaching good performance</td></tr><tr><td>C+</td><td>2.30</td><td>Exceeding satisfactory performance</td></tr><tr><td>C</td><td>2.00</td><td>Satisfactory performance</td></tr><tr><td>C-</td><td>1.70</td><td>Approaching satisfactory performance.</td></tr><tr><td>D+</td><td>1.30</td><td>Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject</td></tr><tr><td>D</td><td>1.00</td><td>Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject The Faculty of Law utilizes a "D" grade that does not carry weight in calculating the average. This will be noted in the calendar description as "Not Included in GPA"</td></tr><tr><td>F</td><td>0.00</td><td>Failure. Did not meet course requirements. Several Faculties utilize an F grade that does not carry weight in calculating the average. This will be noted in the calendar description as "Not Included in GPA"</td></tr><tr><td>CG</td><td></td><td>Credit Granted. Not included in the GPA calculation. See section F.1.3 for additional information.</td></tr><tr><td>CR</td><td></td><td>Completed Requirements. Carries no weight in calculating the grade point average. This will be noted in the calendar description as "Not Included in GPA" where applicable.</td></tr></table> <div>Notes:<ul style="list-style-type: none">A grade of "C-" or below may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation, see specific faculty regulations.The number of "D" and "D+" grades acceptable for credit is subject to specific undergraduate promotional policy.The following numerical rubric will be applied to arrive at the letter grade: A+ 100 – 97 A 96 – 93 A- 92 – 90 B+ 89 – 86 B 85 – 83 B- 82 – 80 C+ 79 – 76 C 75 – 73 C- 72 – 70 D+ 69 – 65 D 64 – 60 F < 60</div>	Grade	Grade Point Value	Description	A+	4.00	Outstanding performance	A	4.00	Excellent performance	A-	3.70	Approaching excellent performance	B+	3.30	Exceeding good performance	B	3.00	Good performance	B-	2.70	Approaching good performance	C+	2.30	Exceeding satisfactory performance	C	2.00	Satisfactory performance	C-	1.70	Approaching satisfactory performance.	D+	1.30	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject	D	1.00	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject The Faculty of Law utilizes a "D" grade that does not carry weight in calculating the average. This will be noted in the calendar description as "Not Included in GPA"	F	0.00	Failure. Did not meet course requirements. Several Faculties utilize an F grade that does not carry weight in calculating the average. This will be noted in the calendar description as "Not Included in GPA"	CG		Credit Granted. Not included in the GPA calculation. See section F.1.3 for additional information.	CR		Completed Requirements. Carries no weight in calculating the grade point average. This will be noted in the calendar description as "Not Included in GPA" where applicable.
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Academic Accommodation	<p>It is the student’s responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The Student Accommodations policy is available at https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations.</p> <p>Students needing an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Accommodation-for-Students-with-Disabilities-Procedure.pdf).</p> <p>Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfill requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.</p> <p>SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/.</p>																																													
Academic integrity, plagiarism	<p>Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student’s academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor’s expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.</p>																																													

	<p>For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit: https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Academic-Misconduct-Policy.pdf and https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Academic-Misconduct-Procedure.pdf. Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity.</p>
Internet and electronic communication device	<p>The use of laptop and mobile devices is acceptable when used in a manner appropriate to the course and classroom activities. Please refrain from accessing websites and resources that may be distracting to you or for other learners during class time. Students are responsible for being aware of the University's Internet and email use policy, which can be found at https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Electronic-Resources-and-Information-Policy.pdf.</p>
Intellectual Property	<p>Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.</p>
Copyright	<p>All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Material-Protected-by-Copyright-Policy.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html.</p>
Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy	<p>Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.</p>
Student Support	<p>Please visit this link for important information on UCalgary's student wellness and safety resources: https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines</p>
Arts Students' Centre Program Advising:	<p>Have a question but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in the Faculty of Arts. Call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at ascarts@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.</p>
Faculty of Graduate Studies:	<p>For graduate studies email: graduate@ucalgary.ca or call 403 220 4938. Visit the Faculty of Graduate Studies for more details: https://grad.ucalgary.ca/</p>