

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY FACULTY OF ARTS

SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS

Course Number and Title: Drama 412 – Advanced Acting II

Session: Winter 2022

Instructor	Peter Balkwill
Office	CHD06
Email	peter.balkwill@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours	Mon/Wed 12:00 – 12:45 or through zoom by appointment
Day(s), time(s) and	Monday/Wednesday 9:00 – 11:50
location of Class	D015
Learning resources:	No required text. Additional material to be distributed by instructor.
required readings,	The required text. Additional material to be distributed by mistractor.
textbooks and materials	
Learning Technologies	There is a D2L site for this course which contains required readings and other
and Requirements	relevant class resources and materials (see d2L.ucalgary.ca).
and Requirements	relevant class resources and materials (see uzt.ucalgary.ca).
	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:
	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.
	Most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker and microphone.
Prerequisites	Drama 409 and consent of the department lead.
Course description	Intermediate practice of contemporary and stylized performance and acting
	techniques, in addition to personal practice associated with strong physical
	presence. Introduction to mask and puppetry with an emphasis on clarity of
	physical storytelling working within the silent narrative.
Course learning	By the completion of this course, successful students will be able to:
outcomes	1. Demonstrate an introductory ability to perform dramatic moments through the
	use of mask and or puppetry.
	2. Identify the journey of dramatic tension within stories and enhance said tension
	through the application of physical tension in performance.
	3. Create dynamic characters through physical exploration.
	4. Understand the relationship of mask to puppetry.
	5. Script action within the silent narrative.
	6. Create short wordless performances in collaboration with other students.
	7. Perform self-created work in the professional setting of the Festival of Animated
	Objects in Calgary, Alberta in March 2022.
	8. Operate a hinged-jaw hand puppet with a basic understanding of operating
	through syllables as well as the use of monitor for clarity in camera work.

Course schedule

Note: The following is a breakdown of units explored which are further articulated in Assessment components – as this class deals with the creation of original material some units will take longer than others with unpredictable developments, thus due-dates will be determined through the journey of the class, and agreed to with appropriate time allotted for success by practicing students. Dates will be listed to indicate the pace of the class. Unit 2 and 3 below will be executed through the application of mask and puppetry.

Unit 1: [Ongoing throughout the semester] Specialized warm-up. Isolation of the physical regions of the body with an emphasis on control, balance and flexibility.

Unit 2: (January – February) Employing Physical Tension in Performance: Extending from the warm-up an exploration of how tension applied to different body parts aids in the expression of dramatic tension within performance – creating clarity within the silent narrative.

Unit 3: (March – April) Creation of Short Wordless Stories: Utilizing components from previous units' students will create short textless performances with mask and puppets.

Assessment components

Assignment 1: Study of Dramatic Tension #1

Assessment Method: Presentation/Written

Value: 20%

Due Date: January 31st, 2022

Description: Students will create a short wordless story of a character engaged in a struggle that results in triumph. Presentations will happen through the application of mask and will run with an accompanying sound track supplied by the instructor. In addition to the presentation students will be required to hand in a written script of the action – due on the day of presentation handed in by email in a word document attachment.

Assignment 2: Study of Dramatic Tension #2 Assessment Method: Presentation/Written

Value: 20%

Due Date: February 16, 2022

Description: Students will create a short wordless story of a character engaged in a struggle that results in defeat. Presentations will happen through the application of mask and or puppetry and will run with an accompanying sound track supplied by the instructor. In addition to the presentation students will be required to hand in a written script of the action – due on the day of presentation handed in by

email in a word document attachment.

Assignment 3: Clarity Within Silent Narrative Assessment Method: Presentation/Written

Value: 30%

Due Date: March 28th, 2022

Description: Working in pairs students will create a short wordless story that involves two characters. Presentations will happen through the application of mask and or puppetry and will run with an accompanying sound track supplied by the students. In addition to the presentation students will be required to hand in a written script of the action – due on the day of presentation handed in by email in a word document attachment. The results of this investigation will be presented as part of the International Festival of Animated Objects in Calgary.

<u>Assignment 4</u>: Puppetry in Camera Assessment Method: Presentation

Value: 10%

Due Date: April 6th, 2022

Description: Students will present a short piece of text memorized by the performer and delivered by a hinged-jaw hand puppet, on camera.

Assignment 5: Participation – Growth – Preparation

Assessment Method: Connected to in-class activities – observatory in nature.

Value: 20%

Due Date: On going

Description: 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 scene work preparation – meeting off-book deadlines – this is your homework.

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 Assessment Expectations for more information.

Appropriate Clothing

Much of the work in this class is physical in nature therefore proper *neutral* movement cloths are required, no dresses or skirts. Please wear clothes that allow for flexibility in movement, being on the floor, dress in layers as the work will make you heat up and cool off intermittently. Make sure to have a pair of socks at every class, as well as indoor shoes.

Digital Technology

Please note – cell phones, iPad and computers are not permitted in class in any form, or manner, even during breaks, unless otherwise stated. If a cell phone is needed during a break the student must leave the class to engage with it. 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.

Assessment expectations

Guidelines for Submitting Assignments:

See expectations for writing. All written assignments must be handed in on the due date emailed to the instructor in Microsoft word document form attached directly to the email (not in the form of a link to external sites) – no PDFs will be accepted and will be regarded as not handed in.

Missed or Late Assignments:

As per Drama policy any late work will be downgraded one letter grade for every day late. That is, work that would be graded at an A will receive an F after six days late.

The above policy sits within the discretion of the instructor and is open to discussion with the students but sits as a general policy and will be employed if there is no advance notice of need for an extension.

Attendance and Participation Expectations:

The growth of students both individual and collective is directly connected to attendance – attendance is mandatory. Without prior notice to the instructor, lateness or absence will negatively impact the participation and growth grade. Prior notice should be in the form of a message to the office of the instructor or through email – it cannot come after the missed class. The class starts on time and is indicated when the door is closed, any student arriving after this point will be counted "late" and shall be noted and reflected negatively in "Growth and Participation".

Acceptance of all excuses is at the discretion of the instructor; prior notice does not always guarantee lenient impact – doctor's notes will be helpful for any illness that extends into two classes.

Students will be expected to participate in the public presentation of the work at the Festival of Animated Objects – one additional tech rehearsal will be scheduled as well as the public performance date (dates TBD) All students will receive two complimentary tickets to use as they see fit. Any conflict or COVID related issue will be dealt with at the discretion of the instructor and shall not impact the student's final grade.

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

For the course as a whole, letter grades should be understood as follows, as outlined in section F.1.Grading System and Transcripts of the Calendar: https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1.html.

A+ 100 - 96 A 95 - 92 A- 91 - 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

Grade	Grade Point Value	Description
A+	4.00	Outstanding performance
Α	4.00	Excellent performance
A-	3.70	Approaching excellent performance
B+	3.30	Exceeding good performance
В	3.00	Good performance

B-	2.70	Approaching good performance	
C+	2.30	Exceeding satisfactory performance	
С	2.00	Satisfactory performance	
C-	1.70	Approaching satisfactory performance.	
*D+	1.30	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subje	ct
*D	1.00	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject	t.
F	0.00	Failure. Did not meet course requirements. Several Faculties utilize an F grade that does not carry weight in calculating the grade point average. This will be noted in the calendar description as "Not Included in GPA" where applicable.	
**	0.00	Incomplete. Sufficient work has not been submitted for evaluation, unable to adequately assess. May also be used when a final exam is not submitted.	
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	

- 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 faculty promotional policy.

Guidelines for Zoom Sessions

Zoom is a video conferencing program that will allow us to meet at specific times for a "live" video conference, so that we can have the opportunity to meet each other virtually and discuss relevant course topics as a learning community.

To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share the Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor's permission.

The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith, and respect (as per the Code of Conduct). When entering Zoom or other video conferencing sessions (such as MS Teams), you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment. Please be mindful of how your behavior in these sessions may affect others. Participants are required to use names officially associated with their UCID (legal or preferred names listed in the Student Centre) when engaging in these activities. Instructors/moderators can remove those whose names do not appear on class rosters. Non-compliance may be investigated under relevant University of Calgary conduct policies (e.g. Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy). If participants have difficulties complying with this requirement, they should email the instructor of the class explaining why, so the instructor may consider whether to grant an exception, and on what terms. For more information on how to get the most out of your zoom sessions visit: https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/.

If you are unable to attend a Zoom session, please contact your instructor to arrange an alternative activity for the missed session (e.g., to review a recorded session). Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in Zoom sessions. Students will be advised by their instructor when they are expected to turn on their webcam (for group work, presentations, etc.).

The instructor may record online Zoom class sessions for the purposes of supporting student learning in this class – such as making the recording available for review of the

	session or for students who miss a session. Students will be advised before the instructor
	initiates a recording of a Zoom session. These recordings will be used to support student
	learning only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.
Academic Accommodation	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.
	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).
	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
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	should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.
	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 <u>www.ucalgary.ca/access/</u> .
Academic integrity,	Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of
plagiarism	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.
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	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-
	<u>Procedure.pdf</u> . Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website
	at https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity .
Internet and electronic	The use of laptop and mobile devices is acceptable when used in a manner appropriate to
communication device	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.
Intellectual Property	Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs,
intellectual Froperty	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.
Copyright	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 unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions
	of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this
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	policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy
	https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html.
Freedom of Information and	Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom
Protection of Privacy	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.

Student Support	Please visit this link for important information on UCalgary's student wellness and safety
	resources: https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines