

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY FACULTY OF ARTS

SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS Drama 418.02 A/B Physical Practice for Performance II Fall 2022 / Winter 2023

Instructor	Peter Balkwill
Office	CHD06
Email	peter.balkwill@ucalgary.ca
Office Hours	Tuesday by zoom 1:30 – 3:00, or in office Monday 12:00 – 2:00, or by appointment
Day(s),time(s) and	Friday, 9:00 – 10:15
location of Class	CHF 101 – Mathews Theatre
Learning resources:	Reading materials will be provided or recommended by the Instructor and
required readings,	available through the Library or on D2L. A notebook and pencil are required for
textbooks and materials	this class. Please invest in a personal yoga mat if you require one for stretching
	sessions.
	Please see appropriate clothing – special socks may need to be purchased by each
	student.
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).
Prerequisites	Drama 309/310 and 318 A/B, or permission by the Drama Division Lead
Course description	Development of physical presence on stage in association to contemporary and
	classical performance. Exploring physical readiness for live performance. This
	course explores the physical and mental development of the actor in relationship
	to the nature of repetitive training for the purpose of performance.
Course learning	By the completion of this course, successful students will be able to:
outcomes	1. Discover and articulate a strong understanding of the performer's individual
	identity within a physical ensemble, as well as their relationship and connection to
	the energy of this group.
	2. Utilize an introductory understanding of the movement training modalities of Tadashi Suzuki with comprehension on how these relate to the nature of live
	performance.
	3. Demonstrate an authentic and truthful state of presence in live performance.
	4. Employ a range of methodologies for the integration of body, breath, text and
	environment in the physical acting process.
	5. Articulate and demonstrate balance and weight upon the stage.
	6. Demonstrate an understanding of the importance of flexibility within the
	physical frame of the actor.
	7. Develop a strong sense of focus and concentration to the end of performance as
	well as rehearsal and creation work.
	8. Articulate an understanding of importance of repetition in rehearsal and the
	nature of physical training required to develop the body and mind in preparation
	for live performance.
Course schedule	Note to course schedule: The following demonstrates a broad arc through the two
	semesters of this single class. Due to the nature of the physical practice of live
	performance, and the varied rate at which the collective ensemble will mature in

their ability to execute precision in the work, certain units may be extended or shortened. Please see all updates to the proposed schedule posted on D2L.

Fall Semester 2022

Unit 1: (September – October) Warm up and investigation of physical endurance and flexibility. Breakdown of the basic foundational forms of Suzuki walks. Introduction of Slow Ten, Walking Blues – Grid, Soaring, Clump.

Unit 2: (October – November) Introduction and development of partner exercises. Continued practice of basic exercises. Introduction of Shakuhatchi, Hamlet and Ophelia, Statues, Oh Splendour. View Points and Skinner Releasing

Unit 3: (November – December) Introduction of props and story in advanced exercises, Stretched, Sitting Statues. Initiation of group work.

Winter Semester 2023:

Unit 1: (January / February) Deepening skill development within previous exercises. The Station. Introduction of outside text. Scripts brought in to enhance group work development and choreography.

Unit 2: (February / March) Continued exploration of repetition in training. Group work developed.

Unit 3: (April) A combining of smaller projects into a collective whole – the movement pieces of the explored script as well as choreography will be brought together to discover the greater story which will culminate into a final presentation in the last class.

Assessment components

<u>Assignment 1</u>: Training (Suzuki influenced modalities)

Assessment Method: Physical demonstration

Description: An in-depth study and physical investigation of the training modalities of Tadashi Suzuki. This training will continue through the arc of the entire year and will assessed at different points within the practice. Students will be graded on their level of focus demonstrated throughout the length of each specific class with an emphasis on their attention to detail in regards to the physical form, focus and outside practice – additional training sessions will be available to those needing extra help.

Weight: 40% Due Dates:

November 4th, 2022 – 10% December 2nd, 2022 – 10% February 3rd, 2023 – 10% April 3rd, 2023 – 10%

Assignment 2: Personal Reflection and Observations I

Assessment Method: Written

Description: Students will be required to record their progress and observations of the work in an in-class journal. Based on feed-back throughout the semester (both to the student and to other students in class) and from their personal journal each individual will have to offer a 500-word, personal assessment of their work in the class, as well as an articulated understanding of the practice and how it relates to their pursuit of live performance. Please see additional information on the hand-in requirements posted on D2L.

Weight: 5%

Due Date: December 2, 2022

<u>Assignment 3:</u> Participation – Growth – Preparation – Fall Semester

Assessment Method: Physical execution

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 fall semester, but also the singular investment and care in the progress of the ensemble - this component will be further explained in class.

Preparation is connected to the student's readiness for the work at hand, a demonstrated effort and practice outside of class as well as being present at the start of class.

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.

Weight: 10%

Due Date: Ongoing throughout the Fall Semester

Assignment 4: Movement Creation and Scripting Physical Action

Assessment Method: Physical Execution/Written

Description: Utilizing the various physical investigation modalities explored in class students (in groups) will create a movement-based interpretation of a song. The work will distill what the group decides is integral to the arc of the dramatic tension and presents a clear depiction of story. Each student will hand in a script of the physical action.

Weight: 20% - please see assignment sheet posted on D2L for breakdown of

assessment and criteria for written work.

Due Date: Friday March 31, 2023

Assignment 5: Personal Reflection and Observations II

Assessment Method: Written – Essay format

Description: See description of Assignment 2. Students will be required to draft a second personal reflection which will be tied to questions posed throughout the year. This reflection should articulate a development of growth from the previously assigned reflection, and should also expand on a deepening arc of understanding to the relevance of this training and its application in the pursuit of live performance.

Weight: 10% - please see assignment sheet posted on D2L for breakdown of assessment and criteria for written work.

Due Date: December 2, 2022

Assignment 6: Participation - Growth - Preparation - Winter Semester

Assessment Method: Physical execution

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 fall semester, but also the singular investment and care in the progress of the ensemble - this component will be further explained in class.

Preparation is connected to the student's readiness for the work at hand, a demonstrated effort and practice outside of class as well as being present at the start of class.

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.

Weight: 15%

Due Date: Ongoing throughout the Winter Semester

Assessment expectations

Guidelines for Submitting Assignments:

See expectations for writing.

Missed or Late Assignments:

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. This policy is at 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.

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. 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.

Attendance and Participation Expectations: Please see Participation, Growth and Preparation noted under assessment components. Students will be required to sign in at the top of class and the door will be closed at the start of class – after the 15-minute warm up the door will be reopened for late students. Students who arrive after the warm up will have to sign in at the end of class and will be noted as late. 3 – late arrivals will count as one absence. As the work in this class is based on the physical execution of the material it is imperative that you are in class to participate, therefore lateness and absence will have a negative impact on your final grade. It is up to the student to check in with classmates to obtain the material missed in class.

It is recognized that life may create situations where a class is missed, or a person is late (even the instructor may experience such situations), but patterns of missed classes or late arrivals are easily determined and will be addressed as such in negative impacts to final grades.

Appropriate Clothing

All of the work in this class is physical in nature therefore proper *neutral* movement clothes 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.

<u>Formal training attire:</u> In respect to formal nature of this training all students are required to purchase a pair of grey wool socks with an iconic white band and red stripe at the top. These socks will be considered the formal uniform of training and must be worn for every class.

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.

Grading scale

Undergraduate: https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-1.html

- 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.

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

Graduate: https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-2.html

 All grades of "C+" or lower are indicative of failure at the graduate level and cannot be counted toward Faculty of Graduate Studies course requirements.
 Individual programs may require a higher passing grade.

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 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 www.ucalgary.ca/access/.

Academic integrity, plagiarism

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism;

Internet and electronic communication device	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. 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. 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.
Intellectual Property	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.
Copyright	All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (https://ems/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 policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html .
Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy	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.
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
Arts Students' Centre Program Advising:	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.
Faculty of Graduate Studies:	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/