# UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
## FACULTY OF ARTS
## SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS
### DRAM 509 Advanced Acting III
### Fall 2021

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| Instructor<br>Office<br>Email<br>Office Hours | Kunji Ikeda and Linda Kee<br>D004 & D215<br><br>By Appointment |
| Day(s),time(s) and location of Class | Classes will be in person and follow all current COVID Protocols<br>D015 Craigie Hall (basement)<br>M 1pm-3:50pm<br>W 1pm-3:50pm |
| Out of class activities | • Out of class rehearsals are a requirement of the course.<br>• Attendance of performances of: *Cantata, The Bus Stop* |
| Learning resources: required readings, textbooks and materials | **RECOMMENDED READING (Not required)**<br>On-Camera Module:<br>*The Intent to Live: Achieving Your True Potential as An Actor* - Larry Moss<br>*Yes Please* - Amy Poehler<br>*The Measure of A Man: A Spiritual Biography* - Sidney Poitier<br>*On Acting* - Sanford Meisner<br>*Year of Yes* - Shonda Rhimes<br><br>Solo Show Module:<br>*The Big Secret Book* - Denise Clarke<br>*Story* - Robert McKee<br>*Letters to a Young Poet* - Rainer Maria Rilke<br>*Free Play* - Stephen Nachmanovitch<br><br>**MASKS ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL STUDIO EXERCISES AND REHEARSALS.** |
| Learning Technologies and Requirements | There is a D2L site for this course which contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials (see d2L.ucalgary.ca). |
| Prerequisites | Drama 400 Acting, Voice and Movement or permission from Division Lead |
| Course description | **Intro to on-camera technique & creation of the solo show:**<br>Drama 500 is the culmination of a series of advanced acting courses in drama. Students engage in the integration and embodiment of creative and technical resources while acquiring methodologies for advanced research in performance practice. The focus on individual skills in these modules will be balanced by attention to selected collaborative practice. This course will be strongly orientated toward professional performance technique including on-camera work and the creation of original solo work. Outside class rehearsals and performances are requirements for this course. |
| Course learning outcomes | By the completion of this course, successful students will be able to:<br>• Display development of agency and integration of acting techniques at an advanced level both as individual artists and collaborating members of an ensemble.<br>• Demonstrate and employ a range of techniques and strategies for |

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| | exploring on-camera performance. |
| | • Demonstrate an understanding of the basics of self-producing and web-series work for the actor and its role in the Canadian context for the self-employed artist |
| | • Employ a range of research methodologies for creation of original performance as well as the interpretation of texts/prompts that address character and the environment to illuminate the acting process. |
| | • Demonstrate skillfulness in the application of body, breath, and other techniques that add to the fulfillment of the actor's craft |
| | • Master expectations for both personal and shared rehearsal, including generation of devised material for solo work as well as the interpretation of texts representing a range of styles and modes |
| | • Practice strategies for reflection and self-assessment that support artistic practice. |
| Course schedule | Specific Assignment Deadlines to be presented on Day One of each Module |
| Assessment components | **Unit 1: Intro to On-Camera & the Pitch**<br>Value 30%<br>This module offers students the skills to approach a given scene with the understanding of performance, story, character, relationship, and technical skills to do on-camera auditioning and acting on-set, and an introduction into creating and pitching their own independent film as content-creators.<br>Project #1: **Presentation of set of Scenes/Mock Auditions**: 20% (2 to 3 sets for the duration of the course)<br>Finding Freedom and Authenticity for the Actor - Engagement and implementation of these skills (10%)<br>Deciphering of SIDES - story arc, beats, character development, relationships, environment, tone and style of project (5%)<br>Technical considerations of working on camera, and auditioning (5%)<br>Project #2: **One Sheet - Pitch for a Web-Series or Short Film 10%**<br>Clarity of concept, synopsis, target audience and demographic<br>Team Building and Collaboration<br><br>**Unit 2: Solo Show**<br>Value 70%<br>**Idea Development / Presentation** 10%<br>This written document will outline a performance structure within the first third of our time together. Idea Development will include thematic considerations, stylistic choices, and a 'long-list' of potential ideas that will help form the Solo Performance. These ideas will be presented verbally to the class and should be justifiable within a student's chosen theme.<br>**Material Development / Presentation** 15%<br>Material development will give (at least) two opportunities to perform and present the development of ideas to the class in the middle third of our time together. These development opportunities may include spoken monologue/dialogue, physical development ideas, or interactive trials. Each presentation will be accompanied by a written document that outlines the intent of the presentation (beforehand) and a reflection of the presentation (afterwards).<br>**Outside Eye Observation** 10%<br>Each student will be assigned to serve as a dramaturgical support for the Idea and Material Development of one other student. In this written document, students will offer feedback and reflections for one of their classmates. This feedback will |

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| | draw on ideas of Critical Response Process (formalized by Liz Lerman) with the intention of being respectful, additive offerings. This element is pivotal in understanding the construction of performances from another artistic angle.<br><br>**Final Showing** 20%   December 10<sup>th</sup> as part of the Performance Marathon<br>An artistic presentation of the material created throughout the semester. Students should be able to demonstrate ideas, formulas, and techniques described in class in a clearly organized, artistic manner. Final Showings should only use technical elements that can be run by the performer - without outside technical assistance. A more detailed breakdown of the Final Showing will be presented during the term.<br><br>**Growth / Participation** 15%<br>Participation will include logistics such as arriving on time, and being focused and present during class time, but will also encompass the less tangible elements of bravery, fortitude, and resilience. Students will be expected to demonstrate safe practices for themselves and their classmates and are encouraged to express their needs throughout this class. Students will self-assess their work, effort and growth throughout the class through a written reflection (1500-3000 words). |
| Assessment expectations | **Guidelines for Submitting Assignment**<br>Assignment deadlines will be established and communicated on Day 1 of the module.<br>**Criteria That Must Be Met to Pass**<br>All units and components must be completed in order to receive a pass for this course. Should a student be unable to complete a unit due to personal circumstances, these must be discussed with the Instructor.<br>**Expectations for Writing**<br>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.<br>**Missed Units or Required Components**<br>All units and components must be completed in order to receive a pass for this course. Should a student be unable to complete a unit due to personal circumstances, these must be discussed with the instructor<br>**Expectations for Attendance and Participation**:<br>This course is developmental, experiential and collaborative in nature and therefore attendance is mandatory. Without **prior notice** to the instructor, lateness or absence will negatively impact the participation grade. When the absence affects a collaborative process, the **deduction will increase**. Please inform the instructor of any extenuating circumstances or legitimate excuses prior to the class. If for a medical emergency, the student must be late or absent from class, they MUST ADVISE THE INSTRUCTOR BY EMAIL OR PHONE CALL well before the start of class. Acceptance of all excuses is at the discretion of the instructor. Tardiness indicates a lack of respect for all concerned and is highly unprofessional.<br>**Late Assignments**<br>Realistic deadlines will be agreed upon between the student and instructor.  Each student will also be allowed 3 free late days (24 hour period) which they can use through the course without penalty. After those days have been used, deductions will be applied as follows: Late written assignments will be subject to a 10% per-day-past-deadline penalty. Late performance presentations will be discussed on a case-by-case basis between the student and the instructor. |

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| 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.<br>• A grade of "C-" or below may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation, see specific faculty regulations.<br>• The number of "D" and "D+" grades acceptable for credit is subject to specific undergraduate faculty promotional policy. |
| Guidelines for Zoom Sessions | There may be occasion during the term that the class will be held over Zoom. 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.<br><br>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.<br><br>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 behaviour 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/ .<br><br>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.).<br><br>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. |

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| | 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; 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.<br><br>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. |
| Internet and electronic communication device | 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://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. |

| 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. |
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| 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 |