

ACTING III: GENERAL

Fall/Winter, 2015/16
MWF 9:30 am-11:20pm
Room 2T05

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course further develops the work of THFM-2101 Acting Theory and Practice and endeavours to provide a practical understanding of the principles common to a variety of Western based Theatre techniques. Students will engage in remedial exercises to encourage a full-range of physical and emotional expression and will also undertake a detailed and practical examination of the actor's intellectual, sensual, emotional and imaginative resources as they apply to the development of character, scene work, and the world of the play.

Topics to be covered include:

- the nature of Ensemble
- Mask and Improvisation
- taking direction
- analyzing the script
- developing character arc or progression
- bringing truth to the work
- using the environment
- accessing emotion
- harnessing imagination to enrich the performance
- embodying the character and the scene
- understanding style
- working with the director/fellow actors
- understanding process and protocol

During both terms students will be required to take part in continuous, ongoing exercises and rehearsals with classmates outside of class time. This requirement will involve a minimum of four hours per week preparatory work outside of class and rehearsal will be conducted in accordance with the discipline and responsibility appropriate to the profession of the actor.

Written work will be used to solidify students' knowledge and understanding of the actor's technique. To this end, students will maintain a project folder for each assignment articulating the student's process and personal reflections. The folders will be submitted on a regular basis and constitute 10% of the grade for each assignment.

PREPARATION AND PROTOCOL

The standards of the profession are expected in terms of discipline and commitment. This means that everyone must arrive on time (which means early) and be prepared mentally, emotionally, and physically to begin work immediately.

Teacher and students are responsible for a creative, supportive, and protective atmosphere in order to best serve the work. While the work in class may be exciting at times, students are reminded that respect for the work, fellow students, and the instructor is always expected. Socializing before and after classes or rehearsals and performances is part of the actor's etiquette, but quiet, listening, focus, and attention during classes, rehearsals, and presentations are absolutely necessary. Students unable to comply will be asked to withdraw from the course. Students must support and help their colleagues with constructive criticism. The unity, creativity, and health of the class are more important than any antagonism, personal

or artistic differences, temperaments, and idiosyncrasies. Students are strongly encouraged to speak with the instructor immediately if any concerns arise about activities or climate associated with the class.

There is no food allowed in the classroom. Beverages are allowed (water, coffee, tea, juice). Students are required to keep the room clean and put away all props/rehearsal items used.

FINAL PROJECT

The Final Project will involve a public presentation. All students must be available for some additional evening rehearsals and rehearsals scheduled outside of normal class time. **These rehearsals are compulsory.** A schedule will be provided before the end of the Fall Term.

TEXT

TEAM FOR ACTORS: A Holistic Approach to Embodied Acting

Author Laura Bond

ISBN-13: 978-1-4792800-6-3

ISBN-10: 1-4792800-6-2

EVALUATION

Fall

Reading Response Team For Actors.....	5%
Ensemble Exercises and Neutral Mask	5%
Monologue.....	10%
First Scene (Naturalism)	15%

Total Fall.....	35%

Winter

Studio Participation and Professional	5%
Improvisation	10%
Character mask.....	5%
Second Scene (Style)	20%
Final Presentation	25%

Total Winter.....	65%

Total Fall and Winter..... 100%

CONVERSION SCALE

For the calculation of the final grade the following conversion table will be used:

A+	90 – 100%	GPA	4.5	C+	65 – 69.9%	GPA	2.5
A	85 – 89.9%	GPA	4.25	C	60 – 64.9%	GPA	2.0
A-	80 – 84.9%	GPA	4.0	D	50 – 59.9%	GPA	1.0
B+	75 – 79.9%	GPA	3.5	F	below 50%	GPA	0
B	70 – 74.9%	GPA	3.0				

Work not submitted will be graded as 0%.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (subject to change)

Please Note: The schedule as presented indicates a progression for the introduction of subject matter. In practice material may be introduced with more overlap and certain material may be revisited throughout the year.

Fall Term:

Unit 1 *Sept. 9 to Oct. 9, 2015*

Introduction
Assign Reading Response TEAM For Actors
Ensemble Exercises
Neutral Mask Presentation

Thanksgiving OCT. 12, 2015 - University closed (Make-up class on Dec. 2)

Unit 2 *Oct. 14 to Nov. 13, 2015*

Monologues Presentations With Tom Soares
Reading Response TEAM For Actors Chapters 1 -3

Remembrance Day Nov.11 - University closed (Make-up class on Dec. 3)

Unit 3 *Nov. 16 to Dec. 3, 2015*

Introduction to Improvisation And Character Mask
First Scene - Selection, Rehearsal and Presentation
Reading Response TEAM For Actors Chapters 4 and 5

Dec. 3, 2015 Lectures End for 2015 Fall Term

TBA First Scene Presentations

Winter Term:

Unit 4 *Jan. 6, 2016 to Feb. 12, 2016*

Character Mask Presentation
Improvisation Presentation
Second Scene - Selection, Rehearsal and Presentation
Presentation: Scene 2

Feb. 15-21 Reading Week: No classes

Unit 5. *Feb. 22, 2016 - Apr.5, 2016*

Final Project Rehearsals
Final Project Presentation Date TBA

Good Friday, March 25, 2016 University closed (Make up class- on April 5, 2015)

April 5, 2016 Lectures End for the 2016 Winter Term

ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT

This class involves physical, cognitive, and/or vocal demands. Those with challenges in these areas must seek departmental guidance PRIOR to registration: 204-786-9955 or theatre@uwinnipeg.ca.

ATTENDANCE AND LATENESS (for 2nd- through 4th-year Performance classes)

Given that this is a practical studio course, extensive participation and professionalism are required. As a result, punctuality and attendance at class and in out-of-class rehearsals are of the utmost importance. Unexcused absences from lecture, lab, or rehearsal will be penalized at a rate of 2% per instance. Unexcused lateness for lecture, lab, or rehearsal will be penalized at a rate of 1% per instance. Attendance and punctuality will be recorded at the beginning of every class. After a **THIRD** late or absence, the instructor will schedule a meeting with the student to discuss withdrawal from the course. After a **FIFTH** unexcused absence the student will be required to meet with the Chair of the department to discuss withdrawal from the course.

In performance courses in which cast and rehearse a show, unexcused lateness and absence will not be tolerated and may result in the recasting of your role after **ONE** incident.

Excused absences or lates require a medical note or prior arrangement with the instructor. It is at the instructor's discretion whether or not to excuse a non-medical absence. After **FIVE** excused absences the student will be required to meet with the Instructor to discuss whether it is realistic for him/her to continue in the course.

Given the rigorous, practical nature of studio courses, and the demands these courses make in terms of attendance and punctuality, students with chronic medical conditions that will require extensive absence should meet with the instructor at the beginning of the term to discuss whether the course is appropriate for them.

"THE REAL THING" LECTURE SERIES

The Department of Theatre and Film is presenting a series of six lectures which will be held on Wednesdays (except where noted) during the free period (12:30-13:20) in Theatre 1T15. Please note the dates in your diary **NOW: FRIDAY** Sept 18, Oct 21, **FRIDAY** Nov 13, Jan 13, Feb 10, Mar 9. This series will feature speakers from a range of areas in the performing arts: technical, performance, design, management, film, directing, playwrighting, etc. These speakers will specifically address issues related to "the business of the business."

Attendance at **ALL** lectures is **MANDATORY** for **ALL Honours students in Theatre (4000-level courses, all areas), as well as students in: THFM-3101 Acting III: General, THFM-3110 Screen Acting; THFM-3201 Styles in Design, THFM-3801 Production II, and THFM-3920 Musical Theatre.** Two percent (2%) of the student's final grade in the core course (above) will be deducted **for each lecture missed** to a maximum of ten percent (10%). Please arrange your schedule **NOW** so that you are available for these lectures; attendance will be taken. **If you absolutely cannot attend, you must discuss this with your professor PRIOR to the event (don't call Patty).**

Attendance for potential Theatre Honours/majors and for Film majors is optional but highly recommended.

NOTES FOR PERFORMANCE COURSES

Rehearsals for final presentations and public exercises are scheduled well in advance; students must arrange their university and work schedules so as not to conflict with them. Students must attend **ALL** scheduled rehearsals.

Any student who repeatedly misses rehearsals, comes late, or fails to rehearse adequately will be asked to withdraw from the course.

As many of our classes are physical in nature, students are asked to wear comfortable clothing.

Outdoor footwear **must be removed** before entering **ANY** of the Studios: **0T09** (Concourse Studio), **0T19** (Mime Lab), **1T15** (Theatre), **2T05** (2nd Floor Studio), **2T15** (Movement Studio). We suggest you bring suitable dance shoes or slippers to wear in class. Your professors will monitor and enforce this regulation in order to preserve the integrity of the special flooring in these rooms. Please respect this rule.

Student actors, like professionals, are expected to provide their own basic makeup supplies where required for public exercises. Due to the potential for the transmission of skin diseases it is not recommended that students share makeup.

Senior acting students scheduled to perform in a departmental public exercise are asked not to modify their hair colour or style without first checking with the instructor/director.

Students who bring props, costumes, or furnishings to support scene presentations please note:

- the University will **NOT** be responsible for the loss of any such materials;
- students are responsible for the **IMMEDIATE** removal of such materials after **EACH** use – the department does not provide storage;
- materials not claimed **WILL BE DISPOSED OF** at the student's expense. Grades may be withheld until such costs are recovered;
- students **MUST NOT** move existing furnishings from their current locations.

2015 ORIENTATION ASSEMBLY

Each year in September we hold an *Orientation Assembly* to welcome students to the new term, introduce our new students to faculty and other students; to provide information about the department, its various activities and those of its professors; and to provide news about what's coming up. This year our *Orientation Assembly* will be held on **Wednesday, September 16, 2015, 12:30-13:20 in Theatre, 1T15. ATTENDANCE IS COMPULSORY** for all Majors and Honours students. Those considering Honours are strongly recommended to attend. All others are welcome and encouraged to attend.

BUILDING SECURITY

The Asper Centre for Theatre and Film (home to the Department of Theatre and Film) is open from 8:00 am and 5:30 pm weekdays only. Students are permitted to be in the building between 8:00 am and 10:00 pm seven days per week (except statutory holidays when the University is closed) **BUT PLEASE NOTE:** outside of regular building hours, it is **MANDATORY** that everyone in the building **EITHER** carry an access card **OR** have a booking confirmation form in their possession (hard copy or electronic). **ALL EVENING STUDENTS in the building for classes MUST have an access card.** If a Security Guard checks and you do not have proper accreditation, **you may be evicted.**

These rules are in place to protect our students and our equipment; please respect them.

ELECTRONIC COURSE OUTLINE ADDENDA

Students must check our website at <http://theatre.uwinnipeg.ca/tbooking.htm> and read the menu items called *Fire Safety Instructions in the Asper Centre for Theatre and Film*, *Access Card/Building Use Policy* **AND** *Room Booking Instructions*. The link to the electronic *Online Room Booking Form* is also found at this location. Please read and note all instructions carefully.

GENERAL NOTES

This course outline should be considered a guideline only. Time constraints and other unforeseen factors may require that some topics be omitted or covered in less detail than indicated.

Archival records such as videotapes, sound recordings, and photographs may be made or taken during class or lab times. The University uses such materials primarily for archival, promotional, and teaching purposes. Promotional use may include display at open houses or conferences, or use in advertising, publicity, or brochures. In reading and accepting the terms in this course outline, students acknowledge consent for such use by the University. Should a student not wish to convey such consent, s/he should withdraw from this course immediately.

Cellular phones **MUST** be turned off during classes and examinations; texting is **NOT** permitted in class.

Any student attending a test or final examination may be required to present proof of identity; photo identification is preferred.

It is the student's responsibility to retain a photocopy or computer disk copy of **ALL** assignments submitted for grading; in the event of loss or theft, a duplicate copy is required.

Students with documented disabilities, temporary or chronic medical conditions requiring academic accommodations for tests/exams (e.g., private space) or during lectures/laboratories (e.g., note-takers) are encouraged to contact Accessibility Services (AS) at 204-786-9771 or <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/accessibility> to discuss appropriate options. All information about a student's disability or medical condition remains confidential.

Students are strongly advised to read the section of the *University of Winnipeg Calendar* (found on-line at <http://uwinnipeg.ca/new-faculty-handbook/appeals-and-academic-misconduct.html>) for information on Academic Misconduct including plagiarism, and Appeals.

Students facing a charge of academic or non-academic misconduct may choose to contact the University of Winnipeg Student's Association (UWSA) where a student advocate will be available to answer any questions about the process, help with building a case, and ensure students have access to support. For more information or to schedule an appointment, visit our website at <http://www.theuwsa.ca/academic-advocacy> or call 204-786-9780.

We ask that you please be respectful of the needs of classmates and instructors/professors by avoiding the use of unnecessary scented products while attending lectures. Exposure to scented products can trigger serious health reactions in persons with asthma, allergies, migraines or chemical sensitivities. Please consider using unscented necessary products and avoiding unnecessary products that are scented (e.g. perfume).

Students who plan to conduct research interviews, focus groups, surveys, or any other method of collecting data from any person, even a family member, must obtain the approval of the appropriate ethics committee before commencing data collection. Exceptions are research activities in class as a learning exercise. See <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/research/human-ethics.html> for submission requirements and deadlines.

All students, faculty and staff have the right to participate, learn and work in an environment that is free of harassment and discrimination. The UW Respectful Working and Learning Environment Policy may be found online at www.uwinnipeg.ca/respect.

Students may choose not to attend classes or write examinations on holy days of their religion, but they must notify their instructors at least two weeks in advance. Instructors will then provide opportunity for students to make up work examinations without penalty. A list of religious holidays can be found at <http://uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/important-notes.pdf>

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20, 2016 is the final date to withdraw without academic penalty from courses which begin on September 9, 2015 and end on April 5, 2016 (2015/6 Fall/Winter Term).

STUDENT PARTICIPATION POLICY

Theatre is a communal art form in which a number of interdependent artists and crafts people co-operate to create a work of art. This fact is necessarily transferred to the learning situation, and is reflected in many of the Department's courses. Consequently, it is the Department's policy that students are required to: complete homework such as reading, line-learning, script analysis, prop lists, design drawings, etc.; attend classes; attend rehearsals both within and outside of class times; and, in short, to exhibit commitment towards the inevitably shared endeavours of our field of study.

Any student failing to fulfil these requirements is harmful to the progress of dedicated students and may, after due warning, be asked to withdraw from any individual Departmental course.

COURSE CONTENT NOTE

All Theatre and Film Classes

Dramatic Literature depicts a wide variety of human action, both elevated and base, public and private, physical and psychological, sexual and non-sexual, etc. The Department of Theatre and Film will not undertake to censor the subject matter of dramatic works.

Students who have concerns about dealing with the full range of content and style in drama/film are urged to discuss these concerns with the course instructor.

Performance-Related Classes

Much of an actor's work is based upon actual experiences of life which become translated into fictional circumstances. Because of this, the teaching of acting may involve encouraging the student to examine personal and even intimate areas of life to help him or her access life experiences appropriate to the demands of the work.

Dramatic literature depicts a wide range of human actions, both elevated and base, public and private, physical and psychological, sexual and non-sexual, etc. Acting students must learn to simulate life truthfully in interaction with other students in the safety of the acting class and the rehearsal hall through exercises, discussions, and directions which address rather than avoid truthful, particularized, personalized action.

Performance classes often require strenuous physical activity. Classes may also involve physical interaction between students as part of class exercises or character development and occasional physical contact by instructors for purposes such as the demonstration of a technique or to make a posture correction. Students are responsible for wearing clothing appropriate to these activities.

Students who have concerns about dealing with the full range of actions and subject matter involved in drama are urged to discuss these concerns with their course instructor.