

THFM-4131/8-001

ACTING III: HONOURS

Fall/Winter, 2018/19
MWF Afternoon
Room: OT19
15:30-17:15pm
TBA - Public Exercise

Acting Instructor: Shelagh Carter
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Office Hours: By appointment

Production Director: Shelagh Carter
TBA on possible second director

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The program of studies for Acting III: Honours will consist of the following:

1. Three hours a week voice workshop throughout the session.
2. Five hours a week of general acting workshops and scene work in the first, second, and fourth quarters of the session.
3. Full participation in rehearsals and presentation of a full-length play (or possibly two one-act plays) in the third quarter, to be staged as a public exercise in February.
4. Preparatory work outside of class and rehearsals, to be conducted in accordance with the discipline and with responsibility appropriate to the profession of the actor. Students should be prepared to allot 5-10 hours to the course outside of class time on a weekly basis.
5. Continuation of a program of reading in the literature of acting to gain insight into the problems encountered in the practical work of the course and invaluable for self discovery and advancement.
6. Assumption of responsibility for one's own advancement in insight and technique, including keeping personal notes on homework and critiques offered, and keeping a journal to make that assumption more coherent and effective. The journal is reviewed in meetings with the instructor. It may also be used for the students' script analysis work developed during scene work and continued with the Public Exercise.
7. Preparation of the painting project (Winter term) and a final small assignment based on *Acting: The First Six Lessons*, by Richard Boleslavsky (Winter term). The painting project is a practical, creative acting exercise involving the actor's craft and imagination. It will require choosing a painting, creating the monologue of a character in the painting, creating the background, and choosing props and costumes as necessary.

TEXTS

Acting: The First Six Lessons, by Richard Boleslavsky
A Dream of Passion: The Development of the Method, by Lee Strasberg
Actions: The Actors' Thesaurus, by M. Caldarone & M. Lloyd-Williams

Recommended:

The Intent to Live: Achieving Your True Potential as An Actor, by Larry Moss

All students are required to supply their own **exercise mat** and **to bring it to each class**. Comfortable clothing, which is appropriate to the physicality of an acting class, is required for relaxation work on floors and chairs. Outdoor footwear must be removed before entering the classroom. We suggest you bring suitable dance shoes or slippers to wear in class.

Please note:

The Instructor will hand out a further bibliography in the literature of acting as the year progresses. Students are responsible for finding their own scene and monologue material; however, an overall list of suggestions will be supplied. The Instructor will also assign material as necessary for the individual actor's instrument needs.

EVALUATION

Mark distribution will be as follows:

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Practical Work, First Quarter..... | 5% |
| Practical Work, Second Quarter | 15% |
| First-Term Scene Presentation (week of November 19 th , 18) | 15% |
| Practical Work, Third Quarter * | 25% |
| Practical Work, Fourth Quarter, including 'painting project' presentation (week of March 24 th , 08)..... | 25% |
| Script Analysis (Journal work / Honours Show) | 10% |
| Small Assignment (class presentation week of March 18 th , 19) | 5% |
| | ----- |
| TOTAL | <u>100%</u> |

* Practical work in the Third Quarter involves the preparation for, the rehearsal of, and the presentation of the chosen play. The evaluation of the work will take into account the student's application of effective rehearsal technique, their script analysis work, and the execution of a successful performance. Although the full rehearsal and performance period will be taken into account, emphasis will be on student performance in the Public Exercise itself, as observed at dress rehearsal and the play's run.

Constituent Grades and Final Grade will be reported in authorized letter grades: A+, A, A-, B+, B, C+, C, D, F.

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.

Late assignments will be penalized at the rate of 2% per day (weekends excluded). For example, a grade of 70% (on an assignment worth 30% of the course) which is one week late would become: 70% B (5 x 2%) = 672% = 222 out of 30.

DEFINITIONS OF GRADING DESCRIPTIONS

A+ Exceptional. Thorough knowledge of concepts and/or techniques and exceptional skill **AND** great originality in the use of those concepts/techniques in satisfying the requirements of an assignment or course.

A Superior. Thorough knowledge of concepts and/or techniques and exceptional skill **OR** great originality in the use of those concepts/techniques in satisfying the requirements of an assignment or course.

A- Excellent. Thorough knowledge of concepts and/or techniques together with a high degree of skill and/or some elements of originality in satisfying the requirements of an assignment or course.

B+ Very Good. Thorough knowledge of concepts and/or techniques together with a fairly high degree of skill in the use of those concepts/techniques in satisfying the requirements of an assignment or course.

B Good. Good level of knowledge of concepts and/or techniques together with considerable skill in using them to satisfy the requirements of an assignment or course.

C+ Competent. Acceptable level of knowledge of concepts and/or techniques together with considerable skill in using them to satisfy the requirements of an assignment or course.

C Fairly Competent. Acceptable level of knowledge of concepts and/or techniques together with some skill in using them to satisfy the requirements of an assignment or course.

D Barely Passing. Minimum knowledge of concepts and/or techniques needed to satisfy the requirements of an assignment or course.

F Failing.

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.

PROTOCOL

After the class has started no one may enter the room. The door reopens during the break.

Teacher and students are responsible for a creative, supportive and protective atmosphere in order to best serve the work. Students must accept artistic individualities 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.

Any student, who repeatedly misses rehearsals, comes late, or fails to rehearse adequately may be asked to withdraw from the course. This includes all classes and out of class rehearsals. This provision has been established to protect the educational interests of scene partners and other classmates. Professional conduct is expected. Frequent absenteeism, lateness, or failure to meet reasonable standards of responsible behaviour in relation to classmates and instructors will not be tolerated. Attendance will be taken. This is part of the final grade. If you are to be absent, you must notify the instructor. Grades for practical work will be affected for anyone missing more than three classes per term.

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. Marks will be adversely affected by destructive behaviour of university property.

Students must clear all personal property (props, costumes, makeup, etc.) from the assigned prop closet by the end of the winter term. This also applies to any term projects that take place in the Theatre Building (public exercise, painting projects); personal property must be removed within 24 hours of completion of your assignments. This is in order to accommodate the other classes that use this space. Anything left **will be discarded** and the University assumes no responsibility for such items.

Work submitted for evaluation must be either typed or text processed.

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 at out-of-class rehearsals are of the utmost importance. Unexcused absences from lectures, labs, or rehearsals will be penalized at a rate of 2% per instance. Unexcused lateness for lectures, labs, or rehearsals 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 casts 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 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 during the free period (12:30-13:20) in Theatre 1T15. Please note the dates in your diary **NOW**: Sept 19th (Donna-Michelle St. Bernard, playwright and arts administrator), Oct 17th, Nov 14th, Jan 16th, Feb 27th, Mar 13th. This series will feature speakers from a range of areas in the performing arts: technical, performance, design, management, film, directing, playwriting, 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-3201 Styles in Design, and THFM-3801 Production II**. Penalties for absence may be assigned by individual instructors.

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 (see Attendance note, above).

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.**

HEALTH AND ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

Life happens to everyone. If you are experiencing a crisis in your life, or if you have a physical or mental health issue, communicate with your Professor or Accessibility Services – let us know so we can provide support or direct you to those who can. The earlier we know, the earlier we can discuss what resources might be available. Students with documented disabilities, or temporary or chronic medical conditions requiring academic accommodations for tests/exams/presentations (e.g., private space or more time) or during lectures/labs (e.g., note-takers) are encouraged to contact Accessibility Services (AS) at 204-786-9771 or accessibilityservices@uwinnipeg.ca to discuss appropriate options. All information about a student's disability or medical condition remains confidential. If you are registered with Accessibility Services, do not assume that Accessibility Services (AS) has informed your instructor that you have registered with them. <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/accessibility>

2018 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; provide information about the department, its various activities and those of its professors; and deliver news about what's coming up. This year our *Orientation Assembly* will be held on **Monday, September 10, 2018, 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.

TAFSA

All students enrolled in at least one theatre or film class are automatically members of TAFSA, the Theatre and Film Students' Association, which plans a number of exciting activities each academic year. We are looking forward to regular **Performance Jams** and **Socials** as well as **DioFest** (a new play festival featuring student written and produced plays), and the very popular **24/7 Event** during which students move into our building and several plays are written, rehearsed, produced, and presented – all in a period of 24 hours! Please join TAFSA to find out more at its organizational meeting, tentatively scheduled for Mon Sept 17, 12:30-1:20 pm, Room OT10. This is a great opportunity for students to connect with other like-minded people and a way to get involved in the department events.

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://uwinnipeg.ca/theatre-film> 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 are strongly advised to read the sections 8, 9, and 10 of the *Academic Calendar* for information on Academic Misconduct including plagiarism, and Appeals, (found on-line at: <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/regulationsandpolicies.pdf>).

Students conducting research interviews, focus groups, surveys, or any other method of collecting data from any person, including 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>

When it is necessary to cancel a class due to exceptional circumstances, instructors will make every effort to inform students via uwinnipeg email (and/or using the preferred form of communication, as designated by the instructor), as well as the Departmental Assistant and Chair/Dean so that class cancellation forms can be posted outside classrooms. ***Students are reminded that they have a responsibility to regularly check their uwinnipeg e-mail addresses to ensure timely receipt of correspondence from the university and/or their course instructors.***

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2019 is the final date to withdraw without academic penalty from courses which begin September 4, 2018 and end April 5, 2019 (2018-19 Fall/Winter Term).

Please note that withdrawing before the VW date does not necessarily result in a fee refund.

SCHEDULE

Daily schedule is TBA.

During the third quarter (January until Mid-Term Break) you will be in production for your "public exercise." The show will be presented at the Asper Theatre (ACTF). During this quarter you will be rehearsing on MWF from 13:30 until 23:00 and on TR from 19:00-23:00. **You will NOT be able to do outside work (part-time jobs) during this period.** You should not be enrolled in other courses with evening classes at this time (THFM.2401/HIST 2190 Theatre History I is fine). Please consider this point very carefully; other departments have been very gracious in the past about students missing a lot of class time, however you will no longer be able to do this.

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.