THFM-4131-001 (8 credit hours)

ACTING III: HONOURS

Fall/Winter, 2019-2020 Instructor: Hope McIntyre MWF 15:30 to 17:15 Office: 4T05

Plus public exercise (performance & rehearsal) Phone: 786-9957

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Office Hours: by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This is an advanced course which offers a study of acting style and technique as they relate to the interpretation of plays within the modern period and within certain well-defined genres. In addition to regular classes and labs, students participate in the rehearsal and performance of one full-length production presented as a public exercise and lab sessions designed to prepare them for the associated challenges of this production.

Classes will consist of lectures, group discussions, practical exercises, projects, and workshop sessions focusing on application. The course begins with Students reviewing the fundamentals of the art and craft of the performer. From there more advanced concepts will be used to challenge the student and their technique as an actor. Application of what is being learned will occur with scenes in the first term, as well as focused ensemble work. Second term will begin with a focus on preparing for the public performance. Based on the results of this work, the final portion of the course will explore identified gaps and training needs. Students will be required to keep a continuing rehearsal journal for the duration of the course to track their own progress and discovery.

Specifically, 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 and a quarter 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 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. Regular readings related to theatre and acting to gain insight into the practical work of the course, as well as allowing for valuable self-discovery and advancement.
- 6. Assumption of responsibility for one's own advancement in technique, including keeping personal notes on homework, insights and critiques offered, and keeping a journal to process discoveries.
- 7. Preparation of smaller assignments to put in to practice concepts of acting being explored in the course.

TEXTS

TEAM for Actors: A Holistic Approach to Embodied Acting by Laura Bond Actions: The Actors' Thesaurus by M. Caldarone & M. Lloyd-Williams Acting and Reacting: Tools for the Modern Actor by Nick Moseley

Students may also be required to purchase additional scripts to support scene or project work later in the year. Further reading may also be assigned to support each individual student's needs. As well, students will be encouraged to attend performances as part of this course.

Students are required to bring a notebook and pencil to all classes and rehearsals.

MARK DISTRIBUTION OVERVIEW

Practical Work, First Quarter	10%
Vocal Masque (September 23) 5%	
Participation 5%	
Scripted Scene (November 6/8)	15%
Pass/Fail – Rehearsal with Instructor	
Pass/Fail – First Pass	
Pass/Fail – Peer Evaluation	
Practical Work, Second Quarter	10%
Ensemble Presentation #1 (December 2) 5%	
Participation 5%	
Practical Work, Third Quarter	25%
Rehearsal Process – 15%	
Performance – 10%	
Practical Work, Fourth Quarter	20%
Ensemble Presentation #2 (March 16) 15%	
Participation 5%	
Script Analysis (Journal work / Honours Show)	10%
Small Assignment (Character Portrait class presentation March 27/30)	10%
TOTAL	100%

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Participation: Work done in class will be evaluated on the student's level of commitment, presence and willingness to explore in daily exercises and assignments. Ability to apply instruction, demonstrate preparedness, pursue creative and original choices, along with constructive interest in the development and support of the ensemble of actors (professionalism) will be factors in grading.

Vocal Masque: This laboratory exercise will be focused on exploring use of text and evaluated based on extensiveness of research, application of research, inventiveness, and thoroughness of presentation.

Ensemble Presentation #1: This first group exercise is intended to focus on working together, learning to be responsive and present in the moment. Students are expected to be prepared, rehearsed, making offers, and participating fully within the group context.

Scripted Scene: Evaluation will include:

- Are you playing action, i.e. is your character doing something to the other character(s)?
 (Specificity)
- Is your character interacting impulsively with the other character(s) moment to moment?
- Is your character reacting with a point of view and an attitude? (Vulnerability)
- Does the character have a logical "through line" where required?
- Are you meeting particular demands of the script? For example: special language requirements and special style requirements
- Is there sufficient commitment to the action and circumstances to make the scene believable and emotional as opposed to merely intellectual? (Impulse)
- Are the numerous shifts in action occurring clearly?
- Is there progression in the scene, i.e. does something change?
- Is the tension (leading to conflict) strong and clear?
- Can we hear you comfortably? Is the voice grounded and supporting expression?
- Are the stakes sufficiently high to make the scene exciting?
- Is the physical world in which the scene takes place used to strengthen the action?
- Are the actor's voice, body, and inner impulse in harmony? (Unity)
- Is the actor using her/his body effectively to carry the action of the scene? (Physical character, blocking and physicalization of action)

Regarding Pass/Fail: The scene performance assignment includes pass/fail components. This component is a necessary part of the process. If the student fails any one of these components it will result in a 10% reduction in the final grade for the scene assignment.

- Scene Rehearsal with Instructor: prepared, collaborative/engaged in process, making offers and not just waiting for direction.
- Scene First Pass in class: prepared, rehearsed, off-book, initial blocking in place.
- Peer evaluation: on time, present, prepared and participating fully during rehearsals outside of class.

Public Exercise: 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. The full rehearsal and performance period will be taken into account, not just the performance in the Public Exercise itself.

Rehearsal Grade: For the Public Exercise 60% of the mark will be for the rehearsal and preparation component. Evaluation will be based on:

- application of acting technique fundamentals
- development of the embodied character
- preparation and meeting targets within the outlined rehearsal process
- meeting particular demands of the script
- focus, commitment, effort
- risk-taking

- initiative, coming to rehearsal with offers and ideas
- collaboration, cooperation
- rigour of exploration
- application of note
- professionalism
- and joy in the work.

Performance Grade: For the Public Exercise 40% of the mark will be for the actual work observed at dress rehearsal and the play's run. Evaluation will be based on:

- overall effectiveness of performance
- continued clarity of text in performance
- growth in front of the audience
- maintenance of performance integrity
- professionalism
- risk-taking/diving into situation/relationship in front of an audience
- use of body and voice with tactical specificity/range/extremity in front of an audience
- clarity, urgency and specificity of pursuit of objective
- embracing obstacles
- continuing to maintain a moment to moment responsiveness despite repetition.

Ensemble Presentation #2: Building on the first group assignment, growth will be expected in the following areas:

- Specificity your character is clearly pursuing an action tested in the other characters.
- Reacting you are interacting impulsively in a moment to moment fashion
- Vulnerability your character has a clear point of view and is being affected by what is occurring
- Through Line there is a journey for the character throughout the exercise
- Commitment sufficient stakes and urgency as warranted by the circumstances
- Tension strong and clear presence as well as focus.

Script Analysis: Throughout the year students will be expected to be tracking character work and rehearsal process in a journal, as well as submitting a character research paper to accompany the public exercise. Evaluation will be based on effort, consistency, regular tracking of observations and discoveries, and evidence of processing information from weekly class activities.

Small Assignment: The final assignment will be a character portrait. The goal is a thorough, detailed, inventive character exploration demonstrated through visual imagery, physical embodiment, and comprehensive exploration of objectives.

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
Α	85 – 89.9%	GPA	4.25	С	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
В	70 – 74.9%	GPA	3.0				

Work not submitted will be graded as 0%

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

F Failing.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Late assignments will be penalized at the rate of 2% per day (weekends included). Extensions may be granted but only **BEFORE** the due date and with a valid reason, at the professor's discretion. Assignments are accepted in class or at the Department Office (3T03).

Work not submitted will be graded as 0.

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 personal or artistic differences.

Professional conduct is expected at all times. Frequent absenteeism, lateness, or failure to meet reasonable standards of responsible behaviour in relation to classmates and instructors will not be tolerated.

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 <u>THIRD</u> late or absence, the instructor will schedule a meeting with the student to discuss withdrawal from the course.
- After a <u>FIFTH</u> 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 <u>FIVE</u> 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.

DRESS REQUIREMENT

**All apparel must fit well, and allow for ease of movement

As many of our classes are physical in nature, students are asked to wear comfortable clothing. Outdoor footwear must be removed before entering the studio. Please observe the following guidelines:

- Pants must allow freedom of movement (i.e. sweats, tights, yoga/martial arts pants, shorts)
- No low-rise pants, overly baggy pants or street shoes or hats
- T-shirts or leotards (a fair bit of time may be spent on the ground so low-cut tops are a bad idea)
- Bare feet/dance shoes are both acceptable
- Hair should be tied back
- No jewelry that might interfere with movement or create a safety hazard
- No chewing gum

JOURNALS

The student is expected to keep a journal of the knowledge and experience that s/he acquires in class and any knowledge gained outside of class that has bearing on creative work. The entries should be of a reflective nature regarding classroom exercises, technical assignments, focused answers to specific questions, play/scene analysis, and observed discoveries about theatre, performance, and personal growth. This is also a good place to document your rehearsals and scene work that is being done outside of the classroom. This journal will be used in discussions in class and with the instructor; it will also be submitted at the end of first and second term.

SCHEDULE

Daily schedule is TBA and will be provided in class.

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 TuTh 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. 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.

The performance will run from February 11 to February 15.

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. Please see http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/accessibility. If you do not register with AS, you cannot be granted special consideration (e.g. extra time to write exams/tests, attendance issues because of physical or mental health conditions, etc.).

The University of Winnipeg promotes a scent-free environment. Please be respectful of the needs of your fellow classmates and your instructor by avoiding the use of scented products while attending lectures. Exposure to perfumes and other **scented products (such as lotion)** can trigger serious health reactions in persons with asthma, allergies, migraines or chemical sensitivities. We are asking for your cooperation to create a scent-free environment **on campus** by students, faculty and staff.

"THE REAL THING" LECTURE SERIES

The Department of Theatre and Film presents 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**:

September 18th (Yvette Nolan, playwright/director/author/arts administrator)
October 30th
November 13th
January 22nd
February 12th
March 4th

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 <u>ALL</u> lectures is <u>MANDATORY</u> for <u>ALL</u> Honours students in Theatre (4000-level courses, all areas), <u>as well as</u> 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 <u>must be removed</u> before entering <u>ANY</u> 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 <u>IMMEDIATE</u> removal of such materials after <u>EACH</u> use the department does not provide storage;
 - materials not claimed <u>WILL BE DISPOSED OF</u> at the student's expense. Grades may be withheld until such costs are recovered;
 - students MUST NOT move existing furnishings from their current locations.

2019 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 **Wednesday, September 11th, 2019, 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. Activities organized by TAFSA include regular **Performance Jams, Department parties** and **Socials** as well as **DioFest** (a new play festival featuring student written and produced plays), and **24/7** (an event in 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 16th, 12:30-13:20 pm, Room 0T10. This is a great opportunity for students to connect with other likeminded 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 to 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.

All studios and labs are locked outside of building hours. Evening and weekend access can be added to your student card by visiting Melinda in the Department office, 3T03.

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 <u>MUST</u> be turned off during classes and examinations; texting is <u>NOT</u> 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 <u>ALL</u> assignments submitted for grading; in the event of loss or theft, a duplicate copy is required.
- 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.
- 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).
- Detailed information regarding these policies can be found at the following:
 - Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedures: https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-analysis/docs/policies/academic-misconduct-procedures.pdf
 - Non-Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedures: https://www.uwinnipeg.ca/institutional-analysis/docs/student-non-academic-misconduct-procedures.pdf
- Misuse of Filesharing Sites. Uploading essays and other assignments to essay vendor or trader sites (filesharing sites that are known providers of essays for use by others who submit them to instructors as their own work) involves "aiding and abetting" plagiarism. Students who do this can be charged with Academic Misconduct.
- Avoiding Copyright Violation. Course materials are owned by the instructor who developed them. Examples of such materials are course outlines, assignment descriptions, lecture notes, test questions, and presentation slides. Students who upload these materials to filesharing sites, or in any other way share these materials with others outside the class without prior permission of the instructor/presenter, are in violation of copyright law and University policy. Students must also seek prior permission of the instructor /presenter before photographing or recording slides, presentations, lectures, and notes on the board.
- 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

VOLUNTARY WITHDRAWAL DATES (all courses)

The voluntary withdrawal dates for each term, without academic penalty, are:

- **FALL TERM COURSES:** November 12, 2019 for Fall courses which begin September 2019 and end December 2019
- FALL/WINTER TERM COURSES: February 14, 2020, for Fall/Winter courses which begin September 2019 and end April 2020
- WINTER TERM COURSES: March 13, 2020, for Winter courses which begin January 2020 and end April 2020

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

STUDENT PARTICIPATION POLICY & COURSE CONTENT NOTE

Theatre is a communal art form in which a number of interdependent artists and crafts people cooperate 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

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.

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.

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.