

TPP2100 ACTING FOR NON-MAJORS SPRING 2016
University of Florida/College of Fine Arts/School of Theatre & Dance

Instructor: Chelsi Stancil
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Office Location: McCarty C, 3rd Floor **Room** 306
Office Hours- Wednesdays 1:00p-2:00p
Section: 4134
Period: 8 / **MWF Time:** 3:00p-3:50p
Location: Constans Theatre **Room:** G012

COURSE CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION:

The discipline and the creative process of acting: formal and improvisational techniques for developing vocal, physical, and analytical skills.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- * Students will demonstrate competence in the terminology, concepts, methodologies, and theories used within the discipline of acting.
- * Students will communicate knowledge, ideas, and reasoning, clearly and effectively, in written and oral forms appropriate to the discipline of acting.
- * Students will analyze information carefully and logically from multiple perspectives, using acting-specific methods and develop thoroughly reasoned solutions to problems.

COURSE CONTENT:

- * Students will participate in exercises and activities during class designed to develop the skills and vocabulary required for acting performance; work is expected to continue on specific skills outside of class and for any readings, etc.
- * Students will present performance pieces for the class and are expected to have rehearsed and prepared each piece thoroughly outside of class; there will be in-class discovery work, one workshop of each piece, and a final performance for each piece; selected performance pieces include: one monologue, selected by the student, approved by the instructor and one scene, selected by the instructor.
- * Students will prepare written analysis work accompanying each piece, used to strengthen performance and understanding of methodologies and theories.
- * Students will be required to complete short writing assignments to show comprehension of the subject matter.
- * Students will write two performance critique papers to demonstrate knowledge of the subject material.
- * Students will prepare a warm-up for the class on a selected date.
- * Students will keep a binder with syllabus, class handouts, daily notes, performance pieces, etc., which may be examined throughout the term.

REQUIRED MATERIALS/TEXTS:

- * Binder containing syllabus, class handouts, presentation pieces, notes, etc.

- * Appropriate writing utensils: pencils, pens, highlighters, etc.
- * Access to internet, email and Canvas for class information, updates, grades, and correspondence.
- * Water bottle (recommended) to keep vocal apparatus and body hydrated.
- * Appropriate apparel for class includes clothing and shoes to move in easily.
- * There is no required text for this course. There will be assigned readings and handouts for which students will be responsible. Students will be responsible for either buying or borrowing the scripts from which their dramatic scenes are chosen. All class material must come from published plays and be approved by the instructor.

CRITICAL DATES:

January 11: Syllabus Contract due
 January 13: Reflection Paper #1 due
 February 10: *Spill* critique due, *Spill* quiz
 March 30: *Honky* critique due, *Honky* quiz
 March 30: Concepts/vocabulary quiz
 April 13: *The House of Atreus* critique due, *The House of Atreus* quiz
 April 15: Reflection Paper #2 due

REQUIRED VIEWING:

Students are required to see the Spring semester productions of *Spill* at the UF Constans Theatre and *Honky* at the UF Blackbox Theatre. Students must complete a critique for each production, criteria for which will be posted on Canvas. Papers are due the Wednesday after the show closes. There will also be a quiz with questions related to each production, so please provide your full attention to the show. The Spring UF dates are:

Jan 29 – Feb 7	<i>Spill</i> – UF Constans Theatre
Mar 18 – Mar 26	<i>Honky</i> – Black Box Theatre
Apr 1 – Apr 10	<i>The House of Atreus</i> – Constans Theatre

Ticket vouchers will be provided for the shows, but the student is responsible for paying handling fees. Vouchers must be brought to the O’Connell Center Box Office/University Box Office to be exchanged for tickets. It is the responsibility of the students to find the exact dates and times for the productions and to select the night they wish to attend. Missed productions without a *verifiable excuse* will not be given a chance to make up the lost points.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Attendance will be taken daily at the beginning of each class. Due to the participatory nature of this course, attendance is MANDATORY. Students are expected to be in class on time and ready to work. Two unexcused absences are allowed. Upon the third unexcused absence, a deduction of 20 points will be reduced from the final attendance grade, and 20 points will be deducted for each additional absence thereafter. Please use these absences wisely, since absolutely NO exceptions will be made for unexcused absences. There are NO make-up assignments for any unexcused

absences.

A total of five unexcused absences will result in automatic failure of the course.

The ONLY excused absences allowed are religious holidays, medical emergencies (accompanied by a doctor's note on letterhead) and mandatory school requirements (which must be approved by the instructor and a letter from the appropriate authority must be provided at least one week ahead of time). Failure to provide the appropriate documentation at least one week before an excused absence will result in an unexcused absence. Students must provide any missed assignments the following class period for an excused absence. Missed workshops or performances with an excused absence will be made up the following class period.

In addition, two tardies will be allowed. Upon the third tardy, 10 points will be deducted from the final attendance grade and 10 points for each additional tardy thereafter. Please note, it is the student's responsibility to notify the instructor after class of any late arrival, otherwise the student will receive an absence for the day.

Please be respectful to not enter the room while another student is performing. Participation can only be evaluated if the student is in class, on time.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS:

No late or make-up assignments will be accepted without an excused absence.

DRESS CODE:

Dress appropriately for an acting class. Wear comfortable clothes and shoes that allow you to move with ease. Flip flops are not acceptable. On final performance days, appropriate professional attire or costume are required.

WORKSHOP DAYS:

Students are required to provide the following for workshops:

- Partially memorized lines (students may call for line, but not carry the script)
- All set pieces/props described in the Character Analysis

PERFORMANCE DAYS:

Students are required to provide the following for performances:

- Full memorized lines (no calling for line)
- All set pieces/props described in the Character Analysis
- Character Analysis

CREATIVE PROJECTS:

Through the semester there will be two creative projects, to be completed in groups. The dates of these projects are flexible, but students will be given no less than two weeks to complete each project.

EXTRA CREDIT:

In addition to the required productions, each student may attend ONE additional performance

and write an extra credit critique. The show must be approved with the instructor first. These performances can include, but are not limited to, productions at the Hippodrome State Theatre, Florida Players, Across Town Rep, Gainesville Community Playhouse, and Phillips Center for the Performing Arts or any other acting performances that you may be interested in. The same guidelines for the required critiques apply to the extra credit critique.

EVALUATION & GRADING BREAKDOWN

Class Participation	40
Attendance	100
Reflection Paper #1	20
Reflection Paper #2	20
Concepts Quiz	100
<i>Spill</i> Quiz	10
<i>Spill</i> Critique	50
<i>Honky</i> Quiz	10
<i>Honky</i> Critique	50
<i>The House of Atreus</i> Quiz	10
<i>The House of Atreus</i> Critique	50
Monologue Character Analysis	50
Monologue Scored Script	30
Monologue Final Performance	100
Scene #1 Character Analysis	50
Scene #1 Scored Script	30
Scene #1 Final Performance	100
Scene #2 Character Analysis	50
Scene #2 Scored Script	30
Scene #2 Final Performance	100
Total 1,000 points	

*Participation is based upon the student's willingness to partake in all activities and warm-ups. A consistent display of apathy towards class content, cell phone usage, and disruptive behavior will result in a lower participation grade. If a student is not prepared or is absent (without proper excuse) on their assigned Warm-up Day, their Participation grade will drop 20 points.

Grading Scale:

A	=	930-1000
A-	=	900-929
B+	=	870-899
B	=	830-869
B-	=	800-829
C+	=	770-799
C	=	730-769
C-	=	700-729
D+	=	670-699

D = 650-669
D- = below 650

CLASS DECORUM & CONDUCT:

When students are not working they must give full attention to those who are working. Cell phones must be turned off or silenced before class begins. All notes will be hand-written. There is ZERO TOLERANCE for cell phone use, lap top use, electronic devices, sleeping, eating, drinking anything but water, reading, working on other homework, disruptive talking etc. The instructor will exercise the right to remove any student from class who violates these policies and to deduct the appropriate amount of points from the participation grade.

All student views must be respected. It is conceivable that some material chosen for class work could be objectionable to some members of the class. Though no material should be blatantly perverse or offensive, it would be foolish to presume that all students feel the same on all issues. Be considerate when choosing material and when providing feedback. Listen with an open mind. This has nothing to do with freedom of speech – it is about common courtesy and each student must respect the cultures, lifestyles and individual choices for their fellow classmates.

This class is of an exploratory and experimental nature. Exercises require full participation and often a sense of humor and a sense of “play”. In order to foster a trusting and creative environment, respect of the instructor and of fellow students is essential. If there are any questions or reservations, please contact the instructor immediately.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:

As a result of completing the registration form at the University of Florida, every student has signed the following statement:

“I understand that the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the University.”

The instructor of this course fully supports the intent of the above statement and will not tolerate academic dishonesty. The members of the University of Florida Community pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity. If a student cheats on a test or quiz, or plagiarizes material (ie. using someone else's words or ideas without attribution), they will automatically receive a failing grade in this class. Ignorance of the definition of plagiarism or the absence of intent to deceive does not constitute an acceptable defense in matters of scholarly dishonesty. Student guidelines for ethical behavior can be found at: <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/students.html>. Student Conduct Code is available at: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/studentguide/>.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS:

Students requesting classroom accommodations must first register with the Dean of Students Office at 352-392-1261. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student, who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. If a student has a disability documented with the Disability Resource Center and wishes to discuss accommodations, please inform the instructor. If a student has a learning disability that has not been documented, contact the DRC at 352.392.8565 or accessuf@dso.ufl.edu. Counseling services are available at UF at 352-392-1575 or www.counsel.ufl.edu.

SYLLABUS NOTE:

This syllabus is subject to change at the instructor's discretion. It is the student's responsibility to make note of any changes discussed and be familiar with the current syllabus at all times.

I have carefully read over the TPP2100 - Acting for non-Majors for Spring 2016 Syllabus. I AGREE to all the rules and regulations of the class as outlined in this syllabus.

Please return this form to your instructor. This form serves as a contract between student and instructor.

PRINT NAME: _____

UF ID# _____

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____
