

**TPP 2110 – Acting 1: Instrument and Discipline**  
University of Florida / College of the Arts / School of Theatre & Dance

Section: 06F9

Period: MWF 9 (4:05-4:55)

Room: CON G014

Instructor: Amanda Hayter

Email: amandahayter@ufl.edu

Office Hours: T/Th 1-1:50pm or by appointment.

Office Location: McCarty C Level 3 (room 306)

Acting 1: Instrument and Discipline is the foundation for all performance majors and students seeking entrance into the program. This course introduces basic physical, vocal and analytical concepts; methods; vocabulary; and discipline required of the beginning actor. Students will explore the creative process through exercises in observation and awareness.

**COURSE OBJECTIVE:**

- To establish a common vocabulary that serves as a foundation for the entire acting sequence
- To increase observational skills and develop self-awareness through exercise and improvisation
- To develop in the student an understanding of the discipline of the art and to refine concentration skills necessary within that discipline
- To introduce the student to the basic methods of relaxation as well as physical and vocal freedom and control
- To develop in the student a sense of the ensemble nature of the discipline through exercise in trust and communication

**REQUIRED MATERIALS:**

- Binder containing syllabus, class handouts, presentation pieces, notes, etc.
- Appropriate writing utensils: pencils, pens, highlighters, etc.
- Journal for notes, discoveries, realizations, personal thoughts, etc.
- Access to internet, email and Canvas for class information, updates, grades, and correspondence
- Water bottle (recommended) to keep vocal apparatus and body hydrated

**REQUIRED TEXT:**

An Actor's Work. Stanislavski, Konstantine. trans. Benedetti, Jean.

Published plays and reference materials, both of which may be obtained from the campus libraries, will be utilized by the student in class. Handouts may be distributed as well.

## **COURSE CONTENT:**

Through the use of exercises, both structured and unstructured, the student will explore the basic skills of acting, which include: a repertoire of relaxation and warm-up exercises from which to build upon for use in the study of the entire acting sequence, and the development of self-awareness, imagination, the mechanics of staging, character-process, and foundational work in script analysis.

Students will be required to memorize the general vocabulary of acting through the use of the addendum to the texts and in-class exercises and explorations. A comprehensive, written vocabulary exam will be given at the end of the semester.

Execution of the basic acting skills will be demonstrated by the student in the form of in-class performances of monologues and scene work with partners. Students are expected to be fully memorized for these performances, and will be required to submit written analysis for each performance, the content of which will vary according to the student's development of skills.

Students are required to keep a weekly journal detailing their observations regarding class work and the development of their skills. (See handout for due dates and specific journal requirements.)

## **IMPORATANT DATES:** (See course outline for all assignment dates)

Sep. 5	Labor Day—NO CLASS
Oct. 14	Homecoming—NO CLASS
Nov. 11	Veterans Day—NO CLASS
Nov. 23-27	Thanksgiving Break—NO CLASS
Dec. 7	FINAL SCENE PERFORMANCE Last Day of Class

## **REQUIRED VIEWING:**

Students are required to see all three mainstage productions at UF: *Stage Kiss* (Co-production with the Hippodrome Theatre), *The New Mrs. Tesman*, and *Spring Awakening*. Students must complete a two page, double spaced, 12-pt font, 1-in margin critique, for all three productions, with your ticket stub stapled on the BACK. The paper WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED without the staple ticket stub. Students will write about the acting choices made by the actors in the show, what was effective, what was not, general impressions about the acting, how they employed different techniques discussed in class, vocal, physical, etc. Please note a critique is different from a plot summary, report, or synopsis. The course calendar indicates the paper due dates.

## **Stage Kiss – Hippodrome State Theatre (downtown Gainesville)**

- September 2-25  
Tuesdays-Thursdays at 7pm  
Fridays at 8pm  
Saturdays at 5 & 8:30pm

Sundays at 2 & 7pm

**The New Mrs. Tesman-- Black Box Theatre (McGuire Pavilion)**

- September 23-October 2
  - Sep. 23 at 7:30pm
  - Sep. 24 at 7:30pm
  - Sep. 25 at 2:00pm
  - Sep. 27 at 7:30pm
  - Sep. 28 at 7:30pm
  - Sep. 29 at 7:30pm
  - Sep. 30 at 7:30pm
  - Oct. 1 at 7:30pm
  - Oct. 2 at 2:00pm

**Spring Awakening-- Constans Theatre (McGuire Pavilion)**

- October 28-November 6
  - Oct. 28 at 7:30pm
  - Oct. 29 at 7:30pm
  - Oct. 30 at 2:00pm
  - Nov. 1 at 7:30pm
  - Nov. 2 at 7:30pm
  - Nov. 3 at 7:30pm
  - Nov. 4 at 7:30pm
  - Nov. 5 at 7:30pm
  - Nov. 6 at 2:00pm

Ticket vouchers will be provided for the shows, but the student is responsible for paying handling fees (\$2). If the voucher is lost or stolen, it CANNOT be replaced. Tickets will be available through the O'Connell Center Box Office/University Box Office. Please arrive to the respective performance at least ten minutes early. There is no other show that can be substituted for seeing the required UF production. Lastly, turn off your phones. There is no reason to have your phone out during a show... ever.

**EXTRA CREDIT:**

In Addition to the required productions, each student may attend one additional performance and write an extra credit critique, worth a possible 25 points. 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 performance that you may be interested in. The same guidelines for the required critique apply to the extra credit critique.

**ATTENDANCE POLICY:**

Attendance will be taken daily at the beginning of class. Attendance is mandatory. You are allowed **one unexcused absence**. If more than one absence occurs, 10 percent will be deducted from your final attendance grade for each additional absence. Please use this allowed absence wisely as absolutely no exceptions will be made. In order for an absence to be excused, you must turn in the proper written documentation in a timely fashion (i.e., team travel, band, academic field trips, doctor's excuse, religious observance, etc.).

In addition to one unexcused absence, you will be allowed 2 late arrivals. Upon your 3rd late arrival, 10 percent will be deducted from your final attendance grade. (In other words, three tardy arrivals equal one absence.) Please note that it is your responsibility to notify me after class that you arrived late. If you come in late and I'm unaware, you will receive an absence for that day.

**LATE WORK:**

Missed workshops or performances with an excused absence will be made up the following class period. Late work or assignments for excused absences will not be penalized as long as it's turned in no later than one week after the original due date. Late work or assignments for unexcused absences will result in a ten percent deduction of the grade per late day, and must be turned in no later than one week after the original due date.

**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.

**EXPECTATIONS REGARDING PREPARATION:**

All final showings of monologues and scenes should include full memorization of script, costuming and set blocking. In the work sessions prior to final showings, there should be an escalating level of expectation regarding memorization/preparation.

**EVALUATION AND GRADING BREAKDOWN:**

Assignment:	Points	Percentage
Warm-up Presentation	30	3%
<i>Stage Kiss</i> Critique	50	5%
<i>The New Mrs. Tesman</i> Critique	50	5%
<i>Spring Awakening</i> Critique	50	5%
Stanislavski Papers (3)	100	10%
Vocal Scoring #1	30	3%
Character Analysis #1	30	3%
Monologue Scoring	30	3%
Final Monologue Presentation	100	10%
Vocal Scoring #2	30	3%
Character Analysis #2	30	3%
Scene Scoring	30	3%
Knock 3 Times	20	2%
Journal Entries	20	2%
Final Vocabulary Exam	100	10%
Final Scene Presentation	100	10%
Attendance	100	10%

<u>Participation</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>10%</u>
<u>Total Points</u>	<u>1000</u>	<u>100%</u>
Extra Credit Possibility	25	2.5%

Grading Scale:

A	=	93-100
A-	=	90-92
B+	=	87-89
B	=	83-86
B-	=	80-82
C+	=	77-79
C	=	73-76
C-	=	70-72
D+	=	67-69
D	=	63-66
D-	=	60-62
E	=	00-59

**CLASS DECORUM & CONDUCT:**

When students are not working they must give their full attention to those who are working. Cell phones must be turned off or silenced before class begins. All notes must be hand written. There is ZERO TOLERANCE for cell phone 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.

All students' views must be respected. It is conceivable that some material chosen for class work could be objectionable to some class members. Be considerate when choosing material and when providing feedback. Each student must respect the cultures, lifestyles, and individual choices of their 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 the other 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.”

If you cheat on a test or quiz, or plagiarize material, i.e., use someone else's words or ideas without attribution, you 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>

The Student Conduct Code is available at:

<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/studentguide/>

### **LEARNING DISABILITIES:**

If you have a disability that is documented with the Disability Resource Center and wish to discuss accommodations, please see me during office hours. If you have a learning disability that has not been documented, contact the DRC at 352 392 8565.

([accessuf@dso.ufl.edu](mailto:accessuf@dso.ufl.edu)).

### **UNIVERSITY COUNSELING SERVICES:**

3190 Radio Rd.

P.O. Box 112662

University of Florida

Gainesville, FL 32611-2662

Phone: 352-392-1575

Web: [www.counsel.ufl.edu](http://www.counsel.ufl.edu)

### **FACULTY EVALUATIONS:**

Towards the end of the semester each student must complete a faculty evaluation. You will receive an email when they become available.

### **FINAL NOTE:**

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

SYLLABUS CONTRACT: Section 06F9

Instructor: Amanda Hayter

I have carefully read over the TPP 2110 – Acting 1 Syllabus for the Fall 2016. 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 \_\_\_\_\_