

TPP 4930 Advanced Improvisation

Spring 2015

T/Th (4:05pm-6:00pm) – G15

Instructor:	Dr. Charlie Mitchell
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Office Phone:	352-273-0515
Office Hours:	Tues/Thurs 2-4 or by appointment
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COURSE OBJECTIVES

To strive for excellence in long-form improvisation. You will practice and master a number of forms culminating in a public performance at the end of the semester.

REQUIRED TEXTS

I will provide handouts.

EXPECTATIONS

In order to grow as a performer, you will be asked to take risks in games, exercises, and performances. This class is a space where you respect, support, and encourage your fellow actors. Honesty in scene work will be celebrated as well as playing at the top of your intelligence, a key concept in improv which favors smart moves over low-brow humor for its own sake.

ATTENDANCE

The only way I can measure your progress is observing your work in class -- attendance is a given. You are expected to arrive **ON TIME** and to attend **ALL** classes. ***There are no excused absences.*** If you feel you cannot make this commitment this semester, please drop the class. There is absolutely no way to make up missed class time and there is no extra credit. The attendance policy is as follows:

0-2 absences	A is possible
3 absences	B is possible
4 absences	C is possible
5 absences	Fail

If you have a logistical problem that is preventing you from arriving on time, you must let me know immediately. Three tardies will result in one absence. You are late when you are not present for roll call. Do not ask to leave class early for any reason. The answer is always no. Every three weeks I will evaluate your progress and suggest areas of improvement.

DRESS CODE & CLASS CONDUCT

Come to class prepared to move. Performing is physically demanding. Don't wear clothes you are afraid to get "mussed" or limit your mobility. Gym-like attire is recommended. During class, there is no computer use, eating, drinking, gum chewing, or cell phone use (especially texting).

PERFORMANCE ATTENDANCE

For this class, you are **REQUIRED** to see three live theatrical productions during the course of the semester and write a one-page evaluation of a performer. You can see a School of Theatre and Dance, Theatre Strike Force, or Florida Players show. If you have an alternative, you need to clear it with me first. If you do not turn in all three critiques, you will drop half a letter grade (ex. A to A-).

HONOR CODE

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 Honor Code also prohibits photo and video recording the class: "A student shall not without express authorization from the faculty member and, if required by law, from other participants, make or receive any recording, including but not limited to audio and video recordings, of any class, co-curricular meeting, organizational meeting, or meeting with a faculty member."

LEARNING DISABILITIES

If you have a disability that is documented with the Disability Resource Center and wish to discuss accommodations, please see me during my office hours. If you have a learning disability that has not been documented, contact the DRC at 352-392-8565, email accessuf@dso.ufl.edu, or go to their office at 0001 Building 0020 (Reid Hall).

AVAILABILITY

If you have something you want to discuss with me, please do not hesitate. Feel free to come to my office hours or there is a conflict with those hours, make an appointment with me.

Your ongoing enrollment is confirmation that you understand and will comply with the requirements of this course. I reserve the right to alter this syllabus if necessary.