

# TPP3124: IMPROVISATION

## Summer 2017

### TPP 3124 Improvisation

Instructor: Nick Bublitz & Kristina Johnson

Office Hours: By appointment, located 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of McCarty Hall C

Email: nbublitz@ufl.edu & kmj5100@ufl.edu

Class: Monday-Friday 10am-11:15am

Room location: CON G014

### Course Objectives:

- To develop, understand, and perform the fundamentals of Improvisation through short form games and ensemble-based group work.
- To apply Improvisation in all facets of your life.
- To enhance listening, observation, and ensemble work with your fellow classmates

### Attendance: (30% of grade)

- This class is about performance – attendance is essential. You are expected to arrive ON TIME and to attend ALL classes.
- Your attendance grade is determined in the following way:
  - 0-2 absences (A grade is still possible)
  - Any more than 2 unexcused absences your grade will drop an entire letter.
- Unexcused absences will impact your participation grade as well.
  - If you have a logistical problem that is preventing you from arriving on time, you must let me know ASAP.
- Three tardies will result in an absence.
- If you have a note from a doctor, or proof of a school sponsored event (final examination, GRE) then that absence will be excused, otherwise there are NO other excuses for an absence.

### Production Critiques: (10% of grade)

For this class, you are REQUIRED to see the Summer A production.

You will write a critique on the *acting performance* within each production no longer than 2 pages.

The paper must be in MLA format and must include a thesis statement, supporting paragraphs followed by a conclusion. All papers are due on the class following the final performance of the production, if you are absent you must email me the paper on the day or it will be late. Failure to turn in this paper will result in the loss of a half letter grade (ex. A to A-). **There is no make up.**

### Class Participation & Performance: (40% of grade)

As this class is an ensemble-based acting class, regular participation is MANDATORY.

All Handouts and Homework should be completed and ready for discussion by assigned due date.

Not everyone is experienced in Improv, and that's fine. My expectations going forward is to dive in and immerse yourself in the challenges and opportunities this course will provide you. Challenging yourself to be better than you were the day before is a good place to start.

**Final Performance: (20% of grade)**

The culmination of your work over the semester will take shape in a final Short-Form Improv set.

More information will be provided as the course progresses

**Canvas**

Grades, additional readings, and paper/project guidelines will be posted on the class website in Canvas. Log on to <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/> (no "www"), click the button that reads "LOG IN TO E-LEARNING," and then enter your Gatorlink username and password. This course should appear if you are officially registered. If you require assistance, start with the UF Computing Help Desk at <http://helpdesk.ufl.edu/>. I cannot add students to Canvas

**Dress Code:**

Warm-ups and improv scene work can be physically demanding. Wear comfortable clothes that allow easy movement. No open-toed shoes or flip-flops are allowed. Ladies be sure to avoid dresses or skirts that will hinder your abilities to perform in class.

**Class Conduct:**

Classes of this size and nature demand a mutual respect to function positively. There is no eating, drinking (except water), gum chewing, cell phone use (including texting), or disruptive talking in class. (Phones should be put away at all times unless there is an emergency that you have informed me about).

**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." If you 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.

**Disabilities:**

To request disability accommodations, please contact and register with the Dean of Students Office. After initial arrangements are made with this office, contact this course's instructor and provide the appropriate documentation provided by the Dean of Students Office.

**University Counseling Services:**

Contact information Counseling Center:

Address:

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) (Links to an external site.)

**Grading Scale:**

A	93-100	Superior Work (exceeded expectations)
A-	90-92	
B+	87-89	
B	83-86	Good Effort
B-	80-82	
C+	77-79	
C	73-76	Average Effort
C-	70-72	
D+	67-69	
D	63-66	Minimum Effort
D-	60-63	
E	59-	

**EVALUATIONS**

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/>. 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.

*Welcome to Vegas*