

# TPP 4930 Advanced Improvisation

Fall 2017

Tues/Thurs (4:05pm-6:00pm)

Instructor: Dr. Charlie Mitchell  
Office: Rm 229, McGuire Pavilion 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl  
Office Phone: 352-273-0515  
Office Hours: Mon/Wed 2-4pm  
Email: cmitchell@ufl.edu

## COURSE OBJECTIVES

- To create intelligent and honest scene work through agreement, character creation, team building, and active listening
- Apply your skills to the creation of long form improvisations

## REQUIRED TEXTS

Readings will come in the form of handouts.

## EXPECTATIONS

This class is a space where you respect, support, and encourage your fellow actors. In order to grow as a performer, you will be asked to take risks in the games, exercises, and performance pieces you do for class. Come to class prepared to move. Warm-ups can be physically demanding (rolling on the floor is not uncommon). Don't wear clothes you are afraid to get "mussed" or limit your mobility such as high heels. Gym-like attire is recommended. There is no eating, drinking, gum chewing, laptop, or cell phone use.

## ATTENDANCE

**This is a class about participation – attendance is a given.** You are expected to arrive ON TIME and to attend ALL classes. You cannot improvise by yourself. Therefore, it is impossible to make-up class time. The following absences are excused: illness (doctor's note required), religious holidays, and documented participation in official university activities. Weddings, job interviews, auditions, and other life events do not count as excused absences. You are allowed two unexcused absences with no penalty. Three unexcused absences will lower your Attendance grade to a C. If you have four absences, you will fail the course. Missing a team presentation or final performance will also lower your participation grade. 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 an absence.

*Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found in the online catalog at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>*

## PERFORMANCE ATTENDANCE

For this class, you are REQUIRED to see three university productions during the course of the semester and write a one page, double-spaced evaluation of the acting. You can see a show presented by the School of Theatre and Dance, the Florida Players, or Theatre Strike Force. If you have an alternative, you need to clear it with me first.

## 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.”

## 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, email [accessuf@dso.ufl.edu](mailto:accessuf@dso.ufl.edu), or go to their office at 0001 Building 0020 (Reid Hall).

## GRADE BREAKDOWN

Class Participation	70%
Acting Analyses	10%
Team Performances	20%

## SCALE

A	93-100	Excellent Effort
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-	

*Information on current UF grading policies for assigning grade points can be found in the online catalog at <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>. Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course based on 10 criteria. These evaluations are conducted online 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>.*

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.