

Acting For the Camera

Malcolm Gets
SOTD Room #231
231 McGuire Pavilion
352-273-0500
mgets@arts.ufl.edu
Office Hours:
Wednesday: 10-12, Tuesday/Thursday: 10-11
Spring 2018

COURSE OBJECTIVE: During the semester we will investigate the art and craft of acting on camera. We will explore various techniques and skill sets which are specific to worlds of television and film. Some of the things we will focus on are:

Getting comfortable with the camera/ dealing with self-consciousness
Preparation
Being Present
Relaxation/Nerves
Spontaneity
Transparency/Subtext
Different Options/Takes
Sizes of Shots (close-ups, two-shots, master shots, etc.)
Eye lines
Continuity
Marks/Positioning
Auditioning
Different formats (single camera drama, single camera comedy, commercials)

By the completion of the course the student should have a working knowledge of these techniques. The actor should also have discovered ways in which their instrument can be stretched to accommodate the needs of working in the worlds of television and film.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE:

Week 1: Getting comfortable with the camera
Week 2: Stage size vs. camera size
Week 3: Scene work/Partner off-camera
Week 4: Scene work/Partner off-camera
Week 5: Subtext work/transparency
Week 6: Subtext work/transparency
Week 7: Two-character scenes
Week 8: Two-character scenes
Spring Break/March 3-11 (NYC Showcase)

Week 9: Auditioning/self-tape
Week 10: Auditioning/self-tape
Week 11: Transformation
Week 12: Transformation
Week 13: Film Reel scenes
Week 14: Film Reel scenes
Week 15: Film short
Week 16: Sharings/April 24

EVALUATION CRITERIA:

- 1) Attendance and Punctuality (20%)
- 2) Preparation and Professionalism (20%)
- 3) Discipline, Growth, Effort and Class Participation (35%)
- 4) Ability to incorporate and retain techniques and methods offered in the course (25%)

UF Attendance Policy:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

In addition to the University's attendance policy, each student is allowed 2 absences for personal reasons.

GRADING:

- A Outstanding Work--Perfect attendance, exceptional effort and progress
- B Excellent Work/Above Average Work-- Perfect attendance, above average effort and progress
- C Average Work—Perfect attendance, average effort and progress
- D Below Average Work— Unexcused absences, below average effort and attendance
- F Unacceptable Work—Failed to meet the requirements of the course

SUGGESTED READING:

Michael Caine: Acting in Film. Applause Theatre Book Publishers
Joanna Merlin: Auditioning, An Actor Friendly Guide, Vintage Books

Students with Disabilities Policy:

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Honor Pledge:

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor of the class

Campus Resources: Health and Wellness

U Matter, We Care:

If you or a friend is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu or 352 392- 1575 so that a team member can reach out to the student.

Counseling and Wellness Center: <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>, 392 1575; and the University Police Department: 392-1111 or 9-1-1 for emergencies.

Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS)

Student Health Care Center, 392-1161.

University Police Department, 392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies). <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>

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/>