

TPP 2100 – Acting for Non-Majors Fall 2019

University of Florida / College of the Arts / School of Theatre & Dance

Section: 4534

Period: 2 (8:30 am - 9:20 pm) – MWF

Room: Constans G012

Instructor: Nina Dramer

Email: nina.dramer@ufl.edu

Office Location & Hours: -124 Yon Hall, between Gates 14 and 15 in the Stadium
-By appointment.

UF COURSE CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION:

The discipline and the creative process of acting: formal and improvisational techniques for developing vocal, physical and analytical skills.

OBJECTIVES:

- Students will demonstrate competence in the terminology, concepts, methodologies, and theories used within the discipline of acting.
- Students will communicate knowledge, ideas, and reasoning clearly and effectively in written or oral forms appropriate to the discipline of acting.
- Students will analyze information carefully and logically from multiple perspectives, using acting-specific methods, and develop reasoned solutions to problems.

COURSE CONTENT:

- Students will participate in exercises and activities during class designed to develop the skills and vocabulary required for acting performance; work is expected to continue on specific skills outside of class, and for any readings, etc.
- Students will present performance pieces for the class and are expected to have rehearsed and prepared each piece thoroughly outside of class; there will be in-class discovery work, workshops of each piece/scene, and a final performance for each piece/scene; selected performance pieces include: one monologue, selected by the student, approved by the instructor and one scene, selected by the instructor.
- Students will prepare written analysis work accompanying each piece, used to strengthen performance and understanding of methodologies and theories.
- Students will write three actor critique papers to demonstrate knowledge of subject material.

REQUIRED MATERIALS/TEXTS:

- Binder containing syllabus, class handouts, presentation pieces, notes, etc.
- Appropriate writing utensils: pencils, pens, highlighters, etc.
- Access to internet, email and Canvas for class information, updates, grades, and correspondence.
- Water bottle (recommended) to keep vocal apparatus and body hydrated.
- Appropriate apparel for class including clothes and shoes to move easily in.
- There is no required text for this course. There will be assigned readings and handouts for which students will be responsible. In addition, students will be responsible for finding a monologue and reading the play it is from. Scene material will come from a

play selected by the instructor; however, the student will be responsible for reading the play. All class material must come from published plays and be approved by the instructor.

CRITICAL DATES:

08/26	Syllabus Contract Due
08/30	Warm Up Sign-up
09/02	NO CLASS-LABOR DAY
09/06	Monologue Selection Due
09/23	<i>Curious</i> Paper Due
09/30	<i>We Are Proud</i> Paper Due
10/04	NO CLASS-HOMECOMING
10/07	Monologues are OFF-BOOK
10/25	Final Monologue Presentation
10/28	<i>Pippin</i> Paper Due
11/08	Class-led exploration
11/11	NO CLASS-VETERAN'S DAY
11/18	Scenes are OFF-BOOK
11/25	Final Day for late submissions and extra credit
11/27-29	NO CLASS-THANKSGIVING
12/04	Final Scene Presentation

NOTE:

Monday, November 25th, is the final day to submit late assignments. Assignments submitted after that date (**11/25**) will receive a grade of **zero**.

REQUIRED VIEWING:

Students are required to see three of the UF SoTD's productions:

- The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*
(produced at The Hippodrome in Downtown Gainesville)
- We Are Proud to Present A Presentation About the Herero of Namibia*
(in the Black Box Theatre at UF)
- Pippin*
(in the Constans Theatre at UF)

Students must complete a two page, double spaced, 12-pt font, 1-in margin critique, for each production, stapled together with the ticket stub. The paper **WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED** without the stapled ticket stub. Students will write about the acting choices made by one or two of the actors in the show, what was effective, what was not, how they employed different techniques, vocal, physical, etc. Please note a critique is different from a plot summary, report, or synopsis. The course calendar indicates the paper due dates.

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time

(25 Performances)

Performances at The Hippodrome Theatre,
Running August 30th-September 22nd

- Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays @ 7:00 pm
- Fridays @ 8:00 pm

- Saturdays @ 2:00 pm and @ 8:00 pm
- Sundays @ 2:00 pm

We Are Proud to Present A Presentation About the Herero of Namibia (8 Performances)

Performances in the Black Box Theatre, McGuire Pavilion

- Thursday September 19 @ 7:30 pm
- Friday September 20 @ 7:30 pm
- Sunday September 22 @ 2:00 pm
- Tuesday September 24 7:30 pm
- Wednesday September 25 7:30 pm
- Thursday September 26 @ 7:30 pm
- Friday September 27 7:30 pm
- Sunday September 29 @ 2:00 pm

Pippin (9 Performances)

Performances in the Constans Theatre, McGuire Pavilion

- Friday October 18 @ 7:30 pm
- Saturday October 19 @ 7:30 pm
- Sunday October 20 @ 2:00 pm
- Tuesday October 22 @ 7:30 pm
- Wednesday October 23 @ 7:30 pm
- Thursday October 24 @ 7:30pm
- Friday October 25 @ 7:30 pm
- Saturday October 26 @ 7:30 pm
- Sunday October 27 @ 2:00 pm

Ticket vouchers will be provided for the show, but the student is responsible for paying handling fees. 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. **DO NOT BE LATE** – you may not be admitted. 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 text during a show... EVER.

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Attendance will be taken daily at the beginning of class. Due to the participatory nature of this course, attendance is mandatory. You are expected to be in class on time and ready to work. You are allowed two unexcused absences. If more than two absences occur, 10 percent will be deducted from your final attendance grade for each additional absence. Please use these allowed absences 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 2 unexcused absences, 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. Furthermore, continued tardiness will result in a diminished participation grade.

Students must provide any missed assignments the following class period for an excused absence. 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. Late work or assignments for unexcused absences will result in a ten percent deduction of the grade per late day.

Electronic submission of work will not be allowed.

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 monologues and scenes have an OFF BOOK DATE (Being off book means that you have fully memorized your lines). Failure to be off book by this date will result in a reduction of your preparation grade (See assignment Rubric).

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:

Syllabus Contract		10
Warm Up Lead		15
Monologue		300
-Beat Scoring	[25]	
-Focal Point & Imagery Scoring	[25]	
-Off-book Due	[25]	
-Final Scoring	[100]	
-Character Analysis	[50]	
-Monologue Presentation	[75]	
Scene		350
-Beat Scoring	[25]	
-Partner Tool Exploration	[25]	
-1st Half Scene	[50]	
-Final Scoring	[100]	
-Character Analysis	[50]	
-Scene Presentations	[100]	
Writing		225
- <i>Curious</i> Critique	[75]	
- <i>We Are Proud</i> Critique	[75]	
- <i>Pippin</i> Critique	[75]	
Attendance/Participation		100
Total Points		1000
Extra Credit Possibility		20

GRADING SCALE:

A+ = 97-100	C+ = 77-79	E = 00-59
A = 93-96	C = 73-76	
A- = 90-92	C- = 70-72	
B+ = 87-89	D+ = 67-69	
B = 83-86	D = 63-66	
B- = 80-82	D- = 60-62	

EXTRA CREDIT:

There is one option to obtain an extra credit (20 additional points) in this section of TPP2100. You may see (1) theatre performance outside of the required viewings for the semester and write a paragraph (typed, 12pt Times New Roman, double-spaced, 1" margins) of acting critique where you analyze an actor's use of any one of the tools we discuss from the Michael Chekhov acting method. The final day to submit your extra credit will **November 25th**.

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 who violates these policies and they will receive a 10% deduction from their participation grade for each occurrence.

All students' views must be respected. It is conceivable that some material chosen for class work *could be objectionable* to some class members. Though no material should be blatantly perverse or offensive, it would be foolish to presume that all students feel the same on all issues. *Be considerate* when choosing material and when providing feedback. Listen with an open mind. This has nothing to do with freedom of speech – it is about common courtesy and 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).

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 at: <https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results>

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

FINAL NOTE:

The syllabus and the course calendar 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 and calendar at all times.

SYLLABUS CONTRACT:

I have carefully read over the TPP 2100 – Acting for Non- Majors Syllabus for Summer Session B, 2017. 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 _____