

TPP 2110 – Acting 1:
Instrument & Discipline,
Fall 2019

Section 23015: M,W,F; Period 2 - 3 (8:30 AM - 10:25 AM), Room G13

Section 23016: M,W,F; Period 8 - 9 (3:00 PM - 4:55 PM), Room G14

Instructor: Virginia Marie Martinez
Office Hours: By appointment
Email: virginiamartinez@ufl.edu

TPP 2110 – Acting 1: Instrument and Discipline is the foundation for all performance majors and students seeking entrance into the program. This course introduces basic physical, vocal and analytical concepts; methods; vocabulary; and discipline required of the beginning actor. Students will explore the creative process through exercises in observation and awareness.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- To establish a common vocabulary that serves as a foundation for the entire acting sequence.
- To increase observational skills and develop self-awareness through exercise and improvisation.
- To develop in the student an understanding of the discipline of the art and to refine concentration skills necessary within that discipline.
- To introduce the student to the basic methods of relaxation as well as physical and vocal freedom and control.
- To develop in the student a sense of the ensemble nature of the discipline through exercise in trust and communication.

SUGGESTED TEXT:

An Actor's Work. Stanislavski, Konstantine. trans. Benedetti, Jean.

Published plays and reference materials, both of which may be obtained from the campus libraries, will be utilized by the student in class. Handouts may be distributed as well.

COURSE CONTENT:

Through the use of exercises, both structured and unstructured, the student will explore the basic skills of acting, which include: a repertoire of relaxation and warm-up exercises from which to build upon for use in the study of the entire acting sequence, and the development of self-awareness, imagination, the mechanics of staging, character-process, and foundational work in script analysis.

Students will be required to see all UF productions, take notes, and keep a journal, which will be collected for a pass/fail grade.

Execution of the basic acting skills will be demonstrated by the student in the form of in-class performances of monologues and in scene work with partners. Students are expected to be fully

memorized for these performances, and will be required to submit written analysis for each performance, the content of which will vary according to the student's development of skills.

COURSE CALENDAR: See handout for specific dates.

EXPECTATIONS OF MONOLOGUE WORK

Thorough written analysis/prep-work

Clear through-line of thought

Clarity of tasks

Clarity of tactics

Vocal exploration

Physicality

Presentations are fully memorized at the time of first performance (which may be the workshop day)

EXPECTATIONS OF SCENE WORK

Thorough written analysis/prep-work

Both characters "live" in the same world

Clear through-line of thought

Clarity in tasks

Clarity in tactics

Vocal explorations

Physicality

ATTENDANCE AT UF/HIPPODROME STATE THEATRE PRODUCTIONS:

Students are required to see all UF mainstage shows and be prepared to discuss them in class. Students will turn in a 2-page reactions paper for each of these shows (see timetable for due dates) with special attention being paid to the use of creative imagination, physical awareness, proper vocal technique, and opening up to the creative process. Discuss individual performer's performances. The idea is to report your observations. Draw parallels between what you observe and your work in class.

NOT seeing the shows (including only seeing half of a show) will result in a failed paper. Writing about a production not viewed by the student is a form of academic dishonesty and violates the concept of the honor code. If a student is found lying about seeing a show, it will immediately result in failing the entire course.

School of Theatre and Dance FALL 2019 Theatre Productions:

REQUIRED:

"The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time"
Hipp-Co Pro
Aug 28th-Sep 22nd

"We are Proud to Present..."
Sep 19th- Sep 29th

"Pippin"
Oct 18th -Oct 27th

ENCOURAGED:

Fall BFA Dance Showcase
Oct 23rd - Oct 27th

Agbedidi
Nov 22nd-Nov 24th

Tickets go on sale two weeks before the first performance. Pick up your coupon tickets at the earliest date to assure yourself a seat.

EXTRA CREDIT VIEWING: *Extra Credit will be given for attending the UF Dance productions, or for seeing one additional show outside UF (not including the CoPro). Each extra credit option is worth 3 pts. (Up to 9pts)

CLASS ATTENDANCE:

This is a performance class, therefore, attendance is MANDATORY. You must be present to perform. If you miss class, the work cannot be made up. We learn from each other— your presence, whether or not a “performance” is involved that day, is important to the collective learning process that is engaged in this class.

Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each class. Please note that it is your responsibility to notify the instructor after class that you came in late, if you come in after attendance has been taken.

***You are allowed 2 unexcused absence.**

At 3 unexcused absences, the student can receive no higher than a “B” for the course.

At 4 unexcused absences, the student automatically fails the course.

You are allowed 2 tardies. Your final grade will be lowered 1 pt for each additional tardy.

LATE ASSIGNMENT POLICY:

Assignments must be complete in order to receive points; “complete” constitutes the total execution of the directive given by the instructor regarding each individual assignment- whether that be in-class performances/exercises or written work.

Written assignments which are turned in after the due date will receive **only partial points.**

It is your responsibility to keep track of due dates as laid out on the timetable which accompanies this syllabus.

**** THERE ARE NO MAKE UP DAYS FOR WORKSHOPS OR PERFORMANCE DAYS!****

If you miss your assigned workshop or performance day, you forfeit the points for that day. In cases of emergency, it is up to the discretion of the instructor to allow for rescheduling of a performance.

GRADING:

Students may have varying degrees of talent and experience in acting: therefore, the students cannot be graded solely on the basis of the skills and talents they bring to the class. Consideration will be given to the student’s improvements and efforts that are demonstrated.

Participation is also a key factor in grading. Criteria for this grade include attentiveness, participation in and/or leadership of exercises, willingness to participate in class discussions, etc... in general, the TIME, EFFORT, and COMMITMENT the student displays toward this class.

Each assignment will be awarded a specific point value. Points will be tallied at the end of the semester to determine the student’s final grade.

SCALE:

A 93-100 Superior Work and Effort

A- 90-92

B+ 87-89

B 83-86 Good Work and Effort

B- 80-82

C+ 77-79

C 73-76 Average Work and Effort

C- 70-72

D+ 67-69

D 63-66 Minimum Work and Effort

D- 60-63

F 59-

An assignment breakdown will be provided the first day of class.

FINAL BUSINESS:

REGARDING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

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 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.

Be certain to credit sources in character analysis.

Please make sure that you understand the University's Academic Guidelines and policies regarding Academic Honesty and Ethical Conduct.

*Please be sure to turn off/silence all electronic devices (telephones/pagers/alarms, etc.) when entering the classroom.

Please be sure to dress appropriately for class. Know that much of our work is physical and plan to dress accordingly.

Food, drink, and gum are not allowed in class. Water in a sealed container is permissible.

ONLINE COURSE 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/>.

ADDITIONAL 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:
- <https://counseling.ufl.edu/>, 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/>

Academic Resources

- E-learning technical support:
- 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to Learningsupport@ufl.edu.
<https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.
- Career Connections Center:
- Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling. <https://career.ufl.edu/>
- Library Support:
- <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>. Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.
- Teaching Center:
- Broward Hall, 392-2010 or 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.
<http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu/>
- Writing Studio:
- 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.
<http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>
- Student Complaints On-Campus:
- <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honorcode-student-conduct-code/>
- On-Line Students Complaints:
- <http://distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process/>

****This syllabus is a contract. If you read this information and return to class, then you have agreed to the terms provided and are expected to abide by them. Do not ask for special exceptions to be made.****