

University of Florida - College of the Arts - School of Theatre and Dance

## **TPP 4930: Class # 21864 /Section 403G / Spring 2020**

### **SPECIAL TOPICS: Actors for Director's 2**

Class Meeting Time - TR Per. 6-7 (12:50-2:45) / CON G015

Dr. Mikell Pinkney / Office: 222 McGuire Pavilion / 273-0512 / mpinkney@arts.ufl.edu

**Office Hours: W & R. 3:00-5:00 PM / Also by appointment**

#### **Pre-Requisites:**

Acting I, Acting II, and Actors for Directors; OR; Acting I, Acting II, and Acting III complete before the current semester.

#### **Objectives and Outcomes:**

- Actors serve as primary resources for graduate directing students.
- Actors will be assigned to work with various actors on a variety of exercises and projects.
- Actors will serve as primary casting pool for final showcase production scenes for graduate actors.
- Actors work will be evaluated by graduate director and the course instructor.

#### **Required Text:**

No required text. Hand outs and play scripts will be needed.

#### **Recommended Text:**

Thomas, James. *Script Analysis for Actors, Directors, and Designers*.

*ALSO:* Various in-class handouts in relation to specific areas of discussion

#### **Class Attendance:**

Actors will not be called for every class meeting. However, they must be available for out of class rehearsals with directors and in class showings when scheduled. Only casting in main stage productions should take priority over rehearsals with assigned directors and nothing should prevent actors from being able to perform in class when scheduled. Actors enrolled for this course must also be available to be cast and available to rehearse for final directing scene presentations at the end of the semester.

#### **Required Viewings:**

Attendance at live theatre productions is required for all students enrolled in this course: ... *And Jesus Moonwalks the Mississippi, Eurydice, and Macbeth*. Your attendance at these productions will be important and your participation with directors leading in-class reviews of these productions will be required, analyzing the perspective of the directing of the production. Your opinions must focus on the direction of the production and supported with specifics.

**Course Projects:** *(Subject to changes and/or adjustments)*

- Project I: Staging Demonstrations with directors
- Project II: Work in Classical Scenes (2 actors each)
- Project III: Work in Modern Scenes (2 actors each)
- Project IV: Work in Alternative Space Staging (2-3 actors each)
- Project V: Production Critiques
- Project VI: Directing Fundamentals Exam (Directors only)
- Project VII: General Conceptual/ Creative Process Thesis
- Project VIII: Final Short Showcase (proposals for casting approved)

**Grading Scale:**

<b>A</b>	= 90 or above	Excellent
<b>A-</b>	= 87-89	Almost Excellent
<b>B+</b>	= 84-86	Very Good
<b>B</b>	= 80-83	Almost Very Good
<b>B-</b>	= 77-79	Good
<b>C+</b>	= 74-76	Average
<b>C</b>	= 70-73	Needs Work

**Grading Breakdown:**

Classroom Performance Work	40%
<i>(20% based on director's recommendations)</i>	
Outside Rehearsal Work	
<i>(20% (10% based on director's recommendations)</i>	
Attendance/ Classroom Participation	20%
Final Presentations	20%

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**Weekly Course Calendar and Project Descriptions:**  
(Subject to changes and adjustments throughout the semester)

**Week #1: TR (Jan. 7 & 9) / ACTORS NOT REQUIRED THIS WEEK**

**Week #2: TR (Jan. 14 & 16) / ACTORS REQUIRED**

Project I: Focus on Part Two: BASICS in text, *Fundamentals of Play Directing*, pgs. 21-65. Using two actors each, prepare a demonstration of 3-5 examples of staging exercises based on information from the reading. Each director will have a maximum of 15 minutes for presentations. No duplication of exercises. Each director's must submit name and page number of exercises, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> choice of preferred date (by email) for approval by Monday, Jan. 14<sup>th</sup> for approval. Grading based on quality of presentation.

**Week #3: TR (Jan. 21 & 23) / ACTORS NOT REQUIRED THIS WEEK, BUT MAY ATTEND**  
Directors on Directing Reports.

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**Week #4: TR (Jan. 28 & 30) / ACTORS REQUIRED ON THURSDAY**

Focus on Part Three: FIVE FUNDAMENTALS OF PLAY DIRECTING in text, *Fundamentals of Play Directing*, "Drama as Art" & "The Director's Function," pgs. 67-240, for Tuesday class discussion. Actor selections will occur during class time on Thursday. Quality of Tuesday discussion will determine order of director's selection of actors on Thursday.

**Week #5: TR (Feb. 4 & 6) / ACTORS REQUIRED**

Project III: Directing scenes from classical plays (2 actors each). 4-6 minute time limit for scenes. Instructor may question and offer suggestions following each presentation. Directors are expected to rehearse with actors for approximately 2-3 hours before classroom presentations.

**Week #6: TR (Feb. 11 & 13) / ACTORS REQUIRED**

Second presentations of classical scenes showing evidence of development and suggested changes and added elements.

**Week #7: TR (Feb. 18 & 20) / ACTORS REQUIRED**

Project IV: Directing scenes from modern plays (2 actors each). 4-6 minute time limit for scenes. Instructor may question and offer suggestions following each presentation. Directors are expected to rehearse with actors for approximately 2-3 hours before classroom presentations.

**Week #8: TR (Feb. 25 & 27) / ACTORS REQUIRED**

Second presentations of modern scenes showing evidence of development and suggested changes and added elements.

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**Week #9: SPRING BREAK / Feb. 29- Mar. 8**

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**Week #10: TR (Mar. 10 & 12) / ACTORS REQUIRED**

Focus on Part Four: WORKING WITH THE ACTOR in text, *Fundamentals of Play Directing*, “Expression, Body, Voice, and Role” & “Auditions and Casting,” pgs. 241-272. Be prepared to discuss/ teach/ share your finding with actors this week.

**Week #11: TR (Mar. 17 & 19) / ACTORS REQUIRED**

Directors will view all actors present new two minute auditions on Tuesday. Then, directors will select or be assigned two actors to coach for improvements (including possible replacement of monologue selections). Each director will then present their actor's to show revised auditions on Thursday and explain the coaching process and success or lack of success in the results.

**Week #12: TR (Mar. 24 & 26) / ACTORS REQUIRED ON THURSDAY**

Read and discuss Chapters 13, 14 & 15 in text, *Fundamentals of Play Directing*; “Preliminaries to Staging the Play,” “Rehearsing and Staging the Play,” “Arena and Thrust Stages.” Possible guest designers/ stage managers, etc. for Tuesday discussion. Scene selection and actor casting on Thursday.

**Week #13: TR (Mar. 31 & Apr. 2) / ACTORS REQUIRED**

Project V: Thrust, Arena and Alternative Space Staging (2-3 actors each). Director's choice of play scenes, 5-7 minute time limit. Presentation schedule days TBD.

**Week #14: TR (Apr. 7 & 9)**

TBD

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**Week #15: TR (Apr. 14 & 17)**

TBD

**Week #16: T (Apr. 21)**

TBD

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**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 adhere 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.”*

The instructor of this course fully supports the intent of the above statement and will not tolerate academic dishonesty. We, the members of the University of Florida Community, pledge to hold ourselves, and our peers, to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

**SOTD Handbook and Production Policy Manual:**  
**Listed on webpage under General Theatre / Current Students/ Student Resources**  
<http://www.arts.ufl.edu/programs/generaltheatre.aspx>

## **SOTD Production Policy Manual**

<http://www.arts.ufl.edu/downloads/sotd/10-11%20Production%20Policy%20Manual.pdf>

**In case of a disaster affecting the UF campus, for the latest information see  
<http://www.ufl.edu>**

**University Police**  
352-392-1111

***City Emergency Notification:***  
**Weekdays Evenings/ Weekends**

**Fire/Police/Medical Emergency:**                      911                      911

## **Campus Resources:**

### **Health and Wellness:**

U Matter, We Care:

If you or a friend is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto: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/>

### **Academic Resources:**

*E-learning technical support*, 352-392-4357 (select option 2) or e-mail to [Learning-support@ufl.edu](mailto:Learning-support@ufl.edu).

<https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>.

*Career Resource Center*, Reitz Union, 392-1601. Career assistance and counseling. <http://www.crc.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 Campus:*

[https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF\\_Complaints\\_policy.pdf](https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf)

*On-Line Students Complaints:* <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process>

## **Online course evaluation process:**

“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/>.