

TPP 6237

MFA Acting Comp Workshop

Summer C 2021

Instructors: Peter Carpenter: pcarpenter@arts.ufl.edu
Jenny Goelz: jgoelz@arts.ufl.edu

Office Hours: All office hours through Zoom. See Canvas for details.

Meeting Location: Rehearsal studios and labs in McGuire Pavilion, as assigned

Meeting Time: To be arranged based on assignments
Key dates can be found in the summer production calendar:
<https://pages.propared.com/p/filters/27962/BBiCL3X9teBhPwVxiVKZnko4EQuBORBxb6t3zE1E>

Area Supervisors: Eben Alguire, Tony Berry & Manuel Pelegrina (Scenic/Props): eben.alguire@ufl.edu
Todd Bedell (Lighting/Electrics): tbedell@arts.ufl.edu
Peter Carpenter (Performance): pcarpenter@arts.ufl.edu
Jenny Goelz (Stage/Production Management): jgoelz@arts.ufl.edu
Megan Szloboda & Erin Rodgers (Costume): mszloboda@arts.ufl.edu
Jing Zhao (Sound): jzhao@arts.ufl.edu

Course Description:
Practical experience in theatre and dance with direct skills application.

This summer's projects will consist of hands-on experience with three productions:

- Community Health Devised Theatre Project (Summer A), Catron Booker, dir.
- I AM THE DEAD MAN (Summer B), co-production with Saudade Theatre
- Swamp Dance Festival with choreographers Mx Oops and d. Sabela Grimes

Summer projects will also include preparation for fall productions, particularly in the scenic area.

Content Disclosure:
Summer projects are curated to bring attention to content that is at once urgent and thought-provoking.

Of particular note, the script for *I AM THE DEAD MAN* is currently in development and will be available when completed. Violence is featured in the script and the fear of violence is part of the atmosphere and tone of parts of the play. While most violence is discussed or described by characters, there are moments that will be physicalized. A group interrogation scene where characters are held at gunpoint will be staged. A prop AK-47 rifle and two prop revolvers are pivotal to the meaning and symbolism of the work. The rehearsal process will require significant discussions of sexual trauma, trafficking, traumatic violence, and war as it pertains to the script/story.

Students with questions or concerns about this content should approach Jenny Goelz or Peter Carpenter.

Course Objective:
Students will learn the importance of individual roles and how the collaboration between areas is essential in realizing theatre and dance productions. Objectives specific to each area can be found on Canvas.

Textbooks:

There are no required textbooks. Playscripts will be provided based on assignments.

Weekly Course Schedule

The weekly schedule is determined by the project supervisor. Some projects allow for flexible scheduling to be arranged in advance with the supervisor. For many projects, individual time management is the responsibility of the student. Students must start or confirm their work shifts by the start of the term, May 9, 2022.

- Rehearsal times are typically Mon-Sat, 1pm-6pm.
- Shop work hours are typically Mon-Fri, 10am-Noon and/or 1pm-3pm. Students completing assignments in the shops will also need to participate in evening and weekend crew calls.
- Key dates (including performance and rehearsal dates/times and crew calls) can be found in the summer production calendar:
<https://pages.propared.com/p/filters/27962/BBiCL3X9teBhPWVxiVKZnko4EQuBORBxb6t3zE1E>

Attendance:

Success in this course is based on participation, and other students are often dependent upon you to successfully do their work. Attendance is vital. In addition to meeting the total hours requirement for this course, it is important that you show up for rehearsals, meetings, and shop hours as scheduled. Changes to your schedule should be discussed with your area supervisor in advance.

Your first unexcused absence is permitted without penalty. The second unexcused absence will lower your final grade by 5%. The third unexcused absence will lower your final grade by 15%. The fourth unexcused absence will lower your final grade by 30%. Two (2) late arrivals and/or early departures to/from class will count as one (1) absence. Excused absences are consistent with university policies in the undergraduate catalog.

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/> Please note that many kinds of excused absences require documentation.

Assignments and Grading

THE 4945 requires a minimum of 240 hours of rehearsal and/or laboratory assignment. Each student will have a minimum of two assignments. 140 hours will be credited through the performance of a role or as a member of the artistic or production team (e.g., dramaturg, assistant director, etc.) in a Summer Repertory Theatre production. A minimum of 100 hours will be required in a second assignment. For students completing both assignments in one or more shop areas, a minimum of 240 hours is required.

THE 6955 requires a minimum of 240 hours of laboratory assignment. Graduate Design and Production students enrolled in THE 6955 will be given roles and assignments of greater complexity and responsibility than undergraduates enrolled in THE 4945. The expectations for project leadership are also greater for graduate students. Graduate Acting students enrolled in THE 6955 are typically assigned a role in a production or another significant assignment.

*Note that the responsibilities for the successful completion of THE 6955 are **separate** from GTA .5 FTE (20 hours/week) contracts.

Though the design process is complex and unique tasks for each production differ in the amount of time needed to successfully complete a design, the weekly hour breakdown for THE 6955 may look like the following:

- 10 hours design coordination (outside of GTA shop hours but between 8am-5pm) for THE 6955
 - Time for shopping/sourcing/paperwork or any other strictly designer related coordination tasks
- 10 hours of design work (on your own time) for THE 6955
 - Time for work at home or outside of the shop to research/render/prep design package for shop/attend rehearsals

Specific tasks for each bullet point listed above to be provided by area supervisors and posted to the THE 6955 Canvas site by Monday, May 10, 2021.

THE 4945/THE 6955 is graded with the awarding of a letter grade. Project supervisors and shop TAs will provide input for the final grading based on direct observation of student performance. Information on current UF grading policies for assigning grade points may be found at:

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

Grading evaluation is based upon the following: promptness, attendance, effort, ability to complete assigned tasks, adherence to safety procedures, positive collaborations with the ensemble, arriving in appropriate attire for rehearsals or shops, and overall quality of work. Each rehearsal or shop may establish guidelines for expected demeanor and work performance. Failure to arrive on time for a crew call, strike, performances or rehearsals, as well as unexcused absences, will significantly impact the final grade.

A = Excellent. Demonstrates a desire to learn and develop skills. Takes interest and initiative in planning, executing, and completing assignments. Displays an interest and ability to work with minimal supervision. Consistently available for job assignments that require performance above and beyond the minimum requirements.

B = Above Average. Learns from job assignments. Demonstrates knowledge of rehearsal techniques and/or shop equipment and facilities procedures. Takes interest and initiative in participating in rehearsal or lab activities. Displays a collaborative and positive demeanor.

C = Average. Attends all scheduled rehearsals, labs and performances on time. Is properly dressed for the work environment. Observes all safety rules and completes assignments satisfactorily.

D = Not available. Does not constitute a passing grade for School of Theatre and Dance majors.

E = Failure. Failure to complete the minimum number of required hours. Pattern of tardiness and lack of preparation. Disregard for other collaborators. Negligence in regard to safety procedures. Failure to meet established project deadlines. Work completed in an unacceptable manner. Failure to complete the minimum number of require hours will result in failure of the course, regardless of whether or not other criteria have been met.

Graduate Teaching Assistantships (GTA)

Graduate students should note that THE 6955 assignments are separate from GTA responsibilities. For example a costume design graduate student might be assigned two summer design assignments for THE 6955 with separate GTA responsibilities of working in the costume shop. The weekly hour breakdown that includes BOTH GTA hours and THE 6955 hours may look like the following:

- 20 hours in costume shop for GTA Assignment
- Minimum 10 hours design coordination (outside of the shop hours listed above but between 8am-5pm) for THE 6955
 - Time for shopping/sourcing/paperwork or any other strictly designer related coordination tasks
- Minimum 10 hours of design work (on your own time) for THE 6955
 - Time for work at home or outside of the shop to research/render/prep design package for shop/attend rehearsals

MFA Acting GTAs/GAs will be assigned teaching responsibilities or other duties in service to the school and/or summer productions.

Course Fees:

Course fees may be found at: <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu>

Recording:

Instructors will announce at the top of class, rehearsals, lab sessions if there is a need to record. Class sessions may be audio visually recorded for students to refer back and for students who are unable to attend live. Students who participate in zoom meetings with their camera engaged or utilize a profile image are agreeing to have their video or image recorded. If you are unwilling to consent to have your profile or video image recorded, be sure to keep your camera off and do not use a profile image. Likewise, students who un-mute during class and participate orally are agreeing to have their voices recorded. If you are not willing to consent to have your voice recorded during class, you will need to keep your mute button activated and communicate exclusively using the "chat" feature, which allows students to type questions and comments live. The chat will not be recorded or shared. As in all courses, unauthorized recording and unauthorized sharing of recorded materials is prohibited.

University Policies and Additional Information:

Please [click here to view the Academic Calendar](#) for important dates including holidays and drop/add deadlines.

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 specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. [Click here to read the Honor Code](#). 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 or TAs in this class.

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. [Click here for guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner](#). Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via ufl.bluera.com/ufl/. [Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students here](#).

If you anticipate challenges related to the format or requirements of this course, please meet with us. We would like us to discuss ways to ensure your full participation in the course. Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center. [Click here to get started with the Disability Resource Center](#). It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

UF's Health and Wellness Resources are available to assist you. Please feel encouraged to reach out for assistance if needed:

- If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit [U Matter, We Care website](#) to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.
- [Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website](#) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.
- Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or [visit the Student Health Care Center website](#).
- [Visit UF Police Department website](#) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
- For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; [Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website](#).

Additional Academic Resources include:

- Contact the [UF Computing Help Desk](#) at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at helpdesk@ufl.edu.

- [Career Connections Center](#): Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services.
- [Library Support](#): Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.
- [Teaching Center](#): Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352- 392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.
- [Writing Studio](#): 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.
- Student Complaints On-Campus: [Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage for more information](#).
- On-Line Students Complaints: [View the Distance Learning Student Complaint Process](#).