

TPP 4930 Advanced Improvisation

Spring 2015

T/Th (4:05pm-6:00pm) – G15

Instructor: Dr. Charlie Mitchell
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Office Hours: Tues/Thurs 2-4 or by appointment
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COURSE OBJECTIVES

You will strive for excellence in long-form improvisation.

You will become a bold, supportive team player.

You will utilize “a to c” thinking and utilize “game” in order to create exciting and interesting sets.

You will practice and master a number of forms culminating in a public performance at the end of the semester.

REQUIRED TEXTS

I will provide handouts.

EXPECTATIONS

In order to grow as a performer, you will be asked to take risks in games, exercises, and performances. This class is a space where you respect, support, and encourage your fellow actors. Honesty in scene work and playing at the top of your intelligence will be celebrated.

ATTENDANCE

The only measure I have of your progress is observing your work in class -- attendance is a given. You are expected to arrive ON TIME and to attend ALL classes. ***There are no excused absences.*** If you feel you cannot make this commitment this semester, please drop the class.

There is absolutely no way to make up missed class time and there is no extra credit. The attendance policy is as follows:

| | |
|--------------|----------------|
| 0-2 absences | A is possible |
| 3 absences | B+ is possible |
| 4 absences | C+ is possible |
| 5 absences | Fail |

If you have a logistical problem that is preventing you from arriving on time, you must let me know immediately. Three tardies will result in one absence. If you are not present when I take role, you are late. Do not ask to leave class early for any reason. The answer is always no.

Every three weeks, I will evaluate your progress and suggest areas of improvement. Missing evaluation days will let down your team and negatively speak to your commitment to the class.

DRESS CODE & CLASS CONDUCT

Come to class prepared to move. Performing is physically demanding. Don't wear clothes you are afraid to get "mussed" or limit your mobility. Gym-like attire is recommended. During class, there is no computer use, eating, drinking, gum chewing, or cell phone use (especially texting).

PERFORMANCE ATTENDANCE

For this class, you are **REQUIRED** to see three live theatrical productions during the course of the semester. For each one, you will write a one-page evaluation of an actor's performance (typed, double-spaced). You can see a School of Theatre and Dance, Theatre Strike Force, or Florida Players show. If you have an alternative, you need to clear it with me first. Get your tickets early. The Black Box space has limited seating and sells out quickly. If you do not turn in all three critiques, you will drop half a letter grade (ex. A to A-).

HONOR CODE

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."

LEARNING DISABILITIES

If you have a disability that is documented with the Disability Resource Center and wish to discuss accommodations, please see me during my office hours. If you have a learning disability that has not been documented, contact the DRC at 352-392-8565, email accessuf@dso.ufl.edu, or go to their office at 0001 Building 0020 (Reid Hall).

AVAILABILITY

If you have something you want to discuss with me, please do not hesitate. Feel free to come to my office hours or there is a conflict with those hours, make an appointment with me.

Your ongoing enrollment is confirmation that you understand and will comply with the requirements of this course. I reserve the right to alter this syllabus if necessary.