



SCHOOL OF PERFORMING ARTS

Acting I - TPP 2110C

Class Location: TRAIL 541
TR 12:30PM - 2:20PM
Instructor: David Reed
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PAC T219
407-823-2397
Office Hours: T&R 10:30AM – 12:20PM
2:30PM – 3:20PM
W&F – By Appointment

Course Syllabus

COURSE OVERVIEW

A basic introduction to the fundamentals of acting. The course will explore the physical, vocal, emotional and technical aspects of the actor's art, with an emphasis on developing imagination, self-awareness, and the ability to execute basic stage tasks. Course content will be primarily based upon sensory and physical exercises and activities. There will be readings, lectures, and discussions of the history of actor training and introduction to various theories and approaches to the development of acting technique.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

General Goals

We will attempt to reach: truthful communication with others, shared moments of experience, recognition that there are many choices and possible solutions available to an actor, and personal growth.

Specific goals:

- To acquire a basic understanding of acting, particularly action and believability
- To acquire an experiential understanding of physical and vocal exercises
- To diminish self-consciousness and enhance self-awareness, self-respect, and self-confidence
- To develop a respectful and cooperative ensemble approach to performance work
- To free and release some of the inhibitions that block our creativity and connection to others

- To understand the discipline and commitment required to become an actor

REQUIREMENTS

Text

- The Practical Handbook
- Students may be required to print and copy reading material and scene work

Attire

Students are required to wear attire that will not inhibit their movement. As we will be moving during the class, please consider form fitting athletic wear.

- Please be reasonable with the clothing.
 - Anything that is too loose or too tight as to cause distraction or injury is not appropriate for the class.
 - Shoes such as high heels, boots, or other impractical footwear are not advised.
- If a student arrives at class in attire that inhibits their ability to participate in the day's activities, they will be given an absence.

Note

- This class will be mentally and physically demanding. Additionally, you will be called upon to be in close physical proximity to the instructor and the other students in the class. *If these demands are of concern, please speak with the professor regarding your success in the course.*

POLICIES

Attendance is mandatory and will be strictly monitored.

- Perfect attendance is assumed.
- A third unexcused absence will result in the dropping of a full letter grade.
- Four absences will result in your dismissal from the class.
- Lateness is disrespectful. It is not tolerated in the professional world nor in this class.
 - 3 lates = 1 absence
- If you are unavoidably detained, enter quietly and offer the class an apology at your first opportunity.
- NEVER enter during a presentation; wait until it's completed.
- Guests will not be permitted in class (without prior consent of the instructor and the class.)
- The following will be counted as excused absences with no penalty:
 - Authorized UCF functions, including participation in sporting events, academic functions, scholarly conferences, etc.
 - Illness that is documented by doctor's note or prescription.
 - Death or serious illness in the immediate family.
 - The observance of religious holy days – you must submit in writing the dates and names of any religious holy days you must observe during the course of the semester and hand it into the instructor no later than Wednesday, August 26th.
- ... ALL MUST BE DOCUMENTED within one week after returning to class. No late documentation will be accepted.

- All missed class work (excused or otherwise) must be made-up with in two weeks of return.

Technology

The use of phones and other handheld electronic devices in class is forbidden unless requested by the professor.

- Any interruption caused by your cell phone, or other non-approved electronic device, will result in your removal from that day's activities and a forfeiture of all points associated with that day.
- If you have questions, please ASK THE PROFESSOR!

Academic Integrity

As reflected in the UCF creed, integrity and scholarship are core values that should guide our conduct and decisions as members of the UCF community. Plagiarism and cheating contradict these values, and so are very serious academic offenses. Penalties can include a failing grade in an assignment or in the course, or suspension or expulsion from the university. Students are expected to familiarize themselves with and follow:

- University's Rules of Conduct (<http://www.osc.sdes.ucf.edu/>)
 - The Golden Rule (<http://www.goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/>).
- **Cheating of any kind will result in the suggestion of failure for the semester**
 - Make sure you understand your professor's guidelines about working with other students on assignments, receiving assistance from other students on assignments, citing sources, and using notes or exams from previous classes. If in doubt – ASK YOUR PROFESSOR!

University- Wide Academic Participation Verification

As of Fall 2014, all faculty members are required to document students' academic activity at the beginning of each course. In order to document that you began this course, please complete the following academic activity, Acting For Non-Majors Verification Quiz, by the end of the first week of classes, or as soon as possible after adding the course, but no later than September 2. Failure to do so will result in a delay in the disbursement of your financial aid.

Disability Statement

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students with disabilities who need accommodations in this course must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations. No accommodations will be provided until the student has met with the professor to request accommodations. Students who need accommodations must be registered with Student Disability Services, Ferrell Commons 185, phone (407) 823-2371, before requesting accommodations from the professor.

Syllabus

- This syllabus may be modified by the course instructor.
- Notice of such changes will be made by announcement in class or by email notice.
- Any handouts provided to the student with guidelines for written or performance projects are to be considered part of the syllabus. In addition, verbal or written changes to the syllabus as announced during class, a lesson or via electronic means, are the responsibility of the student.

GRADING CRITERIA

- 1000 point scale
- This class will observe the plus and minus grade system. Realize that C is considered to be a failing grade for a BFA student.

A = 1,000-940	A- = 939-900	B+ = 899-870	B = 869-840
B- = 839-800	C+ = 799-770	C = 769-740	C- = 739-700
D+ = 699-670	D = 669-640	D- = 639-600	F = 599-0

ASSIGNMENTS

• Presentations		
▪ Monologue		100
• Scoring and Analysis		100
▪ Open Scene Presentations		100
• Written Analysis		100
▪ Final Performance		100
• Written analysis		100
• Attendance at UCF Performance and Written Response Evaluation		100
• Tests		
▪ Test 1 and 2 (25 points each)		50
▪ Midterm		50
• Classroom Attendance and Participation		200
	Total	1000 pts

Participation: (200 points) Students are expected to participate in every class. This includes class discussion and all exercises and activities. Participation also includes being fully prepared for class (memorized, rehearsed, homework done, dressed appropriately, and with necessary supplies including scripts).

Attendance at UCF Productions: (100 Points) Students will be required to write a 3-4 page double spaced response evaluation to a production at UCF. This should not be a review, but rather a critical response to the performance. Papers are due Friday after a production closes. This assignment will be graded for its cohesiveness, accuracy, and insight.

<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>	Main Stage	February 16 – 26
<i>Hedda Gabler</i>	Black Box	March 23 – April 6
<i>Oklahoma!</i>	Dr. Phillips Center	April 7 – 8

Performances: (100 points each): Performances of Monologue and scene work as discussed within the semester.

Written Character Analysis: (100 points each) Students will be required to write a character analysis for the Monologues and the Scene. Specific form of analysis is available on Web Courses.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Date	Activities	Quizzes and/or Assignments Due
Tues 1/10	Syllabus Day	
Thurs 1/12	Discuss Analysis How to and the like	Assign Reading Part 1 Pgs 1-40
Tues 1/17	Warm ups and ice breaker	Assign Monologues
Thurs 1/19	The Secret to Acting	
Tues 1/24	The Secret to Acting	
Thurs 1/26	What do you want and how do you get it?	
Tues 1/31	Circle of Doom (Catch up)	
Thurs 2/2	Circle of Doom (Catch up)	
Tues 2/7	Ensemble work / Partnering	
Thurs 2/9	Ensemble work / Breath (Matthew and Tonia)	Test #1
Tues 2/14	Ensemble work (Catch up)	
Thurs 2/16	Characterization (Review: Objectives, Obstacles, Verbs, First Moment)	
Tues 2/21	Monologues Perform/work	Begin Reading # 2 pg 40-66
Thurs 2/23	Monologues Perform/work	
Tues 2/28	Monologues Perform/work	
Thurs 3/2	No Class SETC	
Tues 3/7	Monologue Performances	
Thurs 3/9	Mid-term	Mid-term
SB	Spring Break Mar 14 – Mar 16	
Tues 3/21	We're back – listening and responding	

Thurs 3/23	Open Scenes Rehearsal __ - __	
Tues 3/28	Open scenes Rehearsal __ - __	
Thurs 3/30	Rehearsal as desired Round #2	
Tues 4/4	Open scenes	
Thurs 4/6	Response Day/Scene Prep	Test #2
Tues 4/11	Rehearsal Groups __ - __	
Thurs 4/13	No Class – Stage Combat Workshop	
Tues 4/18	Rehearsal Groups __ - __	
Thurs 4/20	Rehearsal Groups __ - __ Round #2	
	Final	