

# Acting IV – Creating The Role - TPP 4140C

Class Location: T 115 (Studio 3)

MF 2:30PM - 4:20PM

Instructor: David Reed

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PAC T219, 407-823-2397

Office Hours: M 12:30 – 2:20

T&R 11:30AM - 2:20PM

Or by appointment



## Course Syllabus

### COURSE OVERVIEW

To create, explore, and continue to define the acting process, with a focus on character work. This class will help foster each student's understanding and execution of the actor's work. At its core, it is a two-fold process: helping the student find their 'authentic self' and giving them the courage to stand up and show it to the world. The other half is instilling in them the tools and work ethic it takes to be successful.

### COURSE OBJECTIVES

#### **REVIEW, REMEMBER, and RE-VISIT:**

- Connection with your partner: see and hear clearly; "say what you see and mean what you say."
- Playing the action: Acting is the reality of doing.
- Being truthful: believe fully in given circumstances w/o comment or judgment.

Additionally:

- Open your instrument.
- Expand and heighten acting choices
- Appreciate language as a crucial element of character
- Embrace the sense of play during rehearsals - TRY NEW THINGS!
- Continue to be aware of habits and free from unnecessary physical tension

### REQUIREMENTS

#### Text

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. Please wear comfortable rehearsal clothes to class. Because some of the exercises require you to lie on the floor, please wear clothes you might not mind getting dirty. Please do not wear shoes with high heels, cowboy boots, engineer boots, clogs, sandals, or ballet shoes. For scene work, though costumes are not needed, please dress appropriately for the scene and character.

## 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 second absence will result in the dropping of a full letter grade.
- Five 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
- 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 Thursday, August 30<sup>th</sup>.
- ... 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.

### **Academic Integrity**

Students should familiarize themselves with [UCF's Rules of Conduct](#). According to Section 1, "Academic Misconduct," students are prohibited from engaging in:

1. Unauthorized assistance: Using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information or study aids in any academic exercise unless specifically authorized by the instructor of record. The unauthorized possession of examination or course-related material also constitutes cheating.
2. Communication to another through written, visual, electronic, or oral means: The presentation of material which has not been studied or learned, but rather was obtained through someone else's efforts and used as part of an examination, course assignment, or project.
3. Commercial Use of Academic Material: Selling of course material to another person, student, and/or uploading course material to a third-party vendor without authorization or without the express written permission of the university and the instructor. Course materials include but are not limited to class notes, Instructor's PowerPoints, course syllabi, tests, quizzes, labs, instruction sheets, homework, study guides, handouts, etc.
4. Falsifying or misrepresenting the student's own academic work.
5. Plagiarism: Using or appropriating another's work without any indication of the source, thereby attempting to convey the impression that such work is the student's own.
6. Multiple Submissions: Submitting the same academic work for credit more than once without the express written permission of the instructor.

## 7. Helping another violate academic behavior standards.

For more information about Academic Integrity, students may consult [The Center for Academic Integrity](#). For more information about plagiarism and misuse of sources, see “[Defining and Avoiding Plagiarism: The WPA Statement on Best Practices](#).”

- **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!

### **Campus Safety Statement**

Emergencies on campus are rare, but if one should arise during class, everyone needs to work together. Students should be aware of their surroundings and familiar with some basic safety and security concepts.

- In case of an emergency, dial 911 for assistance.
- Every UCF classroom contains an emergency procedure guide posted on a wall near the door. Students should make a note of the guide’s physical location and review the online version at [http://emergency.ucf.edu/emergency\\_guide.html](http://emergency.ucf.edu/emergency_guide.html).
- Students should know the evacuation routes from each of their classrooms and have a plan for finding safety in case of an emergency.
- If there is a medical emergency during class, students may need to access a first-aid kit or AED (Automated External Defibrillator). To learn where those are located, see <http://www.ehs.ucf.edu/workplacesafety.html> (click on link from menu on left).
- To stay informed about emergency situations, students can sign up to receive UCF text alerts by going to [ucf.edu](http://ucf.edu) and logging in. Click on “Student Self Service” located on the left side of the screen in the toolbar, scroll down to the blue “Personal Information” heading on the Student Center screen, click on “UCF Alert”, fill out the information, including e-mail address, cell phone number, and cell phone provider, click “Apply” to save the changes, and then click “OK.”
- Students with special needs related to emergency situations should speak with their instructors outside of class.
- To learn about how to manage an active-shooter situation on campus or elsewhere, consider viewing this [video](#).

### **Accessibility Statement**

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing access and inclusion for all persons with disabilities. Students with disabilities who need disability-related access in this course should contact the professor as soon as possible. Students should also connect with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) <<http://sas.sdes.ucf.edu/>> (Ferrell Commons 185, [sas@ucf.edu](mailto:sas@ucf.edu), phone 407-823-2371). Through Student Accessibility Services, a Course Accessibility Letter may be created and sent to professors, which informs faculty of potential access and accommodations that might be reasonable. Determining reasonable access and accommodations requires consideration of the course design, course learning objectives and the individual academic and course barriers experienced by the student.

## 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
    - 4 Scene Presentations (75 points each) 300
      - Written Self Evaluation (75 points each) 300
  - Attendance at UCF Performance and Written Response Evaluation 200
  - 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 Production: (200 total)** Students will be required to write a 5-6 page 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>She Kills Monsters</i>	Black Box	Thursday, September 20, 2018 - Sunday, September 30, 2018
<i>Hot Mikado</i>	Main Stage	Thursday, October 11, 2018 - Sunday, October 21, 2018
<i>Of Mice and Men</i>	Black Box	Thursday, November 8, 2018 - Sunday, November 18, 2018

**Performances: (75 points each):** Performances of scene work as discussed within the semester.

**Written Self Evaluation: (75 points each).** Students will track their progress from the selection of the scene through the final performance and feed back session.

**Why are you picking this? I need to see the Need!!!**

**Scene 1 – Contemp (No more than 5 years old) Push away from straight realism**

**Scene 2 – Devised Theatre**

**Scene 3 – Theatre of the Absurd (Ionesco, Genet, Beckett)**

**Scene 4 – Caryl Churchill, Maria Irene Fornes**

## **CLASS SCHEDULE**

Date	Activities	Quizzes and/or Assignments Due
Mon 8/20	Syllabus, Class Overview, Review	Find Scenes Find All partners throughout year
Fri 8/24	Read - <i>Hunter Gatherers</i> Peter Sinn Nachtrieb	Table work takes place during office hours
Mon 8/27	Devised theatre – discussion and conversation. Devising work	
Fri 8/31	Ball and Contact Improv, Listening to your partner, Grounding exercises	
Mon 9/3	<b>No class – Labor Day</b>	<b>No class – Labor Day</b>
Fri 9/7	Scene work round 1 Group 1-2	Table work takes place during office hours
Mon 9/10	Scene work round 1 Group 3-4	
Fri 9/14	Scene work round 2	
Mon 9/17	Final Showing	
Fri 9/21	Notes – David and Class	Table work takes place during office hours
Mon 9/24	Devising Work Group 1-4	Table work takes place during office hours
Fri 9/28	Scene work round 1 Group 1-2	
Mon 10/1	Scene work round 1 Group 3-4	

Fri 10/5	Scene work round 2	
Mon 10/8	Scene work round 2	
Fri 10/12	Final Showing	
Mon 10/15	Notes – David and Class	
Fri 10/19	Scene work round 1 Group 1-2	
Mon 10/22	Scene work round 1 Group 3-4	
Fri 10/26	Scene work round 2	Table work takes place during office hours
Mon 10/29	Final Showing	Table work takes place during office hours
Fri 11/2	Travel for Smash	
Mon 11/5	Notes – David and Class	
Fri 11/9	Scene work round 1 Group 1-2	
Mon 11/12	<b>Veterans Day – No Class</b>	
Fri 11/16	Scene work round 1 Group 3-4	
Mon 11/19	Rehearsal	
Fri 11/23	<b>No Class – Thanksgiving Break</b>	<b>No Class – Thanksgiving Break</b>
Mon 11/26	Scene work round 2	
Fri 11/30	First Showing <b>Notes available during Office Hours</b>	
<b>Final</b>	<b>Friday, December 07</b>	<b>1:00 PM – 3:50 PM</b>