



DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS

COURSE OUTLINE – DR1490 A2 FALL 2012

INTRO TO DRAMATIC ART – M, W 2:30 TO 5:20

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Annie Smith

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OFFICE HOURS: M 11:30 – 1:00

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: none

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS: none

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: An introduction to the process of acting and to dramatic form, this course is based on explorations of movement, vocal development, scene creation, and ensemble acting through improvisation acting techniques. Students will learn disciplines of physical relaxation, breathing, physical integration, responsivity, and the employment of creative impulse, within themselves and between each other in small group scene creation. Dramatic process is a collaborative process and requires respect, trust, and care for oneself and one's co-creators.

CREDIT/CONTACT HOURS: 3(0-0-6) (90 hour/term)

DELIVERY MODE(S): Laboratory

OBJECTIVES (OPTIONAL):

- students will participate in group creation processes
- students will develop physical, emotional, and mental discipline
- students will explore scene creation through improvisation

- students will grow in their acting abilities
- students will develop their skills in observation, decision-making, team-work, communication
- students will develop their ability to reflect critically on their own process, group process, and on the performances shared in class

TRANSFERABILITY:

**** Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability**

GRADING CRITERIA:

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE			
GRADING CONVERSION CHART			
Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Designation
A ⁺	4.0	90 – 100	EXCELLENT
A	4.0	85 – 89	
A ⁻	3.7	80 – 84	FIRST CLASS STANDING
B ⁺	3.3	77 – 79	
B	3.0	73 – 76	GOOD
B ⁻	2.7	70 – 72	
C ⁺	2.3	67 – 69	SATISFACTORY
C	2.0	63 – 66	
C ⁻	1.7	60 – 62	
D ⁺	1.3	55 – 59	MINIMAL PASS
D	1.0	50 – 54	
F	0.0	0 – 49	FAIL
WF	0.0	0	FAIL, withdrawal after the deadline

EVALUATIONS:

Individual Process and Development in class (25%). Individual process and development is assessed for the midterm evaluation (10%) and the endterm evaluation (15%).

- 1) serious participation in class warm up and exercises
- 2) discipline in training
- 3) co-operation within class setting
- 4) contribution to group discussion
- 5) analysis and critical thinking

Scene Work (45%). The first scene is worth 10%; the second scene is worth 15%, and the third scene is worth 20% of the total mark. In the scene work, **1/3 of the mark is based on your preparation, 1/3 on your working process, and 1/3 on your performance.**

- 1) proactive contribution to group process of scene creation
- 2) scene and character research assignments
- 3) professionalism and dependability in rehearsal and performance
- 4) focus, presence, adaptability in rehearsal and performance
- 5) originality in character and scene creation

Reflective Writings (10%). There are 7 assignments. A focus will be given for each assignment.

Each writing will be graded out of 10 on the following:

- 1) critical reflection on class work and process
- 2) critical reflection on scene work
- 3) creativity
- 4) quality of discussion of assigned focus

Reflective Paper (10%). The paper will be graded on:

- 1) ability to summarize and draw connections between the Reflective Writings
- 2) attention to observed details
- 3) critical analysis and questions raised
- 4) clarity of writing (includes grammar, punctuation, spelling)
- 5) structure of paper (introduction, discussion, conclusion)

Response Paper (10%). The paper will be graded on:

- 1) ability to summarize the content of the play
- 2) awareness of the context of the play
- 3) ability to reflect critically on the different elements of the theatre productions – scenography, acting, directing, marketing

Grading will be according to the criteria commonly used within a BFA acting program:

A (85-89) to **A+** (90-100) Shows an understanding and ability to handle basic material*, Shows competency and evidence of growth in work, Shows ability to control and develop material, Shows Originality in Handling Material.

A- (80-84) Shows an understanding and ability to handle basic material, Shows competency and evidence of growth in work, Shows ability to control and develop material

B+ (76-79) Shows an understanding and ability to handle basic material, Shows competency and evidence of growth in work

B- (68-71) to **B** (72-75) Shows an understanding and ability to handle basic material

C+ (64-67) Shows an adequate understanding of material.

* "Material" means the warm up, exercises, scene work, rehearsals, and any other aspects of the course.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Students need to have comfortable, flexible clothing (no zippers, or belts) that they use for class. No jewelry is to be worn during class.

- Students may choose to purchase costume and prop items for their scenes. Any purchases will remain the student's own property. Theatre tickets and field trip to Edmonton are the responsibility of the student..

- More than 10% absenteeism (2 classes) may seriously impact a student's ability to complete the requirements for the course. Medical or extenuating circumstances will need to be documented and a copy given to the instructor.

STUDENTS MUST COMMIT TO SPEND TIME OUTSIDE OF CLASS TO REHEARSE WITH THEIR SCENE PARTNERS, FOR MIDTERM AND END OF TERM INTERVIEWS, AND FOR COACHING SESSIONS. "RULE OF THUMB: 10 MINUTES OF SCENE REQUIRES 10 HOURS OF REHEARSAL."

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Admission Guide at

<http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/**

**Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available on the same page.

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Wk	Month	Date	Assign. Due	Focus
1	Sept	10 12		Intro Class: get to know each other and how the class will work together, course shape and assignments Foundation Classes –discussion of the relationship of improv to theatre performance, begin physical training
Attend Dress Rehearsal for <i>Harvest</i> Sept. 18, 7:30, Second Street theatre				
2		17 19		Foundation Classes – physical training, CORED Physical Training, Improv exercises, discussion about Harvest
3		24 26	Weekly Reflection 1	Continue Physical Training, Power and Status, Image Theatre, clarifying action. **Choose Scene 1 Partners**
You are invited to the Aboriginal Students Welcome Sept. 19				
4	Oct	1 3	Weekly Reflection 2	Continue Physical Training, character Development, Non-verbal communication, Transformation.
5		10	Character Development 1	Workshop Scene 1 in class.
6		15 17	Weekly Reflection 3	Workshop Scene 1 in class. Present Scene 1 in class

Mad Moose Mayhem, Oct. 18, 19, 20, 26, 27, Second Street Theatre, 7:30 - Optional				
7		22 24	Weekly Reflection 4	Continue Physical Training, Dramatic Tension. **Choose Scene 2 Partners**
Midterm Evaluations Oct. 22 to 26				
8		29 31	Character Development 2	Continue Physical Training, Character Objectives. Character Objectives and tactics.
9	Nov	1	Field Trip to Edmonton to see <i>The Memorandum</i> and visit the U of A. Thurs. Nov. 1	
		5 7	Weekly Reflection 5 Response paper: <i>The Memorandum</i>	Trip Debrief: <i>The Memorandum</i> Continue Physical Training. Coachings and scene rehearsals in class time.
Attend Dress Rehearsal for The 1940's Radio Hour Nov. 12 - Optional				
10		14	Weekly Reflection 6	Present Scene 2 in class **Choose Scene 3 Partners** Learn RSVP method.
11		19 21	Character Development 3	RSVP in scene groups. Coaching/Rehearsal in class time.
1 hour scene coachings Nov. 19 to 23				
Auditions for Winter Drama Production Nov. 26 & 27. Call backs Nov. 29.				
13		26 28	Weekly Reflection 7	Coaching/Rehearsal in class time. Present scene 3 in class.
Visitor in the Arts, Nov. 28, L106, 11:30 to 12:40 – Bretta Gereke				
14	Dec	3		Rehearse scenes in class.

		5		
		10	Final Reflective Paper.	Rehearsal and Evening Performance of scenes.
				Wrap Up Class
Endterm Evaluations Dec.13, 14, 17, 18				

Scenes: *Students will work in groups of 3 to 4 people to create 3 original scenes. You will be responsible for completing a Character Development Worksheet for each scene. Each scene will be marked out of 10 and have equal weight. It is expected that you will rehearse your scenes extensively outside of class time.*

Reflections: *Students will write 7 reflections (250 to 500 words) with notes on class activities, assigned topics, rehearsals, performances, visitors, their questions and observations. Reflections may also include artwork, creative writing, clippings ... The purpose of the Reflection is for the student to think critically and analytically about the work they are doing and what they are learning in the class. Reflections will also assist the Midterm and Endterm interviews. DO NOT LOSE YOUR REFLECTIONS AS THEY ARE YOUR NOTES FOR THE REFLECTIVE PAPER.*

Reflective Paper: Students will write a summative Reflective Paper that will draw on their weekly reflections throughout the course. An assignment outline will be given mid November. Reflective papers should be 1500 to 2000 words in length.

Response Paper: *Students will write a response paper about The Memorandum, which we will see on our field trip to Edmonton, Nov. 1. The assignment will be given before the trip.*