



DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS

COURSE OUTLINE – DR1490 A2 FALL 2014

INTRO TO DRAMATIC ART – T, R 2:30 TO 5:20

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Annie Smith **PHONE:** 780-539-2882
OFFICE: L222 **E-MAIL:** asmith@gprc.ab.ca

OFFICE HOURS: T, R 13:00 – 14:00

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 (20%). Individual process and development is assessed for the midterm evaluation (10%) and the endterm evaluation (10%).

- 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
- 6) feedback to other students

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 (15%). 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 College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at

https://www.gprc.ab.ca/files/forms_documents/Student_Misconduct.pdf

**Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available at

<https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/>

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Wk	Month	Date	Assign. Due	Focus
1	Sept	4		Intro Class: get to know each other and how the class will work together, course shape and assignments
2		9 11		Foundation Class – discussion of the relationship of improv to theatre performance, begin physical training – tour of DJC Performing Arts Centre Physical Training, Improv exercises, CORED
3		16 18	Weekly Reflection 1	Continue Physical Training, Power and Status, Image Theatre, clarifying action. **Choose Scene 1 Partners**
4	Sept	23 25	Weekly Reflection 2	Continue Physical Training, character Development, Non-verbal communication, Transformation.
Attend Readings from <i>Last Chance LeDuc</i> – Sept 26, 7 PM, GP Library				

5	Oct	30	Character Development 1	Workshop Scene 1 in class.
		2		Workshop Scene 1 in class.
6		7	Weekly Reflection 3	Present Scene 1 in class.
		9		Continue Physical Training, Dramatic Tension. **Choose Scene 2 Partners**
7		14	Weekly Reflection 4	Continue Physical Training, Character Objectives.
		16		Character Objectives and tactics.
Midterm Evaluations Oct. 20 to 24				
8		21	Character Development 2	Scene 2 Coaching/Rehearsal in class time.
		23		Scene 2 Coaching/Rehearsal in class time.
9		28	Weekly Reflection 5	Present Scene 2 in class
		30		Learn RSVP method. **Choose Scene 3 Partners**
10	Nov	4	Weekly Reflection 6	RSVP in scene groups.
		6		Leave on field trip – Response paper assignment
Field Trip to Edmonton Nov 6/7/8				
11		11	Character Development 3	No Class – Remembrance Day
		13		Coaching/Rehearsal in class time.
Auditions for Winter Drama Production Nov. 25 & 27. Call backs Nov. 28.				
13		18	Response Paper	Coaching/Rehearsal in class time.
		20		

14		25 27	Weekly Reflection 7	Coaching/Rehearsal in class time. Present scene 3 in class.
15	Dec	2 4	Final Reflective Paper.	Rehearse for Drama Scenes Drama Scenes Set up and Pizza
<p>Drama Scenes Performance – Dec. 4, 6:30 PM (with DR2320)</p> <p>Endterm Evaluations Dec.10, 11, 12</p>				

Local Theatre Productions: (special rates will apply for specific performances)		
Sept 23 – 26	<i>Contempt of Court</i>	Ovations Showcase Centre
Oct 10 – 25	<i>Tarzan</i>	Broadway Live Broadway
Oct 9 – 25	<i>Jennie's House of Joy</i>	Ovations Showcase Centre
Oct 23 – Nov 8	<i>The Good Game</i>	Grande Prairie Live Theatre
Nov 7 – Dec 13	<i>Buddy – the B. Holly Story</i>	Ovations Showcase Centre
Nov 27 – Dec 13	<i>Funny Money</i>	Grande Prairie Live Theatre

Assignments:

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. 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 Love Play, which we will see on our field trip to Edmonton, Nov. 6 or 7. The assignment will be given before the trip.*