



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS
Course Number and Title: Drama 210 – S02 Introduction to
Acting
Session: Winter 2021

Instructor Office Email Office Hours	Peter Balkwill CHD 006 peter.bakwill@ucalgary.ca by appointment over zoom
Day(s),time(s) and location of Class	In person – Monday 1PM – 3:50 PM – RT 127 Synchronous web-based instruction – Wednesday 1PM – 2:50 PM
Learning resources: required readings, textbooks and materials	Reading materials will be provided or recommended by the Instructor and available through the Library or on D2L. A notebook and pencil are required for class. Everyone is required to have a mask for all in-class meetings
Learning Technologies and Requirements	There is a D2L site for this course which contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials (see d2L.ucalgary.ca). In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates; • A current and updated web browser; • Webcam (built-in or external); • Microphone and speaker (built-in or external) or headset with microphone; • Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled; • Broadband internet connection. Most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker and microphone.
Prerequisites	Drama 209 and or permission from Department Chair
Course description	Practical experience in acting; improvisation and introductory work from texts; the development of communication skills and personal acting creativity. The aim of this class is to enhance confidence and self-awareness in performance and to provide practical tools to develop the students' creativity, imagination and a skillful understanding of script analysis techniques.
Course learning outcomes	By the completion of this course, successful students will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Collaborate responsibly in rehearsal and creation in partnership with others. 2. Actively support the culture of respect and inclusion in the studio environment. 3. Analyze and breakdown a script by applying the primary elements of acting technique, including playing objectives, tactics, listening and reacting. 4. Be able to discern and identify the difference between demonstrating/indicating versus truthful, embodied acting. 5. Choose appropriate monologues for an audition. 6. Understand audition procedures and expected behavior in the process. 7. Engage in effective character development. 8. Develop skills for presentational speaking.

Course schedule	<p>The semester of studio style components will cover;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Physical and Vocal warm ups / exploration: every class. ○ Solo creation projects – Actor’s Legacy Jan 11 – Feb 22 ○ Scene work – Feb 22 – Mar 22 ○ Critical analysis of performance – TBD ○ Audition monologues – Mar 22 – Apr 12 <p>Students will receive handouts with clear details, due dates, assessment criteria and instruction for each major assignment. There are no formal examinations. Please note that due to the exploratory nature of this work that some dates may be adjusted with prior warning.</p> <p><u>Journal</u></p> <p>The journal is designed to provide a written record of class activities as well as the opportunity for self-reflection and clear articulation of discoveries within the work. The final journal paper will be a compilation of the term’s discoveries and highlights presented in essay form. Please see journal handout for additional details.</p>
Assessment components	<p><u>Assignment 1: Actor’s Legacy</u> Value: 30% Due Date: January 25, Feb 1, 22 Type: Solo presentation/written – 3 parts each worth 10% Description: Self-generated character creation process and presentation of 2-minute monologue. Students will select a deceased actor of notoriety and research this individual, then prepare three presentation techniques related to developing a character out of the person.</p> <p>Part 1: Stream of Consciousness – 10-minute improvised stream in the present tense. Part 2: Hot Seat – 10-minute question and answer period where the student must assume to know and have opinion on a number of unpredictable questions posed from other classmates. Part 3: Short monologue – Student will draft and present a 2 - minute monologue. Written monologues will be handed in.</p> <p><u>Assignment 2: Scene Study</u> Value: 15% Due Date: March 22, 2020 Type: Scene Study Component Description: Scene presentation, script analysis. Students will perform conventional two-person scenes. Written scene analysis will be handed in.</p> <p><u>Assignment 3: Audition Monologue</u> Value: 15% Due Date: April 12, 2021 Type: Presentation and written components Description: Presentation of audition monologue with basic script and character analysis handed in.</p> <p><u>Assignment 4: Play Critique - TBD</u> Value: 10% Due Date: March 8, 2021 Description: Students will view a production [To be determined] and discuss the theatrical elements of the storytelling, covering acting, design</p>

	<p>and one other key component that stood out to them in the production. 1000 words.</p> <p><u>Assignment 5: Reflection Essay</u> Value: 10% Due Date: April 13, 2020 Description: Students are to keep a detailed journal of the in-class exercises and experiences, that will act as a reference document going forward. At the end of the semester, the student will write an essay reflecting on their progress through the semester, detailing the revelations and key moments of learning through the semester. 1000 words</p> <p><u>Assignment 6: Participation / Growth and Development</u> Value: 20% Due Date: On going Description: An evaluation of an individual student’s focus, concentration and effort in class – demonstrating concern and accountability toward the objectives and exercises presented to the group. This grade stems from an individual ‘s demonstrated ability and is gauged on the arc of improvement throughout the entire class, but also the singular investment in the progress of the ensemble.</p> <p>Preparation is connected to work outside of class in regard to learning lines and working scenes – this is your homework.</p> <p>Participation includes but is not limited to the power of observation when others are working and the ability and willingness to offer feedback and critical response. In addition to these assessed components the student’s attendance in class will also fall under this criterion – see below for further definition of this.</p> <p>Please note – cell phones, iPad and computers are not permitted in class in any form, or manner, even during breaks. If a cell phone is needed during a break the student must leave the class. Any cell phones seen in class will be confiscated and returned at the end of class – this event will negatively impact the Growth – Participation – Preparation grade. Please come with a writing instrument and a journal in which to take notes.</p> <p><u>Appropriate Clothing</u> Much of the work in this class is physical in nature therefor proper <i>neutral</i> movement cloths are required, no dresses or skirts. Please wear clothes that allow for flexibility in movement, being on the floor, dress in layers as the work will make you heat up and cool off intermittently. Make sure to have a pair of indoor shoes – outdoor shoes will not be permitted in class.</p>
<p>Assessment expectations</p>	<p>Expectations for attendance: A note about assessment in studio classes. Students should recognize that the nature of acting is arbitrary and therefore not easily compartmented into a form of assessment. A student is graded not only for the written work handed in but by and large how well they assimilate the concepts provided in class within the execution of the presentation. These components are tied to the preparation executed outside of class and the memorization of scripts and texts.</p>

	<p>The growth of students both individual and collective is directly connected to attendance – attendance is mandatory. Without prior notice to the instructor, lateness or absence will negatively impact the participation and growth grade. Prior notice should be in the form of a message to the office of the instructor or through email – it cannot come after the missed class. Three missed classes will impact your grade by one letter point i.e.: B to B-. The class starts on time and is indicated when the door is closed, any student arriving after this point will be counted “late”. Three lates count to one absence. Acceptance of all excuses is at the discretion of the instructor; prior notice does not always guarantee lenient.</p> <p><u>Expectations for Writing:</u> Writing skills are important to academic study across all disciplines. Consequently, instructors may use their assessment of writing quality as a factor in the evaluation of student work. Please refer to the Undergraduate Calendar E.2 Writing Across the Curriculum policy for details.</p> <p>All written assignments must be handed in – both hard copy and digital copy with a title page in word document format.</p> <p><u>Missed or Late Assignments:</u> Missed or late assignments will only be accepted at the discretion of the instructor.</p> <p><u>Expectations for Writing:</u> Writing skills are important to academic study across all disciplines. Consequently, instructors may use their assessment of writing quality as a factor in the evaluation of student work. Please refer to the Undergraduate Calendar E.2 Writing Across the Curriculum policy for details.</p>												
Grading scale	<p>For the course as a whole, letter grades should be understood as follows, as outlined in the section F.1.1 Undergraduate Grading System of the Calendar: https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1.html.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A grade of "C-" or below may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation, see specific faculty regulations. ● The number of "D" and "D+" grades acceptable for credit is subject to specific undergraduate faculty promotional policy. <p>The following numerical rubric will be applied to arrive at the letter grade:</p> <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>A+ 97.6-100</td> <td>A 92.6-97.5</td> <td>A- 90-92.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B+ 87.6-89.9</td> <td>B 82.6-87.5</td> <td>B- 80-82.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C+ 77.6- 79.9</td> <td>C 72.6-77.5</td> <td>C- 70-72.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>D+ 67.6-69.9</td> <td>D 62.6-67.5</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● F 0-62.5 	A+ 97.6-100	A 92.6-97.5	A- 90-92.5	B+ 87.6-89.9	B 82.6-87.5	B- 80-82.5	C+ 77.6- 79.9	C 72.6-77.5	C- 70-72.5	D+ 67.6-69.9	D 62.6-67.5	
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Guidelines for Zoom Sessions	<p>Zoom is a video conferencing program that will allow us to meet at specific times for a “live” video conference, so that we can have the opportunity to meet each other virtually and discuss relevant course topics as a learning community.</p> <p>To help ensure Zoom sessions are private, do not share the Zoom link or password with others, or on any social media platforms. Zoom links and passwords are only intended for students registered in the course. Zoom recordings and materials presented in Zoom, including any teaching materials, must not be shared, distributed or published without the instructor’s permission.</p>												

	<p>The use of video conferencing programs relies on participants to act ethically, honestly and with integrity; and in accordance with the principles of fairness, good faith, and respect (as per the Code of Conduct). When entering Zoom or other video conferencing sessions (such as MS Teams), you play a role in helping create an effective, safe and respectful learning environment. Please be mindful of how your behaviour in these sessions may affect others. Participants are required to use names officially associated with their UCID (legal or preferred names listed in the Student Centre) when engaging in these activities. Instructors/moderators can remove those whose names do not appear on class rosters. Non-compliance may be investigated under relevant University of Calgary conduct policies (e.g Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy). If participants have difficulties complying with this requirement, they should email the instructor of the class explaining why, so the instructor may consider whether to grant an exception, and on what terms. For more information on how to get the most out of your zoom sessions visit: https://elearn.ucalgary.ca/guidelines-for-zoom/.</p> <p>If you are unable to attend a Zoom session, please contact your instructor to arrange an alternative activity for the missed session (e.g., to review a recorded session). Please be prepared, as best as you are able, to join class in a quiet space that will allow you to be fully present and engaged in Zoom sessions. Students will be advised by their instructor when they are expected to turn on their webcam (for group work, presentations, etc.).</p> <p>The instructor may record online Zoom class sessions for the purposes of supporting student learning in this class – such as making the recording available for review of the session or for students who miss a session. Students will be advised before the instructor initiates a recording of a Zoom session. These recordings will be used to support student learning only and will not be shared or used for any other purpose.</p>
Academic Accommodation	<p>It is the student’s responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The Student Accommodations policy is available at https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations.</p> <p>Students needing an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf). Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than Disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor.</p> <p>SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/ .</p>
Academic integrity, plagiarism	<p>Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student’s academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor’s expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.</p> <p>For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit: https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf and https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-procedure.pdf. Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity.</p>

Internet and electronic communication device	The use of laptop and mobile devices is acceptable when used in a manner appropriate to the course and classroom activities. Please refrain from accessing websites and resources that may be distracting to you or for other learners during class time. Students are responsible for being aware of the University's Internet and email use policy, which can be found at https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/electronic-communications-policy.pdf
Intellectual Property	Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.
Copyright	All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf) and requirements of the copyright act (https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html .
Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy	Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.
Student Support	Please visit this link for important information on UCalgary's student wellness and safety resources: https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines