

DRAMA 300: Advanced Acting I (Lab #2)

University of Calgary
Fall 2014 / Winter 2015

INSTRUCTOR: Mike Griffin**OFFICE:** Office D221**OFFICE HOURS:** Wednesdays 9:00 – 10:00 (By appointment)**E-MAIL:** mdgriffi@ucalgary.ca**PHONE:** 403.220.7460**CLASS TIMES & LOCATIONS:**

Mon / Wed: 10:00 – 11:50

Matthews Theatre F101

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Drama 300 is a practical studio-based course designed to build upon the fundamental acting techniques introduced in Drama 200. There will be a strong focus on developing the creative individual physically, vocally and imaginatively. Students will explore the self as individual and as actor and will experience an array of different methods and techniques used in approaching a script/role, creating character, and analysing text. Students will work individually, in small groups and as an ensemble. Course work will emphasize process over product, training students to develop their own personal awareness, reflection, and self-assessment. All major projects will involve written work accompanying performance including research and script analysis elements.

The Friday session of Drama 300 will explore the Movement (Fall) and Voice (Winter) components of the course.

Drama 300 is a course that requires considerable time and effort to be successful. In addition to scheduled class hours and the individual preparation of assignments and presentations, students will be required to commit to several hours of rehearsal to prepare for collaborative projects.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate a deeper understanding of the body as an instrument for performance.
- Demonstrate commitment to personal development as a performer.
- Demonstrate the ability to work collaboratively within a group.
- Demonstrate positive changes and continued advancement in class exercises and performance projects.
- Demonstrate the application of essential elements of acting technique such as openness, connection, grounding, listening, and being in the moment with texts, improvisations, and class explorations.
- Demonstrate the application of textual analysis with both contemporary and classical texts incorporating given circumstances, objectives, actions, scene/text breakdown etc.
- Demonstrate the ability to receive and integrate criticism into successive class activities.
- Demonstrate the ability to reflect on personal performance experiences through speaking and writing.

By accepting an offered position in this course, students warrant that they are able and willing to handle the physical and emotional demands of the class.

REQUIRED RESOURCES:

Actions: The Actors' Thesaurus (Book Store)

Marina Caldarone & Maggie Lloyd-Williams
Nick Hern Books, London

Students will need to obtain all of the plays from which scenes and monologues are chosen. The specifics of those plays will become evident as we progress throughout the semester. Other readings/materials will be provided throughout the semester as handouts or on D2L. It is also expected that students will attend at least **one** professional theatre performance each semester and all of the Drama Department productions.

COME PREPARED WITH:

- 1) A **Journal** that is dedicated solely to this course.
- 2) A **Notebook** for class notes.
- 3) **Movement clothes.** This class will be physical. Things like sweats, tights, leotards, t-shirts are recommended. Please don't wear things like skirts, tight pants, jeans, big jewellery, hats or any revealing or restrictive clothing. Long hair must be tied back.

RECOMMENDED READING:

- *Respect for Acting*, Uta Hagen, Macmillan, 1973.
- *An Actor Performs*, Mel Shapiro, Wadsworth, 1996.
- *An Actor Prepares*, Konstantin Stanislavsky, 1973.
- *The Moving Body*, Jaques Lecoq, 2001.
- *Different Every Night*, Mike Alfreds, 2007.

ATTENDANCE:

Full and prompt attendance and participation in **ALL** classes and rehearsals is **mandatory**. As an experience-based studio course, it will not be possible to make up missed classes or presentations. As well, since student progress depends on interaction and participation with peers, the absence of one student may negatively impact several others. Unexcused absences / lates will negatively impact student progress/grades.

Lateness is considered a lack of respect and is highly unprofessional. Being on time means being **ready to begin** at the scheduled time, allow yourself to get to class a few minutes before it starts so that you can settle into the space and prepare.

ASSESSMENTS

(Dates are subject to change due to the process-driven nature of the course.)

SEMESTER #1

1) Contemporary Monologue (October 20th / 22nd)	20%
2) Contemporary Scene (December 1st / 3rd)	20%
3) Growth and Development (Ongoing)	20%
4) Journal / Journal Reflection Paper (December 3rd)	10%
5) Movement Lab	30%
SEMESTER #1 TOTAL	100%

SEMESTER #2

3) Shakespeare Monologue (Feb 9 th / 11 th)	20%
4) Scene #2 (April 8 th / 13 th / 15 th)	20%
5) Growth and Development (Ongoing)	10%
6) Mask Unit (Ongoing/TBA)	10%
7) Journal / Journal Reflection Paper (April 15 th)	10%
8) Voice Lab	30%
SEMESTER #2 TOTAL	100%

PARTICIPATION, GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT:

<p>Your grade for Growth and Development will examine the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ successful application of studies, concepts and skills in class exercises ➤ risk-taking ➤ trust in the process and others ➤ working from growing sense of truth and honesty ➤ ability to receive and integrate criticism into successive class activities ➤ development of personal awareness ➤ ability to reflection on own work ➤ punctual attendance ➤ concentration and focus ➤ commitment to the class and group projects ➤ preparation ➤ ensemble collaboration ➤ overall positive contribution to class discussions and activities
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JOURNAL / JOURNAL REFELCTION PAPER: 10%

<p>The reflective process is crucial to a course like Acting. The journal will be an ongoing assignment. You are expected to write in your journal after every class. This is the minimum. It is suggested to track your personal progress out of class as well. <u>It is important that all entries are dated.</u> There will be a check in point throughout semester to see that you are on the right track with your journals.</p> <p>At the end of each term you will hand in your journal and write a 4-5 page summary of your journal. This will track your journey through the course. The highs and the lows. The discoveries and the progress you have made. Both Journal and Journal Paper will be handed in and graded.</p> <p>Structure your journal like this:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; text-align: center;"> <tr> <th style="width: 50%;">LEFT SIDE</th> <th style="width: 50%;">RIGHT SIDE</th> </tr> <tr> <td><i>Documentation</i></td> <td><i>Personal Reflections</i></td> </tr> </table> <p>The purpose of the journal has two parts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To reflect on personal progress and experience of daily activities. (RIGHT SIDE) Let the following questions be a starting point (but not a limitation) for you: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ What was your experience of the class activities today? What did you notice about yourself? What did you notice about others? 	LEFT SIDE	RIGHT SIDE	<i>Documentation</i>	<i>Personal Reflections</i>
LEFT SIDE	RIGHT SIDE			
<i>Documentation</i>	<i>Personal Reflections</i>			

- Did you take any risks, why or why not?
 - Did you judge, yourself or others, why?
 - What new discoveries are you making with the work?
 - How are you changing/growing as a performer?
 - What are you struggling with?
 - Where are you finding growth and progress?
 - What changes have you noted in your awareness of self and others outside of class?
 - What are you noticing in your private work at home?
 - How have your thoughts about voice, body, connection, performing, changed?
 - How does this work relate to your life? Does it?
- 2) To document daily class activities. (LEFT SIDE)
- Take detailed notes on the activities explored in class.

DUE: December 3rd / April 15th

INTERVIEWS:

Mandatory interviews will be scheduled with the instructor at the end of each semester. If you have any questions concerning your progress during the term, please make an appointment with the instructor.

DRAMA 400 AUDITIONS:

Students wishing to be considered for enrolment in Drama 400 are expected to participate in the auditions scheduled during the **third week of April**. Audition by video is possible if necessary due to extraordinary conflicts or circumstances, although this may place the applicant at a disadvantage as the audition panel weight in their final selection decisions all components of the audition process and not only the two required monologues. Please note: arrangements can be made for scheduling conflicts with a Final Exam. (In this case, notify Dawn McCaugherty asap.)

Numerical to Letter Grade Equivalent

A+	95-100%	4.0	Mastery of material
A	90-94	4.0	Excellent - superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter
A-	85-89	3.7	
B+	80-84	3.3	Very good
B	75-79	3.0	Good - clearly above average performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete
B-	71-74	2.7	
C+	67-70	2.3	
C	63-66	2.0	Satisfactory - basic understanding of subject matter
C-	59-62	1.7	
D+	55-58	1.3	Poor
D	50-54	1.0	Minimal pass - marginal performance
F	0-49	0	Fail - unsatisfactory performance of failure to meet course

FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Visit us for answers about course registration, graduation checks, and the ‘big picture’ on programs and majors. Drop in at SS102, email us at artsads@ucalgary.ca or call us at 403-220-3580. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate which has detailed information on common academic concerns. • For academic success support, such as writing support, peer support, success seminars, and learning support, visit the Student Success Centre on the third floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library (TFDL), email them at success@ucalgary.ca or visit their website at http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/ for more information or to book an appointment. • For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625], by email at futurestudents@ucalgary.ca or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block 117.
ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION	http://www.ucalgary.ca/access
FOIP	http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy
ACADEMIC STANDING	http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f.html
CAMPUS SECURITY	220-5333. Help phones: located throughout campus, parking lots, and elevators. They connect directly to Campus Security; in case of emergency, press the red button.
COURSE OUTLINES FOR TRANSFER CREDIT	It is possible that you will be asked for copies of this outline for credit transfers to other institutions or for proof of work done. It is the student's responsibility to keep these outlines and provide them to employers or other universities when requested. Please ensure that outlines of all the courses you take are kept in a safe place for your future reference. Departments/Programs do not guarantee that they will provide copies.
DEFERRALS OF EXAMS/TERM WORK	It is possible to request a deferral of term work or final examinations for reasons of illness, accident, family or domestic affliction, or religious obligations. Please check with your advisor if any of these issues make it impossible for you to sit an exam or finish term work by stated deadlines.
EMERGENCY EVACUATION	http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints
LETTER OF PERMISSION	If you wish to study at another institution while registered at the U of C, you must have a letter of permission. You can submit your request through your Student Centre at MyUofC. Students must have the Letter of Permission before they take the course at another school. Failure to prepare may result in no credit awarded and could result in suspension from the faculty.
PLAGIARISM	Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. For details see the University of Calgary

	Calendar. Consequences include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possibly suspension or expulsion from the university. You must document not only direct quotations but also paraphrases and ideas where they appear in your text. A reference list at the end is insufficient by itself. Readers must be able to tell exactly where your words and ideas end and other people's words and ideas begin. This includes assignments submitted in non-traditional formats such as Web pages or visual media, and material taken from such sources. Please consult your instructor or the Student Success Centre (TFDL 3 rd Floor) if you have any questions regarding how to document sources.
SAFEWALK	220-5333 anytime. http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk
STUDENT MISCONDUCT	http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html
STUDENT UNION CONTACT STUDENT OMBUDSPERSON	Faculty of Arts reps: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca ; arts2@su.ucalgary.ca ; arts3@su.ucalgary.ca ; arts4@su.ucalgary.ca
UNDERGRADUATE ASSOCIATIONS	DUS: Drama Undergraduate Society, CH C 005 uofcdus@gmail.com MUS: Music Undergraduate Society, CH F 219 undmusic@ucalgary.ca PIVOT: Dance Undergraduate Society, CH E 211 pivotdancers@gmail.com