



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS
DRM 400B Advanced Acting I: Movement
Winter 2021

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| Instructor Office Email Office Hours | Peter Balkwill CHD 006 peter.balkwill@ucalgary.ca By appointment over zoom |
| Day(s),time(s) and location of Class | Friday 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM – In Person – CHF 101 |
| Learning resources: required readings, textbooks and materials | No required texts. Movement cloths and warm up mat are needed for every class. 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 in person classes. |
| 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 302 and or consent of the Division Chair. |
| Course description | Further studies in the investigation of the actor’s body and use thereof in the pursuit of live performance. This course will explore different states of presence, not only of the human form but also shared energy between performers and the audience. Exercises will draw from the modalities of Tadashi Suzuki as well as View Points articulated by Anne Bogart and Tina Landau and the vocabulary of Joan Skinner in Skinner releasing. Components of fitness, flexibility and nutrition will also be studied, as well as a survey of historical practice in physical theatre. |
| Course learning outcomes | By the completion of this course, successful students will be able to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Invest in physical warm up practices that develop and foster strength and flexibility. 2. Demonstrate a basic understanding of the relevance of abstract exploration to the practical task of acting – in this case connected to the modalities of Japanese director Tadashi Suzuki. 3. Develop a strong sense of focus and concentration to the end of performance as well as rehearsal and creation work. |

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| | <p>4. Have a basic understanding of healthy nutrition.</p> <p>5. Identify the individual's place within a physical ensemble, while identifying the ensemble as an individual.</p> <p>6. Harness the vital energy connected with a physical ensemble and understand how this is shared with the energy of an audience.</p> <p>7. Express pre-determined paths of movement to other ensemble members in the pursuit of choreography.</p> |
| Course schedule | <p>Unit 1: January - April Introduction to the modalities of Tadashi Suzuki: this unit will address effective posture and presence on stage while also identifying the individual's place within an ensemble, and creating an individual out of the ensemble. Students will also engage in an investigation of games and how these activities relate directly to the investment of acting – on going through out entire course. This component of the class will also address elements of physical warm-ups.</p> <p>Unit 2: March - April Introduction to View Points and Skinner Releasing: this unit will address free-form movement improv intended to sit in juxtapose to the work in unit 1.</p> <p>Unit 3: March - April Exploration of basic choreography: this unit will explore putting formal vocabulary to the idea of movement-based dance and will deconstruct the idea and nature of dance in theatrical performance. This unit will explore the foundation of scripting movement based work.</p> |
| Assessment components | <p><u>Assignment 1: Suzuki Training</u> Value: 30% Due Date: On going Description: An introduction to the physical and vocal exercises of Tadashi Suzuki. Students will move through the various routines developing strength, flexibility, balance and a physical relationship with their Ki energy, and its shared relationship with the observing audience. The nature of focus and concentration will also be explored drawing a formal nature to work in rehearsal and performance. Although this is listed as a formal assignment, students will be evaluated on in class progress of the above-mentioned components.</p> <p><u>Assignment 2: View Points / Skinner Releasing</u> Value: 20% Due Date: On going Description: An introduction to practice and modalities of View Points as articulated by Anne Bogart and Tina Landau, as well as the exercises of Joan Skinner – Skinner Releasing. In small groups students will create a short movement piece to be presented in class responding to a short poem or lyrics of a particular song.</p> <p><u>Assignment 3: Articulating Choreography</u> Value: 10% Due Date: April 9, 2021 Description: An exercise of articulating specific moment to an ensemble or group of performers. Students will be required to compose a certain measure of calculated movement steps to the rest of class, essentially teaching them the choreography. Each student's piece will then be combined to create a full-length movement piece to an entire song. Students will be required to memorize the entire piece.</p> |

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| | <p><u>Self-Assessment and Final Reflection</u> Value: 10% Due Date: April 9, 2021 Description: Students will grade themselves on all assignment (note a student’s self-assessment does not constitute nor guarantee their final grade but acts as a measure to calibrate their own understanding of their progress in the class). In addition to the self-assessment the students will provide a reflection of their journey within the class – max 1000 words. Consult expectations for written assignments.</p> <p><u>Participation – Growth - Preparation</u> Value: 30% 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 certain exercises.</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 socks at every class, as well as indoor shoes if needed.</p> |
| <p>Assessment expectations</p> | <p><u>Guidelines for Submitting Assignments:</u> All written assignments are to be emailed in Microsoft word document, to the Instructor.</p> <p><u>Criteria That Must Be Met To Pass</u> Expectations for attendance: 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</p> |

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 impact – doctor’s notes will be required for any illness that extends into two classes.

Expectations for Writing:

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.

Grading scale

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 Undergraduate Calendar for 2018-2019:

| Grade | Grade Point Value | Description |
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| A+ | 4.00 | Outstanding performance |
| A | 4.00 | Excellent performance |
| A- | 3.70 | Approaching excellent performance |
| B+ | 3.30 | Exceeding good performance |
| B | 3.00 | Good performance |
| B- | 2.70 | Approaching good performance |
| C+ | 2.30 | Exceeding satisfactory performance |
| C | 2.00 | Satisfactory performance |
| C- | 1.70 | Approaching satisfactory performance. |
| *D+ | 1.30 | Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject |
| *D | 1.00 | Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject |
| F | 0.00 | Failure. Did not meet course requirements. Several Faculties utilize an F grade that does not carry weight in calculating the grade point average. This will be noted in the calendar description as “Not Included in GPA” where applicable. |
| **I | 0.00 | Incomplete. Sufficient work has not been submitted for evaluation, unable to adequately assess. May also be used when a final exam is not submitted. |
| CR | | Completed Requirements. Carries no weight in calculating the grade point average. This will be noted in the calendar description as “Not Included in GPA” where applicable |

Notes:

- 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.

A+ 97.6-100 A 92.6-97.5 A- 90-92.5

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| | <p>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 F 0-62.5</p> |
| 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</p> |

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| | <p>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 | <p>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</p> |
| Intellectual Property | <p>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.</p> |
| Copyright | <p>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.</p> |
| Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy | <p>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.</p> |
| Student Support | <p>Please visit this link for important information on UCalgary's student wellness and safety resources: https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines</p> |