



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
FACULTY OF ARTS
SCHOOL OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS
Course Number and Title: DRAM 412 Advanced Acting II
Session: Winter 2024

Instructor Office Email Office Hours	Peter Balkwill CHD06 Peter.Balkwill@ucalgary.ca Mon / Wed: 12:00 – 1:00 or by appointment
Day(s),time(s):	Monday / Wednesday: 9:00 – 11:45
Learning resources: required readings, textbooks and materials	<i>It Takes A Village: Spinning The Collective Yarn</i> ; Breakwater Books, St. John’s NFLD – available in the bookstore
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).
Prerequisites	Drama 409 and consent of the division lead.
Course description	Intermediate practice of contemporary and stylized performance and acting techniques, in addition to personal practice associated with strong physical presence. Introduction to mask and puppetry (both live theatrical performance and manipulation for camera), with an emphasis on clarity of physical storytelling and working within the silent narrative.
Course learning outcomes	By the completion of this course, successful students will be able to: 1. Demonstrate an introductory ability to perform dramatic moments through the use of mask and/or puppetry for stage (and puppetry for camera). 2. Identify the journey of dramatic tension within stories and enhance said tension through the application of physical tension in performance. 3. Create dynamic characters through stylized physical exploration. 4. Understand the relationship of mask to puppetry. 5. Script action within the silent narrative. 6. Create short wordless performances in collaboration with other students. 7. Perform self-created work in the professional setting of the Festival of Animated Objects in Calgary, Alberta in March 2023. 8. Operate a hinged-jaw hand puppet with a basic understanding of articulating speech through syllable manipulation, as well as the use of monitor for clarity in camera work. 9. Build basic hand-operated puppets from fabric and hand stitching
Course schedule	Note: The following is a breakdown of units explored which are further articulated in Assessment components. As this class deals with the creation of original material, some units will take longer than others with unpredictable developments; thus due-dates will be determined through the journey of the class, and agreed to with appropriate time allotted for success by practicing students. Dates will be listed to indicate the pace of the class. Unit 2 and 3 below will be executed through the application of mask and puppetry. Unit 1: (Ongoing throughout the semester) Specialized warm-up. Isolation of the physical regions of the body with an emphasis on control, balance and flexibility. Continued exploration in Suzuki-based movement.

	<p>Unit 2: (January – February) Employing Physical Tension in Performance: Extending from the warm-up, an exploration of how tension applied to different body parts aids in the expression of dramatic tension within performance – creating clarity within the silent narrative.</p> <p>Unit 3: (February – April) Creation of Short Wordless Stories: Utilizing components from previous units as well as fall semester 409 assignments, students will create short textless performances with mask and puppets (additional text-related exercises will occur with hinged-jaw hand-puppets).</p>		
Components (Assignment, Paper, Project, Quiz, or Test)	Description	Due Date	Worth (%)
Assignment 1: Study of Dramatic Tension #1; Written / Presentation	Students will create a short wordless story of a character engaged in a simple moment which was initiated in the Fall semester. Presentations will happen through the application of mask and will run with an accompanying sound track supplied by the instructor. In addition to the presentation, students will be required to hand in a revised written script of the action, previously worked in the Fall semester – due on the day of presentation, handed in to D2L in a word document attachment . See additional information posted on the assignment sheet posted on D2L.	January 15 th , 2023	20%
Assignment 2: Clarity Within Silent Narrative; Presentation/Written	Working in pairs students will create a short wordless story that involves two characters. Presentations will happen through the application of mask and/or puppetry and will run with an accompanying sound track supplied by the students. In addition to the presentation, students will be required to hand in a written script of the action – due on the day of presentation, handed in by D2L in a word document attachment . The results of this investigation will be presented as part of the International Festival of Animated Objects, in Calgary; this will also be the final presentation day of this material – students are required to be present on Monday March 11, 2024, with a call-time of 5 PM, and completion time of 8:30 PM . Any issues with this requirement must be addressed within the first week of class (accommodations will be made for any conflicts at that time). See additional information posted on the assignment sheet posted on D2L.	March 11, 2024	30%
Assignment 3: Puppetry for Live Theatre; Written/Presentation/Fabrication	Students will fabricate basic hand-puppets and then create short, partnered presentations (either incorporating their created puppets or utilizing possibilities introduced in class) for live theatre, working from themes within a play of their selection. In addition to presenting the piece each student will be required to hand in a 1000-word essay on the nature of puppetry in live performance, and its relative comparisons and contrasts to the nature of conventional acting – informed	April 3 rd , 2023	30%

	by their reading of "It Takes A Village" as prescribed under required reading. See additional information on the assignment sheet posted on D2L.		
<p>Assignment 4: Participation – Growth – Preparation; Presentation in class-connected to in-class activities.</p>	<p>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 scene work preparation – meeting off-book deadlines – 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 Assessment Expectations for more information.</p> <p><u>Appropriate Clothing</u> Much of the work in this class is physical in nature, therefore proper <i>neutral</i> movement clothes 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.</p> <p><u>Digital Technology</u> Please note – cell phones, iPad and computers are not permitted in class in any form, or manner, even during breaks, unless otherwise stated. If a cell phone is needed during a break, the student must leave the class to engage with it. 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>	Ongoing – assessment delivered at conclusion of semester	20%
Assessment expectations	<p><u>Guidelines for Submitting Assignments:</u> See expectations for writing. All written assignments must be handed in on the due date, submitted to D2L in Microsoft word document form, no PDFs will be accepted and will be regarded as not handed in.</p> <p><u>Missed or Late Assignments:</u> Any late work will be downgraded one letter grade for every day late. That is, work that would be graded at an A will receive an F after six days late.</p>		

	<p>The above policy at the discretion of the instructor and is open to discussion with the students, but sits as a general policy and will be employed if there is no advance notice of need for an extension.</p> <p><u>Attendance and Participation Expectations:</u> 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. The class starts on time and is indicated when the door is closed; any student arriving after this point will be counted “late” and shall be noted and reflected negatively in “Growth and Participation”. Acceptance of all excuses is at the discretion of the instructor.</p> <p>Students will be expected to participate in the public presentation of the work at the Festival of Animated Objects – March 11, 2024, 5PM – 8:30PM. All students will receive two complimentary tickets to use as they see fit. Any conflict or COVID-related issue will be dealt with at the discretion of the instructor and shall not impact the student’s final grade.</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>Undergraduate: https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/f-1-1.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>A+ 100 – 97 A 96 – 93 A- 92 – 90 B+ 89 – 86 B 85 – 83 B- 82 – 80 C+ 79 – 76 C 75 – 73 C- 72 – 70 D+ 69 – 65 D 64 – 60 F < - 60</p>
Guidelines for Zoom Sessions	N
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/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Accommodation-for-Students-with-Disabilities-Procedure.pdf).</p>

	<p>Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfill requirements for a graduate degree, 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://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Student-Academic-Misconduct-Policy.pdf and https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/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/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Electronic-Resources-and-Information-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 (https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Acceptable-Use-of-Material-Protected-by-Copyright-Policy.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 unauthorized 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>
Arts Students' Centre Program Advising:	<p>Have a question but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in the Faculty of Arts. Call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at ascarts@ucalgary.ca.</p> <p>You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate which has detailed information on common academic concerns.</p>
Faculty of Graduate Studies:	<p>For graduate studies email: graduate@ucalgary.ca or call 403 220 4938.</p> <p>Visit the Faculty of Graduate Studies for more details: https://grad.ucalgary.ca/</p>