COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Offers a survey course that is a basic exploration of the acting process. Students face the challenge of translating a scene from script to stage as performers and discover the questions that must be answered before the scene can live. This course is restricted to Performance Creation Research students. Prerequisites: FA/THEA1010 3.00, FA/THEA1100 3.00 and FA/THEA1200 6.00 and/or permission of the department.

INSTRUCTOR(S)

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Section / Format / Term</th>
<th>Contact Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MacKay-Smith, Nancy</td>
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<td>Anna</td>
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SPECIAL FEATURES

YORK UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE
THEA 2022A 3.0 SCENE STUDY WINTER 2017

Course: THEA 2022A 3.0 Scene Study  
Course Webpage: N/A

Term: Winter Term 2017

Prerequisite / Co-requisite:
Pre-requisites: FA/THEA1010 3.0, FA/THEA1100 3.0, FA/THEA1200 6.0 and/or permission of the Department. This course is restricted to students in Theatre Studies (including Devised Theatre).

Course Instructor:
Anna MacKay-Smith  
amackaysmith@gmail.com  
Cell: 647-229-7649  
Course consultation hours: by appointment.

Time and Location:
Wednesdays and Fridays 2:30 – 5:20pm – CFT 138

Expanded Course Description:
THEA 2022A builds and expands upon the acting techniques introduced in THEA 1010 and THEA 1011. In this course, students will review and deepen their approach to the fundamental concepts of acting through warm-ups, class exercises, performance assignments, and rehearsals outside of class. Students face the challenge for performers of translating a scene from script to stage and of exploring the questions that must be answered before the scene can live. There is a strong focus in this course on imagination, concentration, interpersonal communication, and collaboration. Written scene analysis will be evaluated. Active participation and professionalism are integral components of this curriculum. Students are required to meet and rehearse with rigour outside of class time.

**Organization of the Course** – THEA 2022A is an intensive, practical studio course and will be held twice a week in a class of up to 24 students. Classes will include brief warm-ups, acting exercises, performance assignments, and feedback sessions. The required text, assigned tasks, and practical exercises are central to the course. The studio sessions will serve to enrich, clarify, and illustrate crucial issues from the performance assignments. By signing up for the class, students are agreeing to regularly schedule and be present at *all* outside rehearsals.

**Course Learning Objectives:** The specific objectives of the course are that students will:

- Continue developing performance skills, with a particular focus on developing believable and compelling relationships on stage
- Continue to explore and strengthen their physical, vocal, and emotional resources as actors
- Enhance their analytical skills in preparing performance work
- Deepen their practical understanding of the acting process through class performances and discussion
- Offer and receive critical feedback about their own work and that of their classmates
- Acquaint themselves with useful performance approaches that can be employed by actors, devised theatre practitioners, directors, playwrights, dramaturges, and drama teachers
- Engage in fully invested and collaborative participation in studio sessions and outside rehearsals

**Evaluation:**

**First half of term (40%):**

- Script Analysis 10%
- Scene One 1st Pass 10%
- Scene One Final Pass 10%
- *Participation 10%

**Second half of term (60%):**

- Scene Two 1st Pass 25%
- Scene Two Final Pass 25%
- *Participation 10%

*(interest, commitment, effort; risk-taking, initiative; collaboration, cooperation; demonstration of acting fundamentals in practice and in discussion; attendance/punctuality; rehearsal log submission; investment in rehearsals outside of class; growth; in short—professionalism!)

*There will be a deduction of 2% of the term grade for an unexcused absence or late (recorded in the participation grade).

A log of outside rehearsal sessions is to be submitted in hardcopy by each student at the first and final showings of each performance assignment in the term. Late submissions will not be accepted. There will be a
1% deduction from the term grade for non-submission of each required rehearsal log (recorded in the participation grade).

Instructors are obligated to provide a mechanism by which students can be apprised of their progress in a course; in particular, students must be able to make an informed decision on whether to withdraw from a course. This will normally mean that students will receive some graded feedback on work worth at least 15% of the course grade before the deadline for withdrawing from that course. Instructors are urged to provide more feedback where possible.

The deadline for dropping Winter Term courses without receiving a grade is Friday, March 10, 2017. THEA 2022A 3.0 students will receive 40% of their term grade on Friday, March 3, 2017.

Mid-term and final grades are unofficial and subject to change, as academic reviews may occur prior to the release of grades on grade reports and transcripts. Grades submitted by an instructor may be subject to review by the teaching unit in which the course is offered and by the appropriate AMPD committee. Final course grades may be adjusted to conform to Program or AMPD grades distribution profiles.

Note: Restrictions apply to grade reappraisal. See applicable information in the 2015/16 York University Undergraduate Calendar at http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/2015-2016/faculty_rules/FA/grading.htm. Important: the live performance component of any course is excluded from grade reappraisal.

Further Information on Grading:
Grading: The grading scheme for the course conforms to the 9-point grading system used in undergraduate programs at York (e.g., A+ = 9, A = 8, B+ = 7, C+ = 5, etc.). Assignments and tests will bear either a letter grade designation or a corresponding number grade (e.g. A+ = 90 to 100, A = 80 to 89, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.). For a full description of the York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar at http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/2015-2016/academic/grades/. If you have any unanswered questions or are unsure of your marks or progress during the course, please make an appointment with the instructor. The responsibility is yours.

Assignment Submission:
Proper academic performance depends on students doing their work not only well, but on time. Accordingly, written assignments for this course must be received on the due date specified for the assignment, as indicated in the class schedule. Late submissions will not be accepted and a grade of zero will be given for the written assignment. Emailed submissions of written assignments will not be accepted. Exceptions to the lateness penalty for valid reasons such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., may be entertained by the course director but will require supporting documentation (e.g. a doctor’s letter).

Attendance Policy for THEA 2022A 3.0 Students:
Absent and Late Penalty: Students are reminded that Department of Theatre rules require attendance at all classes. There is no differentiation between excused and unexcused absences - an absence is an absence and will affect your chances of success in this course.

Attendance in all THEA 2022A 3.0 classes and rehearsals outside of class with classmates is mandatory. Failure to attend all THEA 2022A 3.0 classes and rehearsals outside of class with classmates will result in either academic penalty or a request that the student withdraw from the class.

Any student in THEA 2022A 3.0 who is absent or late without prior arrangement with the instructor for an excused absence or late (at the instructor’s discretion) may have for each absence or late 2% deducted from the final grade (recorded in the participation grade). Three lates or absences (excused or not) can result in course failure.

If a student is going to be considerably late or miss a class for any reason, the student must contact the course director prior to the beginning of that class. Failure to do so will result in an unexcused late or absence.

Absences for valid reasons such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., may be entertained by the course instructor but will require supporting documentation (e.g. a doctor’s letter).
It is the responsibility of each student to follow up on any unexcused absence with the instructor. If a student is late for class, it is his or her responsibility to follow up on that late with the instructor on the class break or after class.

Part-time jobs or outside employment in theatre-related endeavors do not count as excused absences for THEA 2022A 3.0 classes.

**Class Presentations:** Proper academic performance depends on students doing their work not only well, but on time. In the discipline of acting for the stage, absences have a profound effect on scene partners. Accordingly, class presentations for this course must be performed on the due dates specified for the assignment, as indicated in the class schedule.

**Missed Class Presentation Penalty:** Missed class presentations on the due date will be penalized with a grade of zero for the absent student. Exceptions to the missed class presentation penalty for valid reasons such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., may be entertained by the course instructor but will require supporting documentation (e.g., a doctor’s letter). The instructor will attempt to reschedule the missed class presentation to facilitate scene partners affected by an excused absence. Any student with an unexcused absence necessitating a rescheduled presentation will continue to receive a grade of zero for the presentation in question. Assigning alternate scene partners and proceeding without the student with the unexcused absence may be implemented. Due to the collaborative nature of this studio course, make-up assignments will not be scheduled.

**Dress Requirement:**
Comfortable clothing, suitable for active movement. No jewelry. Bare feet. Hair tied back from face and neck.

**Note Regarding Piercings:**
It has been our experience at times that students come into class with various piercings. Some of these piercings can have a direct and negative affect on your training. Tongue and lip piercings in particular have the potential to affect your voice and speech considerably. As this course is designed to assist you to become as proficient and flexible as possible, we require you to remove such piercings for this class. We understand the importance of self-expression and do not want to discourage this—however when it has a direct affect on your training, health or safety we hope that you will understand that we have your best interests in mind.

**Mobile Device Use:**
Use of mobile devices is not permitted while in class.

**Respect for Studios:**
Except for water, no beverages or food are permitted in the studios. Please leave outside footwear at the entrance to the studio.

After each class, all studios must be neutralized before leaving the space, with all door flats, rehearsal blocks, chairs and tables moved to the sides of the room. All garbage must be removed. Please ensure that the floors, walls and blackboards are clean.

Please treat the studios with respect.

**Physical Contact:**
The York policy lists “unnecessary touching or patting” as behaviour indicative of sexual harassment. However, in the Department of Theatre, touching routinely happens in acting/directing classes and in costume fittings.

In acting, voice and movement classes, students will be touched in the abdomen, diaphragm area, rib cage, chest, spine, back, shoulders, limbs, neck, and head to assist the student in proper breathing, relaxation of tensions, alignment, or similar instruction. At no time should a teacher, without the student’s permission, touch those parts of a student’s body that would normally be covered by a two-piece bathing suit. At no time in an acting class will a student be asked to remove intimate apparel.

For further information, please refer to the Harassment Guidelines in the Department of Theatre Handbook.

**Replicas, Props or Real Weapons:**
At no time shall any form of replica, prop or real weapon (handguns, rifles, shotguns, swords, daggers, knives, etc.) be used in class presentations or in rehearsals outside of class. Please consult the course director if you have any questions in this regard.
IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS

All students are expected to familiarize themselves with the following information:

• Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures
• Academic Integrity Website http://www.yorku.ca/academicintegrity.
• Accessibility/Disability Services: course requirement accommodation for students with disabilities, including physical, medical, learning and psychiatric disabilities www.yorku.ca/eds.
• Accommodating Students with Disabilities (York Senate Policy)
• Ethics Review Process for research involving human participants
• Religious Observance Accommodation https://w2prod.sis.yorku.ca/Apps/WebObjects/boom.woa/wa/regobs

DEGREE STATUS – BA AND BFA: Students accepted into Theatre are entering as Honours BA Theatre Majors. The first year is a program common to ALL Theatre students. At the end of first-year, there is a selection process (either by audition or interview) to move into the various areas of concentration or students may remain in the program as Theatre Studies students. Students who proceed in Production/Design or Acting are required to complete the online Change of Degree request to switch from Honours BA to Honours BFA (available at http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/program/change/; Change of Degree requests must be submitted no later than June 30 to take effect the next fall/winter session). All students proceeding into second-year in Theatre will choose and/or seek admission to an area of concentration, which will define the requirements that will govern the selection of courses available to them.

POLICY REGARDING LOSS, DAMAGE AND THEFT OF PERSONAL EQUIPMENT AND BElongings: The School of Arts, Media, Performance, & Design at York University will not be held responsible for the loss, damage or theft of personal equipment or any other personal belongings that are left in studios, classrooms, storage areas or any other space within the School. It is each individual’s responsibility to take care of his or her own property. Under no circumstances will the School incur liability for loss, damage or theft of such property.

Please take all reasonable measures to protect your personal belongings. If you do experience loss, damage or theft of personal property, please report it immediately to the Department of Security Services at their general telephone number: (416) 650-8000.

STUDIO BOOKING POLICY: Please see instructions for booking studios, posted in each studio. ALL requests for studio space must be made in writing one week in advance. A student may not “claim” a space by writing in a name or the course name in an empty slot on the weekly schedules posted outside each studio. Theatre @ York rehearsals always take precedence when rooms are assigned, followed by faculty-assigned work. Personal projects, including playGround, will only be considered if space allows.

Adopt professional standards by agreeing on a rehearsal schedule in advance with group members and by appointing one group member to do the arranging of the space by email for the upcoming week, as per the instructions sheet in each studio.

First-year Theatre majors are not eligible to book studios.

SITE-SPECIFIC PROJECTS: All site-specific theatre projects anywhere on campus must be cleared by the course director, York University’s Security Services, and the department or governing body of the proposed site. This request should be made in writing at least three weeks in advance of the date required. All public spaces on Campus require contact with the Office of Temporary Use of University Space.

http://www.yorku.ca/vpa/tempspace.htm

The course director will also need to complete a “Temporary Use of University Space Application and Notification Form” and submit it two weeks in advance of the date required.

For ALL site-specific work, the course director must send the request to security@yorku.ca outlining where and when the work is to take place. Please note: at no time shall any form of replica, prop, or real weapon (handguns, rifles, shotguns, swords, daggers, knives, etc.) be used in any site-specific work.
Last date to drop a fall term (F) course without receiving a grade: November 9, 2018
Last date to drop a winter term (W) course without receiving a grade: March 8, 2019
Last date to drop a full year (Y) course without receiving a grade: February 8, 2019

**Academic Policies / Information** The Senate Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee (ASCP) provides a **Student Information Sheet** that includes:

- York's Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures / Academic Integrity Web site
- **Access/Disability**
- **Ethics Review Process** for Research Involving Human Participants
- **Religious Observance Accommodation**
- **Student Code of Conduct**
- http://secretariat.info.yorku.ca/files/CourseInformationForStudentsAugust20121.pdf
- **Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities**
- **Alternate Exam and Test Scheduling**
- **Grading Scheme and Feedback Policy**, The Senate Grading Scheme and Feedback Policy stipulates that (a) the grading scheme (i.e. kinds and weights of assignments, essays, exams, etc.) be announced, and be available in writing, within the first two weeks of class, and that, (b) under normal circumstances, graded feedback worth at least 15% of the final grade for Fall, Winter or Summer Term, and 30% for ‘full year’ courses offered in the Fall/Winter Term be received by students in all courses prior to the final withdrawal date from a course without receiving a grade.

- **Important University Sessional Dates** (you will find classes and exams start/end dates, reading/co-curricular week, add/drop deadlines, holidays, University closings and more. http://www.registrar.yorku.ca/enrol/dates/index.htm
- **Manage my Academic record** http://myacademicrecord.students.yorku.ca/
- "**20% Rule**" No examinations or tests collectively worth more than 20% of the final grade in a course will be given during the final 14 calendar days of classes in a term. The exceptions to the rule are classes which regularly meet Friday evenings or on Saturday and/or Sunday at any time, and courses offered in the compressed summer terms.

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- Final course grades may be adjusted to conform to Program or Faculty grades distribution profiles.

**THEA 2022A 3.0 CLASS SCHEDULE – WINTER 2019**
(Subject to Change)

**WEEK ONE**

**JAN. 4**
First class--introduction to course. Review course outline. Elect two reps (first task is to create contact list).

Letters of Academic Accommodation accepted at the earliest convenience of the student.

Submit three things you would like to accomplish as a performer in this class. Please include a list of scenes done while at York (and scene partners who may now be 2022A classmates).
Read Scenes and scene partners will be assigned January 9.

The Script Analysis assignment on scenes will be given January 9.

*Note: Each unexcused late/absence may receive up to a 2% deduction from the term grade (recorded in the participation grade).*

A log of outside rehearsal sessions is to be submitted in hardcopy by each student at the first and final showings of each performance assignment in the term. Late submissions will not be accepted. There will be a 1% deduction from the term grade for non-submission of each required rehearsal log (recorded in the participation grade).

Warm-up.
Class exploration and exercises

**WEEK TWO**

**JAN. 9**
Reps to distribute contact list.
Scene One scenes and scene partners assigned. Audience configuration and shared groundplan given.
Script Analysis assignment on *Scenes* given, due January 30.
Warm-up.
Class exploration.

Confirm a rehearsal schedule with your partner and begin rehearsal logs, due at first and final showings for each pair. *Remedy possible playGround performance conflicts with final showings.* ????

*NOTE about rehearsing outside of class: Respect and professionalism are at the heart of the discipline of acting. Rehearsing outside of class without a director can be challenging, especially in the intimacy of two-handed scenes. Consider booking rehearsals together with another group, or ask a colleague to act as a silent witness.*

**JAN. 11**
Warm-up.
Class exploration.
Discovering Script Analysis Terms

**WEEK THREE**

**JAN. 16**
Warm-up.
Class exploration.
Applying Script Analysis Terms
JAN. 18
Warm-up.
Class exploration.
Applying Script Analysis Terms

Announce Scene One first pass presentation order for January 23 and 25.

WEEK FOUR

JAN. 23
Script Analysis assignment on ALL Scenes due.
Warm-up.
1st Pass Scene One (3 pairs—worth 10%).
Students showing today to submit rehearsal logs.

JAN. 25
Warm-up.
1st Pass Scene One (3 pairs—worth 10%).
Students showing today to submit rehearsal logs.

Announce Scene One first pass presentation order for February 1 and 3.

WEEK FIVE

JAN. 30
Warm-up.
1st Pass Scene One (3 pairs—worth 10%).
Students showing today to submit rehearsal logs.

FEB. 1
Warm-up.
1st Pass Scene One (3 pairs—worth 10%).
Students showing today to submit rehearsal logs.

Scene Two scenes and scene partners assigned. Confirm a rehearsal schedule with your partner and begin rehearsal logs, due at first and final showings.

WEEK SIX

FEB. 6
Warm-up.
Final Pass Scene One (3 pairs—worth 10%).
Students showing today to submit rehearsal logs.
FEB. 8
Warm-up.
Final Pass Scene One (3 pairs—worth 10%).
Students showing today to submit rehearsal logs.

WEEK SEVEN

FEB. 13
Warm-up.
Final Pass Scene One (3 pairs—worth 10%).
Students showing today to submit rehearsal logs.

FEB. 15
Script Analysis assignment on Scenes returned by today.
Warm-up.
Final Pass Scene One (3 pairs—worth 10%).
Students showing today to submit rehearsal logs.

Submit three things you have accomplished so far this term as an actor, and three things you would like to accomplish in the second half of the term.

WEEK EIGHT – READING WEEK - NO CLASSES FEB. 22 or FEB. 24

WEEK NINE

FEB. 27
Warm-up.
Class exploration.
Table Read of Scene Two (6 SCENES)

MAR. 1
Warm-up.
Class exploration.
Table Read of Scene Two (6 SCENES)

Announce Scene Two first pass presentation order for March 8, 10 and 15.
Midterm Grades worth 40% of term grade distributed.

WEEK TEN

MAR. 6
Warm-up.
Scene Two 1st Pass (4 pairs—worth 15%).
Students showing today to submit rehearsal logs.
MAR. 8
Warm-up.
Scene Two 1st Pass (4 pairs—worth 15%).
Students showing today to submit rehearsal logs.
Last day to drop Winter Term courses without receiving a grade.

WEEK ELEVEN

MAR. 13
Warm-up.
Scene Two 1st Pass (4 pairs—worth 15%).
Students showing today to submit rehearsal logs.

MAR. 15
Warm-up.
Scene Two Final Pass (4 pairs—worth 15%).
Students showing today to submit rehearsal logs.

WEEK TWELVE

MAR. 20
Warm-up.
Scene Two Final Pass (4 pairs—worth 15%).
Students showing today to submit rehearsal logs.

MAR. 22
Warm-up.
Scene Two Final Pass (4 pairs—worth 15%).
Students showing today to submit rehearsal logs.

WEEK THIRTEEN

MAR. 27
Warm-up.
Exercises Tying in with Scenes and Student Inquiries

MAR. 29
Warm-up.
Exercises Tying in with Scenes and Student Inquiries

Prepare for next week three things you have accomplished as an actor in the second half of the term and three things you would like to accomplish and will apply to your future process.
WEEK FOURTEEN

APR. 3 (WEDNESDAY – final class of the term)

Warm-up.
WRAP UP

Discussion below

Discuss three things you have accomplished as an actor in the second half of the term and three things you would like to accomplish and will apply to your future process.

Many courses utilize Moodle, York University’s course website system. If your course is using Moodle, click here to access it.

Moodle @ York University