EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION
THEATRE
School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design
Department of Theatre
FA / THEA 2020 3.0 SECTION A
ACTING I
FALL 2019 / WINTER 2020

Last Modified Date: 08/06/2019

COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

Introduces acting technique through ensemble exercises, improvisation and personal exploration.
Prerequisites: FA/THEA 1010 3.0, FA/THEA 1100 3.0, FA/THEA 1200 6.0 and/or audition plus permission of the department. Corequisites: FA/THEA 2010 3.0 and FA/THEA 2030 3.0. Open to theatre majors only.

INSTRUCTOR(S)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Section / Format / Term</th>
<th>Contact Email</th>
<th>Contact Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Landau, Nicole</td>
<td>Sec. A / STDO / F</td>
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SPECIAL FEATURES

Course Director:
Niki Landau / nlyorku@gmail.com / CFT 336
Course consultation hours: By appointment
Time and Location:
Tuesdays & Thursdays, 2:00pm – 5:00pm, 138 CFT

Course Description: This course will begin with establishing the class as an acting ensemble through group exercises and personal exploration exercises. The elements of acting will be explored through improvisation (zone of silence) and technique exercises. Further on in the term, students will continue with improvisation and techniques in pairs and eventually in solo scenes. Focus will be on truth of the moment, emotional/personal connection, intention, creation of obstacles and tactics. The goal is to create a strong acting technique foundation, from which each student is able to develop his or her own acting craft. Text work will not be part of this term’s course.

Pre-requisites: THEA 1010 3.0, THEA 1100 3.0, THEA 1200 6.0 and/or audition plus permission of the Department
Co-requisites: THEA 2010 3.0, THEA 2030 3.0

Required Reading

Recommended Reading
CLASS SCHEDULE (Subject to Change)

Week 1  First Day of Class, Discussion of Course Outline, Course Objectives, Methodology, Term Assignments, Select Class Rep., Technique Exercises, Read Uta Prologue
Week 1  Technique Exercises, Zone of Silence – Waiting Room
Week 2  Technique Exercises, Zone of Silence – Waiting Room (Phys. Condition)
        Read Uta Chapter 1 & 2
Week 3  Technique Exercises, Zone of Silence – Waiting Room (Psych. Condition)
        Read Uta Chapter 3 & 4
Week 3  Technique Exercises, Zone of Silence – Auto de Cours
Week 4  Technique Exercises, Zone of Silence – Laundromat
        Read Uta Chapter 5 & 6
Week 4  Technique Exercises, Zone of Silence – Auto de Cours
Week 5  Technique Exercises, Zone of Silence – Park Bench
        Read Uta Chapter 7 & 8
Week 5  Technique Exercises, Zone of Silence – Park Bench (Next person I see…)
Sat. Oct. 12 - Fri. Oct. 18  Fall Reading Days (Read Uta Chapter 9 & 10)
Week 6  Test – First 10 chapters of A Challenge for the Actor
Week 6  Technique Exercises, Zone of Silence – Café Metropolitain/Variables
Week 7  Read & Prepare Uta’s Ex. #1 Physical Destination
        Technique Exercises, Zone of Silence – Café Metropolitain/Variables
Week 7  Read & Prepare Uta’s Ex. #2 The Fourth Side
        Technique Exercises, Present Ex. #1 Physical Destination
Week 8  Read & Prepare Uta’s Ex. #3 I and II Changes of Self
        Technique Exercises, Present Ex. #2 The Fourth Side
Week 8  Read & Prepare Uta’s Ex. #4 Moment to Moment
        Technique Exercises, Present Ex. #3 I and II Changes of Self
NB: Nov. 8th is the last date for students to drop this course without receiving a grade.
Week 9  Read & Prepare Uta’s Ex. #5 Re-creating Physical Sensations
        Technique Exercises, Present Ex. #4 Moment to Moment
Week 9  Read & Prepare Uta’s Ex. #6 Bringing Outdoors on Stage
        Technique Exercises, Present Ex. #5 Re-creating Physical Sensations
Week 10  Technique Exercises, Zone of Silence – Train Station
        Technique Exercises, Present Ex. #6 Bringing Outdoors on Stage
Week 10  Technique Exercises, Zone of Silence – The Audition
Week 11  Technique Exercises, Zone of Silence – Saying Goodbye
        Technique Exercises, Zone of Silence – The Cathedral
Week 11  Technique Exercises, Zone of Silence & Uta Exercises
Week 12  Technique Exercises, Zone of Silence & Uta Exercises
Week 12  Technique Exercises, Zone of Silence & Uta Exercises
Last class - Hand in Work Journals
Thurs, Nov 28th  10:00 AM – Showings

Course Learning Outcomes
By the end of this course, students will:
• have acquired basic skills in improvisation
• become familiar with an actor’s vocabulary of intention and action
• integrated and applied in a practical way the above points
• have had their first experience of auto-created theatrical work based on sourced material

Assignment

Presentation

Grading
For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar at http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/2015-2016/faculty.rules/FA/grading.htm. There will be conferences with faculty from 2:00-6:00 on Tuesday, October 22nd. Students in the Acting Conservatory must maintain a “B” or higher in each course of Voice, Movement and Acting classes each term in order to be allowed to advance to the next term.

Additional Information

Late Submission Policy:
Exceptions to the late 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).

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 director but will require supporting documentation (e.g., a doctor’s letter). The course director 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 an alternate scene partner may be implemented. Due to the collaborative nature of this studio course, make-up assignments will not be scheduled.
media usage is not permitted in class. Please note that in many classes, use of paper scripts and texts is not only preferred but required, as they allow students to take notes more rapidly. ALL requests for studio space must be made in writing by Thursday for the upcoming week to rehearse@yorku.ca. You may not “claim” a space by writing in your name or the course name in an empty slot on the weekly schedules posted outside each studio. Students and faculty are not allowed to rehearse past 10:00pm without special permission from the Production Coordinator. 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, in writing by Thursday for the upcoming week to rehearse@yorku.ca. Except for water, no beverages or food are permitted in the studios. Please leave outside footwear at the entrance to the studio. Please treat the studios with respect.

Site-Specific Projects: The course director will also need to complete a “Temporary Use of University Space Application and Notification Form” online, and submit it two weeks in advance of the date required. (For more information on the TUUS form, see the Online Guidelines.)

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. 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. Replicas, Props or Real Weapons: Open Flame: Casting Policy: Degree Status – BA and BFA: Policy Regarding Loss, Damage and Theft of Personal Equipment and Belongings: 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. York's Academic Honesty Policy and Procedures / Academic Integrity Web site Ethics Review Process for Research Involving Human Participants Student Code of Conduct

Additional information: Alternate Exam and Test Scheduling 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 "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.

• Final course grades may be adjusted to conform to Program or Faculty grades distribution profiles.
• Manage my Academic record http://myacademicrecord.students.yorku.ca/
• 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.

• Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities
• http://secretariat.info.yorku.ca/files/CourseInformationForStudentsAugust20121.pdf
• Religious Observance Accommodation
• Access/Disability
• Academic Policies / Information The Senate Academic Standards, Curriculum and Pedagogy Committee (ASCP) provides a Student Information Sheet that includes:

• The Department of Theatre and the School of the Arts, Media, Performance & Design (AMPD) 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 AMPD. It is each individual’s responsibility to take care of his or her own property. Under no circumstances will the Department of Theatre or AMPD incur liability for loss, damage or theft of such property.
• 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 Performance Creation & Research 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://myacademicrecord.students.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.

- To enable students to focus on the goals and curriculum of the Acting Conservatory training experience, BFA Acting students may not be cast in any student show unless permission is given by the Acting Area. The Acting Area does not permit Conservatory students to participate in theatre, film, radio, or television productions outside of the Conservatory during the academic year, and highly recommends that students do not engage in any productions on the holiday break or during the summer months until fourth-year Conservatory training is completed.

- No use of open flame, candles, matches, real cigarettes/cigars, etc., is to be used in class presentation or in rehearsals.

- 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.

- 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 or classmate, 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 any class will a student be asked to remove intimate apparel.

- Physical Contact:
  - 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.
  - 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://tuus.info.yorku.ca/
  - First-year Theatre majors are not eligible to book studios.
  - 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.

- Studio Usage:
  - 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.

- Studio Booking Policy:
  - Mobile Device Use:
  - Note Regarding Piercings:
  - Dress Requirement:
  - Note on Challenging Content:
  - 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 and class members. Accordingly, class presentations for this course must be performed on the due dates specified for the assignment, as indicated in the class schedule.

- Exceptions to the absence and/or lateness penalty for valid reasons such as illness, compassionate grounds, etc., may be entertained by the course director or production director 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 in person with the course director or production director. If a student is late for class, it is his or her responsibility to follow up on that lateness with the course director in person on the class break or after class.

- All classes, rehearsals and performances are mandatory. Failure to attend all classes, rehearsals and performances will result in either academic penalty or a request that the student withdraw from the class or production. Any student in the Acting Area who is absent or late without prior arrangement with the course director or production director for an excused absence or late (at the course director or production director’s discretion) may have 2% deducted from their final grade for each unexcused absence or lateness.

- Attendance Policy:
  - Assignments received later than the due date will be penalized one-half letter grade per day.
  - 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. If hardcopy assignments are required, emailed submissions are not permitted; if email or online submissions are required, hardcopy will not be
accepted.

- 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 90, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.)
- Anyone leaving the Acting Area for a period of one year or more, for whatever reason, even if in good academic standing, will be expected to re-audition to re-enter the Area unless a statement to the contrary has been received in writing from the Area at the time of withdrawal.

**Minimum Grade Policy for Acting Area Students:**

- **Important:** the live performance component of any course is excluded from grade reappraisal.
- If you have any unanswered questions or are unsure of your marks/progress during the course, please make an appointment with the course director. The responsibility is yours.
- Last date to drop a full year (Y) course without receiving a grade: February 3, 2020
- Last date to drop a fall term (F) course without receiving a grade: November 8, 2019

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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Presentations in Class</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Class Work</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<td>Journal</td>
<td>20%</td>
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Many courses utilize Moodle, York University’s course website system. If your course is using Moodle, click here to access it.

Moodle @ York University