EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION
THEATRE
School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design
Department of Theatre
FA / THEA 2030 3.0 SECTION A
MOVEMENT I
FALL 2019 / WINTER 2020

Last Modified Date: 08/21/2019

COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

An introduction to the rudiments of the physical techniques necessary for the actor. It is the beginning of building a vocabulary of movement, self-discipline and learning how to solve individual problems.
Prerequisites: FA/THEA 1010 3.0, FA/THEA 1100 3.0 and FA/THEA 1200 6.0 and/or audition plus permission of the department. Corequisites: FA/THEA 2010 3.0 and FA/THEA 2020 3.0. Open to theatre majors only.
Provides an introduction to the rudiments of the physical techniques necessary for the actor. It is the beginning of building a vocabulary of movement, self-discipline and learning how to solve individual problems. Prerequisites: FA/THEA 1010 3.0, FA/THEA 1100 3.0 and FA/THEA 1200 6.0 and/or permission of the department. Corequisites: FA/THEA 2010 3.0 and FA/THEA 2020 3.0. Open to Theatre majors only.

INSTRUCTOR(S)

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

Special Features: This course will continue the exploration and study of movement in order to prepare students for the rigors of the acting profession. Students will continue to improve strength, endurance and flexibility with physical organization and breath awareness. The will learn the principals of developing complete physical embodiment, and begin the exploration of reaching heightened emotional connection through the body. This studio course will combine ensemble exercises and improvisation with individual tutorials and presentations. The focus of the work is in class with some assignments that will require work outside. The instructor will present information and exercises and offer ongoing feedback in class. Students will be expected to be prepared to move in every class and to engage in regular discussion with the instructor and classmates as well as completing all assignments.

Days and Times: Tuesday 9-11
Thursday 11-1
Friday 9-11
Location: YK ATK 102F
Course Instructor: Tosha Doiron
Course Consultation Hours: by appointment

• Topics and Concepts: There is no required text for this course.
  WEEK#1       September 3
  Elect Class Rep
  Start Physical Conditioning and Principals of Embodied Actor Awareness #2    September 9
  Begin Movement Journal #3    September 16
  Impulse Work and Authentic
  Movement Continue Physical Conditioning and Principals of Embodied Actor Awareness
  Present 1st project #5    September 30
  Kinesthetic Awareness and Emotional Gesture Continue Physical Conditioning and Principals of Embodied Actor Awareness
  Present 2nd project Continue Physical
Conditioning and Principals of Embodied Actor Awareness

Thursday March 1st - Y2

Conferences#9

October 28

Push Pull Exploration
Continue Physical Conditioning and Principals of Embodied Actor Awareness

Continue Physical Conditioning and Principals of Embodied Actor Awareness #12

November 25

1. tbd
2. 
3. 2nd Pass Major Term Project
4. #11 November 18
5. 1st Pass Major Term project
6. #11 November 11
7. Continue to work on Major term project
8. #10 November 4
9. Introduce Major Term project
10. Continue Physical Conditioning and Principals of Embodied Actor Awareness
11.
12. Present 3rd Project
13. # 8 October 21
14. # 7 Reading Week
15. Assign 3rd project
16. Kinesthetic Awareness and Emotional Gesture Continued
17. #6 October 7
18. Assign 2nd project
19. Continue Physical Conditioning and Principals of Embodied Actor Awareness
20.
21. Impulse Work and Authentic Movement Continued
22. #4 September 23
23. Assign 1st project
24. Continue Physical Conditioning and Principals of Embodied Actor Awareness
25.
26. Continue Physical Conditioning and Principals of Embodied Actor Awareness
27.
28. Submit Health Sheets, Update Contact Sheet
29. Introduction to course, read syllabus, discuss assignments
30.
31. CLASS SCHEDULE
32. Readings will be assigned and recommended during the course.

1. Learning Outcomes with Examples

Course Goals
The purpose of this course is to encourage the development of a grounded and self-analytical focus on the body and the development of tools and skills for physical expression in acting.

Course Learning Outcomes
By the end of this course, students will:

- have learned the principals and fundamentals of a variety of movement disciplines including, but not limited to: Laban, Authentic Movement, Growtowski, The Batdorf Technique, Viewpoints, Yoga and Dance.
- begun the exploration and study of movement for character development
- gained strength, endurance, flexibility and become more prepared for specific movement styles and dance forms in future years
- have developed a co-ordination of isolated motion and improve strength and flexibility
- have developed breath awareness, kinesthetic awareness and movement range
- have experienced work individually, with partners and in groups

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1. Graded Assessment

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Est. Time outside class</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Impulse Work</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>2 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kinesthetic Signature and Emotional Gesture</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>3 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term Research Project and Presentation</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>3-5 hours</td>
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<tr>
<td>Growth of Physical Training and Embodied Actor Awareness</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>4-6 hours per week</td>
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<tr>
<td>Major Term Project and presentation</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>4 hours</td>
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**Participation Marks**

- Commitment and engagement to ongoing work: 10%
- Ability to work with others: 10%
- Articulation of process and individual experiences related to explorations: 10%
- Professional conduct: 10%

**TOTAL**: 100%

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

“Estimated Times” are merely a guideline, and may differ widely from your experience.

1. **Additional Information**

   **DRESS:** Cell phone conversations, text messaging, videoing is not permitted during the entire length of the class. Students will receive graded feedback on work totaling at least 15% of the course grade before the deadline for withdrawing from the course so they can make an informed decision on whether to withdraw. **Important:** the live performance component of any course is excluded from grade reappraisal.

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

2. **Late Submission Policy:**

3. For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar

4. **Grading, Assignment Submission, Lateness Penalties and Missed Tests Grading:**

5. 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.

6. There will be conferences with faculty on October 23rd

7. 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.**

8. Last date to drop a fall term (F) course without receiving a grade: November 8, 2019

9. **CELL PHONES:**

10. Leggings, sweat pants, shorts, T-shirts, bare feet, hair tied off face and neck, no jewellery. If students are not appropriately dressed for class, they will not have permission to participate and will be marked absent.

11. *Assignments received later than the due date will be penalized one-half letter grade per day.*

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:**

**Absent and Late Penalty:** Students are reminded that Department of Theatre rules require attendance at all classes, rehearsals and performances. There is no differentiation between excused and unexcused absences—an absence is an absence and will affect your chances of success in this course.

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.

If a student is going to miss a class, rehearsal or performance due to illness, or be considerably late, the student must contact the course director or production director prior to the beginning of that class, rehearsal or performance. Failure to do so will result in an unexcused absence or lateness.

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.

Part-time jobs or outside employment in theatre-related endeavors do not count as excused absences for Acting Conservatory classes, rehearsals or performances.

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).

Notwithstanding conflicts with rehearsals/performances of the production in which they are engaged, all students must attend all studio shows and Theatre@York productions. Failure to do may result in a 2% reduction of the final grade in your Acting class.

**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.

**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.

**Note on Challenging Content:**

One of the central educational goals of the Theatre Department is to produce socially conscious artists—artists who are aware of and capable of participating in challenging dialogues about social injustice and inequality. This means that our courses, public events, and productions often grapple with difficult subject matter, including sex, violence, terror, and illness (among other topics). While these presentations will no doubt provoke strong emotions and cause discomfort, we feel that the diverse experiences they bring about are also essential to the development of our students’ critical faculties, empathy, and understanding of the world. Rather than warning our students in advance about every potentially uncomfortable topic that they might encounter in the course of their studies, we instead encourage students to meet them head on in the classroom, in rehearsals, and performances, and to engage in civil and compassionate debate about the possibilities and effects of staging difficult knowledge.

**Dress Requirement:**

Comfortable clothing suitable for active movement. No jewelry. Bare feet. Hair tied back from face.

**Note Regarding Piercings:**

It has been our experience that some students join the program with various piercings. Some 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 the Acting Conservatory is designed to assist you to become as proficient and flexible as possible, we require you to remove such piercings for class. We understand the importance of self-expression and do not want to discourage this—however, when it has a direct effect on your training, health or safety, we hope that you will understand that we have your best interests in mind.

**Mobile Device Use:**
All devices must be silenced or turned off prior to the start of class. Use of mobile devices is limited to note taking, calendar, to-do and similar productivity apps. Texting, messaging, and other social 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.

**Studio Booking Policy:**
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. 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, in writing by Thursday for the upcoming week to rehearse@yorku.ca.

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

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.

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://tuus.info.yorku.ca/

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.)

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.

**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 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.

**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.

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

**Casting Policy:**
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.

**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 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.

**Policy Regarding Loss, Damage and Theft of Personal Equipment and Belongings:**
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.

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.

**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

Additional information:
- 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.

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

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