EXPANDED COURSE DESCRIPTION
THEATRE
School of the Arts, Media, Performance and Design
Department of Theatre
FA / THEA 3030 3.0 SECTION A
MOVEMENT III
FALL 2019 / WINTER 2020

Last Modified Date: 09/11/2019

COURSE CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This intermediate level course is a continuation of techniques, principles and explorations of movement for the actor. Prerequisites: Grade of B or better in FA/THEA 2031 3.0 or permission of the department. Corequisites (BFA Acting): FA/THEA 3010 3.00, FA/THEA 3011 3.00, FA/THEA 3020 3.00, FA/THEA 3021 3.00 and FA/THEA 3031 3.00. Open to majors only.

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INSTRUCTOR(S)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Section / Format / Term</th>
<th>Contact Email</th>
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<td>Batdorf, Erika</td>
<td>Sec. A / STDO / F</td>
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SPECIAL FEATURES

THEA 3030 3.0
Erika Batdorf

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Instructor/Format/Term/Contact Info this is provided via ARMS

1. Special Features

This class will involve some ensemble exercises, detailed body language skill development and improvisations designed to increase emotional range for the actor. We will focus on two areas in particular: character body work and preparation for 3031- emotional connection through physiological awareness. The class will also address approaches to maintaining a healthy and fully available instrument for performance with a monitored practice outside of class. Written assignments will largely be in this area. This class will include movement improvisation, body language exercises, basic yoga, butoh and awareness work for acting.

First semester is designed to build a foundation for second term in which we work on developing a technical process using deep physiological awareness for emotional range critical for the actor. Second semester is emotionally demanding. Homework is required for this term as well as to prepare for second term. Please
speak to me immediately if you are uncertain what that homework is.

Course Consultation Hours: by appointment

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1. **Topics and Concepts**

**Recommended Reading**


Christine Caldwell. *Getting Our Bodies Back*

- **Learning Outcomes**
  - Cover the basics of body language and physical character development (rhythm, posture, gesture, muscular dynamics, space, shape and eye posture.) **THE MAIN EXTERNAL AND GRADED ASPECT OF THIS TERM.**

1. Build a foundation of interoceptive and kinesthetic awareness to allow entry into emotionally connected body based acting work
2. Review movement basics; falls and rolls, spatial awareness and ensemble skills
3. Expand warm up and self-directed work out habits and routines to support instrument*
4. Overcome any physical self-consciousness that inhibits movement
5. Extend physical imagination and range

Sept. 4 Diagnostic class

Sept. 5 Class intro…

Discuss syllabus, major assignments, work out plan, hand outs etc. **Written assignment #1 given:** a written physical work out plan specifically designed to address your goals. This plan should address strength, flexibility, endurance and awareness for the actor. **Awareness work this semester will be critical.**

Addressing this is highly individual and you should be fully engaged in a search for tools that serve you specifically in this area. Please use this written assignment as a way to engage a dialogue with me so that I can assist you. Each version of this assignment should become more specific as you more fully understand the work. Be brave and creative, scientific and wildly metaphorical.

**AND movement assignment #1, #2 given (text assigned later): # 1- chose 2 PEOPLE to study/learn, they must be contrasted! Stretch your range and physical sense of self. Must have strong use of**
space, shape, feet, spine, beginnings of 2 different bodies. #2- DUET- add more complete bodies inspired by particular people and rhythm, FINAL- add animal and gesture. THESE ARE ALL GRADED at 10% and each one must show significant growth.

Sept. 10-12 introduce basic spine warm up, public/private principles… Fighting duets to group improv, SPACE

Sept 17 Written assignment #1 due BY E MAIL

Sept 17-19 BL lecture if we get to it or more space/shape continue warm up, wall grounding- some Feldenkrais, 
breath and Interoceptive basics (blood, breath, full scan)

Sept 24-26 POSTURE - feet/spine, blocks, then shape, facing Interoception (blood, breath, skin, full scan) discuss written assignment.

Oct 1-3 Begin gravity, falls/rolls only as needed Begin Kinesthetic awareness… gravity

Oct 8-10 Movement Assign #1. SEE 2 bodies - contrasted Oct 8. Character body work in class.

Oct 15-17 READING WEEK

Oct 22 Written assignment #2 by email, If need- review falls/rolls or work on duets, start rhythm work, one full day of core work

Oct 23-24 Rhythm. Back to duets in warm up, objectives and interoceptive awareness. See and be seen with interoception and then into duets IN CHARACTER BODIES.
Oct 25th Assign text.

Oct 29 Movement Assignment #2 due: duets, shape, space, posture, with rhythm

Oct 30- 31 discuss assignment and work ORM and/or specificity, gestures, muscular dynamics if time, shared weight work if they need it. Chose animal(s) and begin research.

Nov 5-7 Continue ORM, discuss written assignment, review gravity and stretch/yawn, start MVAHD, incorporate physical animal research. muscular dynamics and eyes if time. Midterm grades given. Class improves with animal and text work.

Nov 12-14 animal research should show in duet work now ORM, MVAHD with text and into shared weight, work on duets in class
Nov 19  Written assignment #3 by email (should include winter break plan)

Nov 19-21  work on duets in class

Nov 26  FINAL

*Students will be assisted in developing an individualized weekly routine that will be self-monitored. That routine will incorporate vocal and physical work. This is not the same as a fitness routine but may include fitness work. (For example, going for a run does not constitute acting work, but may be, for you, an ideal warm up for entering the studio.) A fitness routine is also something that you need to incorporate and will vary in intensity depending on your goals. Approximately a minimum of 45 minutes a day should be devoted to movement work in some form. This is challenging in the context of the schedule you will have - but students that succeed in incorporating this have proven to be significantly more successful in integrating the work from classes than those who do not. There will be a few written assignments - but not many - as homework for this class should take the form of physical practice.

At the end of the term the students must propose a specific dance form that they will research and present (can be in groups of 2 or more) at the end of the year. I would suggest that you begin working on this NOW so that you are truly prepared by the end of next term.) It will be a part of your grade.
You will learn this from internet research and does not require an outside class.

1. Graded Assessment

20% Class work
20% Growth and Skill
20% Class Assignments
5% Written assignments
15% Preparation, practice and personalization
10% Working with others
10% Final Showing

TOTAL 100%

If you have any unanswered questions or are unsure of your marks/progress during the course, please make an appointment with the instructor. The responsibility is yours.

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

1. Additional Information

Last date to drop a fall term (F) course without receiving a grade: November 8, 2019
Last date to drop a winter term (W) course without receiving a grade: March 13, 2020
Last date to drop a full year (Y) course without receiving a grade: February 3, 2020

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.
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.

Note: Restrictions apply to grade reappraisal. See applicable information in the 2018/19 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.

Minimum Grade Policy for Acting Area Students:
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.

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.

Grading, Assignment Submission, Lateness Penalties and Missed Tests 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 90, B+ = 75 to 79, etc.)

For a full description of York grading system see the York University Undergraduate Calendar http://calendars.registrar.yorku.ca/2015-2016/academic/grades/.

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.

Late Submission Policy:
• Assignments received later than the due date will be penalized one-half letter grade per day. 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.
• 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).

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 direction’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.

**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 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 play *Ground*, 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 (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:
- 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

• "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