DRAMA 1331

ACTING I - Syllabus

Instructor: Prof. Eric Domuret  E-Mail: domuree@stthom.edu

Class Times: M/W 1:40pm – 2:55pm in Jones 202

Office Hours: Monday/Wednesday 11:00am – 12:00pm
Monday/Wednesday 12:30am – 1:30pm
Friday 11:30am – 2:30pm

Text: *An Actor Prepares* – Constantine Stanislavski
  *The Actor's Art and Craft* – William Esper

Plays that will be used for scene work:
  *Doubt* - John Patrick Shanley
  *The Piano Lesson* – August Wilson
  *Laundry and Bourbon* - James McLure
  *Art* – Yasmina Reza

Course Objectives

1. To know how to give a truthful performance.
2. To sharpen the actor’s awareness of their surroundings especially other actors on stage.
3. To obtain the skills to access emotions and emotional freedom.
4. Being able to construct a focused physical environment on the stage.
5. Understanding how to couple impulse with a structured creative process.

Summary of Course Requirements

STRict ATTendance is REQUIRED FOR THIS COURSE. You will be allowed only ONE excused absence. All unexcused absences and all absences after your one will be five points off your final grade.

Grading:

90% - 100% A range
80% - 89%  B range
70% - 79%  C range
60% - 69%  D range
Below 60%  F

The student will:
1. Scenes 25%
2. Entrance/Exit 15%
3. Text work and Analysis 20%
4. Written critique 20%
5. Final 10%
6. UST production 10%

Any student with a disability requiring accommodations in this course is encouraged to contact me after class or during office hours. Additionally, students will need to contact Counseling Services in Crooker Center for any disability services. The only way to learn the craft of acting is to do it. Students in this class are encouraged to participate in the productions with the UST
Drama Department. By virtue of doing this, students will naturally have a better grasp of the material and their progress in the class will show.

1. Performances – Students will prepare several improvisations and scenes throughout the semester. Students will be graded on their ability to apply the principles learned in class. If a student drops character in a performance, the student automatically gets a C for their grade on the scene. Dropping character includes not being memorized.
2. Entrance exit scenes must be completed before November 24. You must perform it twice.
3. Text work must be turned in with each scene.
4. In a writing assignment no fewer than a three to five page critique, student will competently critique in a clear and effective manner the performances of a professional production and how they incorporated all the theatrical elements.
5. The final exam will be written commentary on the final scenes.
6. Students are required to see or participate in the UST Fall productions.

Course Policies and Procedures
- Late work loses 30 points. If you are going to miss a day or turn something in late it must be arranged with me ahead of time. This is not a guarantee that late work will be accepted. It is decided on a case by case basis at the discretion of the professor.
- YOU are responsible for knowing the dates of tests and when papers/projects are due. I WILL NOT REMIND YOU.
- If we have agreed to have you make up a test, YOU must schedule a time with the Testing Center and email me at least two weekdays with the time and date. I cannot get to the testing center on the weekends.
- Always email me what we have discussed. If it is not in an email assume I will forget. Make sure I respond that I have received your email.
- Incompletes will not be given for this course.
- If you turn in all your work and attend all classes you will pass this class.
- ALL WORK MUST BE COMPLETED AND TURNED IN BY MONDAY NOVEMBER 30. IF IT IS NOT YOU WILL RECEIVE ZERO CREDIT FOR IT. THIS IS NON NEGOTIABLE. (Scheduled in class presentations are the exception.)

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www.facebook.com/USTDrama

Monday August 22
What is Acting?

Wednesday August 24
Exploring Space

Monday August 29
Reality of Doing/Intro to Repetition/Having a fantasy
**Wednesday August 31**
Repetition

**Wednesday September 7**  
Repetition

**Monday September 12**  
Repetition

**Wednesday September 14**  
Object Repetition and Emotional Prep

**Monday September 19**  
Object Repetition

**Wednesday September 21**  
Object Repetition

**Monday September 26**  
Object Repetition

**Wednesday September 28**  
Improv - Objective

**Monday October 3**  
Improv – Obstacles/Tactics

**Wednesday October 5**  
Improv – Beats/Tactics

**Wednesday October 12**  
**Prop Improv

**Monday October 17**  
**Prop Improv

**Wednesday October 19**  
**Prop Improv

**Monday October 24**  
**Prop Improv

**Wednesday October 26**  
**Scenes

**Monday October 31**  
**Scenes
Wednesday November 2
**Scenes

Monday November 7
**Scenes

Wednesday November 9
Talk and listen with dialogue

Monday November 14
Talk and listen with dialogue

Wednesday November 16
*Written Critique Due
Talk and listen with dialogue

Monday November 21
Rehearse scenes

Monday November 28
Rehearse scenes

Wednesday November 30
Rehearse scenes

Monday December 6
Rehearse scenes

Final Exam
Scenes and written responses to questions.