



DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS

COURSE OUTLINE – DR1490 A2 FALL 2014

INTRO TO DRAMATIC ART – 3(0-0-6)

T, R 2:30 TO 5:20

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Annie Smith **PHONE:** 780-539-2882
OFFICE: L222 **E-MAIL:** asmith@gprc.ab.ca

OFFICE HOURS: T, R 13:00 – 14:00

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: none

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS: none

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: Speech and movement improvisation with an emphasis on imaginative development will be included. It will be an introduction to the process of acting and to dramatic form.

Transfer: UA UC* UL AU AF CUC GMU KUC Other

CREDIT/CONTACT HOURS: 3(0-0-6) (90 hour/term)

DELIVERY MODE(S): Laboratory

COURSE CONTENT: The course flows between individual physical training, group physical training, improvisational exercises and group creation, practice, and presentation. Activities will include a physical warm up, acting/improv. exercises, ensemble exercises, creating, rehearsing, and presenting scenes within class. There will be a public performance of the final scenes on April 14 in conjunction with the other acting classes. Students will write a number of reflections of their learning process and will write a final reflective paper for the course. Students must commit to rehearsal time outside of class. Students are expected to attend the Visitor in the Arts event on March 4 during Community Hour. Students are invited to attend performances of the GPLT winter and spring productions, Ovarions Showcase

Centre productions, and must attend The GPRC Theatre Rising production of “Last Chance Leduc” and the Theatre for Living performance of “Maladjusted” on Feb. 21. They will write a response paper on one of the live theatre productions available during the course.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of the course the students will have gained a more critical and sophisticated understanding of the following:

- their personal growth and development in relationship to creating and acting a character
- group process in dramatic ensemble and scene creation
- increased physical and vocal capacity and responsiveness
- critical analysis of live theatre performance and audience response

TRANSFERABILITY:

** Grade of D or D+ may not be acceptable for transfer to other post-secondary institutions. Students are cautioned that it is their responsibility to contact the receiving institutions to ensure transferability

GRADING CRITERIA:

GRANDE PRAIRIE REGIONAL COLLEGE			
GRADING CONVERSION CHART			
Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines	Designation
A⁺	4.0	90 – 100	EXCELLENT
A	4.0	85 – 89	
A⁻	3.7	80 – 84	FIRST CLASS STANDING
B⁺	3.3	77 – 79	
B	3.0	73 – 76	GOOD
B⁻	2.7	70 – 72	
C⁺	2.3	67 – 69	SATISFACTORY
C	2.0	63 – 66	
C⁻	1.7	60 – 62	
D⁺	1.3	55 – 59	MINIMAL PASS
D	1.0	50 – 54	
F	0.0	0 – 49	FAIL
WF	0.0	0	FAIL, withdrawal after the deadline

EVALUATION:

Evaluation: Evaluation is based on individual process and development (20%), presentation of scenes (45%), reflections (15%), response paper (10%), and reflective paper (10%). There will be a student teacher consultation at mid-term and the end of term to discuss the student's progress and the instructor is always available for student-initiated consultation. Late assignments will not be accepted unless by prior arrangement.

Required materials: Students need to have comfortable, flexible clothing (no zippers, or belts) that they use for class. No jewelry is to be worn during class.

Additional Costs: Students may choose to purchase costume and prop items for their scenes. Any purchases will remain the student's own property. Theatre tickets are the responsibility of the student.

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory. More than 15% absenteeism (3 classes) may constitute a failure except for medical or extenuating circumstances in which case a doctor's letter may be required. Students will receive a warning 'Notice Of Absenteeism' at 10% (2 classes) absenteeism.

After 15% absenteeism, you may be required to withdraw from the course.

Refer to Student Conduct, Attendance, page 42 of the college calendar.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Students need to have comfortable, flexible clothing (no zippers, or belts) that they use for class. No jewelry is to be worn during class.
- Students may choose to purchase costume and prop items for their scenes. Any purchases will remain the student's own property. Theatre tickets are the responsibility of the student..
- Attendance is mandatory. More than 15% absenteeism (3 classes) may constitute a failure except for medical or extenuating circumstances in which case a doctor's letter may be required. Students will receive a warning 'Notice Of Absenteeism' at 10% (2 classes) absenteeism.

After 15% absenteeism, you may be required to withdraw from the course.

Refer to Student Conduct, Attendance, page 42 of the college calendar.

STUDENTS MUST COMMIT TO SPEND TIME OUTSIDE OF CLASS TO REHEARSE WITH THEIR SCENE PARTNERS, FOR MIDTERM AND END OF TERM INTERVIEWS, AND FOR COACHING SESSIONS. "RULE OF THUMB: 10 MINUTES OF SCENE REQUIRES 10 HOURS OF REHEARSAL."

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Refer to the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at https://www.gprc.ab.ca/files/forms_documents/Student_Misconduct.pdf

**Note: all Academic and Administrative policies are available at <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies/>

COURSE SCHEDULE/TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

Class Routine:

Each class will begin with a circle check-in. Then we will spend at least 20 to 40 minutes doing our physical training (more time in the first classes when we are learning techniques). Then we will go into the work that is the focus of each class. While general foci are set now, we will adjust over the term to attend to what is most important for the learning of the class. The class will end with a check-out.

Students must arrive on time and be ready to work – already changed into workout clothes and jewelry removed. You are encouraged to begin your own warm up process while waiting for the class to begin. A water bottle and snack for the break are advised. CELL PHONES MUST BE TURNED OFF DURING CLASS.

Course Time Line

Wk	Month	Date	Assign. Due	Focus
1	Jan	6 8		Intro Class: get to know each other and how the class will work together, course shape and assignments Foundation Class – discussion of the relationship of improv to theatre performance, begin physical training – tour of DJC Performing Arts Centre
2		13 15		Physical Training, Improv exercises, CORE Continue Physical Training, Power and Status, Image Theatre, clarifying action. **Choose Scene 1 Partners**
3		20 22	Weekly Reflection 1	Continue Physical Training, character Development, Non-verbal communication, Transformation.
4		27		Workshop Scene 1 in class.

		29	Character Development 1	Workshop Scene 1 in class.
5	Feb	3 12	Weekly Reflection 2	Present Scene 1 in class. Continue Physical Training, Dramatic Tension. **Choose Scene 2 Partners**
Feb 16 to 20 - Reading Week – No Classes				
Feb 21 – “Maladjusted” 7:30 Ovation Showcase Centre				
Feb 25 and 27 – Midterm Evaluations				
6		24 26	Weekly Reflection 3	Continue Physical Training, Dramatic Tension.
7	Mar	3 5	Character Development 2	Scene 2 Coaching/Rehearsal in class time. Scene 2 Coaching/Rehearsal in class time.
March 4 – Visitor in the Arts – Katherine Koller 11:30 to 12:45, L106				
March 5, 6, 7, 9,10, 12, 13, 14 – “Last Chance Leduc”				
8		10 12	Weekly Reflection 4	Present Scene 2 in class Learn RSVP method. **Choose Scene 3 Partners**
9		17 19	Weekly Reflection 5	RSVP in scene groups Character Objectives, Tactics, Character Journeys
10		24	Weekly Reflection 6	Character Objectives, Tactics, Character

		26		Journeys
11	April	31	Character Development 3	Coaching/Rehearsal in class time
		2		Coaching/Rehearsal in class time.
13		7	Weekly Reflection 7	Present scene 3 in class.
		9		Rehearse for Drama Scenes class.
14		14		Drama Scenes Set up and Pizza
		16	Final Reflective Paper. Submit via email.	
Drama Scenes Performance – April 14, 6:30 PM (with DR2340)				
Endterm Evaluations April 20, 21, 22				

Assignments:

Scenes: Students will work in groups of 3 to 4 people to create 3 original scenes. You will be responsible for completing a Character Development Worksheet for each scene. It is expected that you will rehearse your scenes extensively outside of class time. The final scene will be performed for the public at the end of term Drama Scenes.

Reflections: Students will write 7 reflections (250 to 500 words) with notes on class activities, assigned topics, rehearsals, performances, visitors, their questions and observations. Reflections may also include artwork, creative writing, clippings ... The purpose of the Reflection is for the student to think critically and analytically about the work they are doing and what they are learning in the class. Reflections will also assist the Midterm and Endterm interviews. **DO NOT LOSE YOUR REFLECTIONS AS THEY ARE YOUR NOTES FOR THE REFLECTIVE PAPER.**

Reflective Paper: Students will write a summative Reflective Paper that will draw on their weekly reflections throughout the course. An assignment outline will be given mid March. Reflective papers should be 1500 to 2000 words in length.

Response Paper: *Students will write a response paper about one live theatre performance.* This response paper assignment will be made available early in the course and is due one week after seeing the performance.

Evaluation Criteria:

Individual Process and Development in class (20%). Individual process and development is assessed for the midterm evaluation (10%) and the endterm evaluation (10%).

- 1) serious participation in class physical training and exercises
- 2) discipline in training
- 3) co-operation within class setting
- 4) contribution to group discussion
- 5) analysis and critical thinking
- 6) feedback to other students

Scene Work (45%). The first scene is worth 10%; the second scene is worth 15%, and the third scene is worth 20% of the total mark. In the scene work, **1/3 of the mark is based on your character development and preparation, 1/3 on your workshop/coaching, and 1/3 on your performance.**

- 1) proactive contribution to group process of scene creation
- 2) scene and character research assignments
- 3) professionalism and dependability in rehearsal and performance
- 4) focus, presence, adaptability in rehearsal and performance
- 5) originality in character and scene creation

Reflective Writings (15%). There are 7 assignments. A focus will be given for each assignment.

Each writing will be graded out of 10 on the following:

- 1) critical reflection on class work and process
- 2) critical reflection on scene work
- 3) creativity
- 4) quality of discussion of assigned focus

Reflective Paper (10%). The paper will be graded on:

- 1) ability to summarize and draw connections between the Reflective Writings
- 2) attention to observed details
- 3) critical analysis and questions raised
- 4) clarity of writing (includes grammar, punctuation, spelling)
- 5) structure of paper (introduction, discussion, conclusion)

Response Paper (10%). The paper will be graded on:

- 1) ability to summarize the content of the play
- 2) awareness of the context of the play
- 3) ability to reflect critically on the different elements of the theatre production – scenography, acting, directing, marketing

Grading will be according to the criteria commonly used within a BFA acting program:

A (85-89) to **A+** (90-100) Shows an understanding and ability to handle basic material*, Shows competency and evidence of growth in work, Shows ability to control and develop material, Shows Originality in Handling Material.

A- (80-84) Shows an understanding and ability to handle basic material, Shows competency and evidence of growth in work, Shows ability to control and develop material

B+ (76-79) Shows an understanding and ability to handle basic material, Shows competency and evidence of growth in work

B- (68-71) to **B** (72-75) Shows an understanding and ability to handle basic material

C+ (64-67) Shows an adequate understanding of material.

* “Material” means the physical training, exercises, scene work, rehearsals, and any other aspects of the course.

Any changes to this syllabus will be discussed in class.

