



**DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS
COURSE OUTLINE – WINTER 2018**

DR 1490 (A3): INTRODUCTION TO DRAMATIC PROCESS –3 (6-0-0) 90 Hours for 15 Weeks

INSTRUCTOR: Michelle Rios
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OFFICE HOURS: By Appointment

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.

PREREQUISITE(S)/COREQUISITE: None

REQUIRED TEXT/RESOURCE MATERIALS: None

DELIVERY MODE(S): Laboratory

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Introduction to Dramatic Process is a basic course in acting. The course aims to enhance students' self-confidence, oral expression, and creativity in both solo and group explorations.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of this course students will be able to:

- Explore creativity, imagination, and expression through both personal awareness and group collaboration.
- Experience the creative process through acting and improvisation.
- Develop a greater understanding of the creative process through the following tools: imagination, concentration, physical control, cooperation, observation, self-confidence, and oral communication.
- Develop the capacity to create and participate in drama through both individual and group projects.

This class is a practical introduction to dramatic form and process through physical and verbal improvisation. There will be an emphasis on creative impulse, imagination, and group collaboration. The class will involve both individual and group work through movement, character, and storytelling tools, using both realistic and non-realistic styles of presentation. The emphasis will be on process, not on performance; however, you will be required to present both group and solo work. Therefore, during this class, you will participate individually, with partners,

and in small groups. There is no required text for this course. PLEASE WEAR COMFORTABLE CLOTHES TO CLASS! (i.e. stretchy workout clothing or loose attire that allows freedom of movement. **Please feel free to ask questions!** Theatre is about exploration and awareness. During your creative process, please feel free to question and address any concerns that you may have.

TRANSFERABILITY:

UA, UC*, UL, AU, AF, CU, CUC, GMU, KUC

***Warning:** Although we strive to make the transferability information in this document up-to-date and accurate, **the student has the final responsibility for ensuring the transferability of this course to Alberta Colleges and Universities.** Please consult the Alberta Transfer Guide for more information. You may check to ensure the transferability of this course at Alberta Transfer Guide main page <http://www.transferalberta.ca> or, if you do not want to navigate through few links, at <http://alis.alberta.ca/ps/tsp/ta/tbi/onlineSearch.html?SearchMode=S&step=2>

**** 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**

EVALUATIONS:

- 25% attendance and participation in class activities, individual, and group assignments.
- 20% Mid-term solo project
- 10% Journals (5 entries will be required over the term)
- 15% Theatre reflection essay
- 30% Final group project (50% group/50% individual mark)

GRADING CRITERIA: (The following criteria may be changed to suite the particular course/instructor)

Please note that most universities will not accept your course for transfer credit **IF** your grade is **less than C-**.

Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines		Alpha Grade	4-point Equivalent	Percentage Guidelines
A+	4.0	90-100		C+	2.3	67-69
A	4.0	85-89		C	2.0	63-66
A-	3.7	80-84		C-	1.7	60-62
B+	3.3	77-79		D+	1.3	55-59
B	3.0	73-76		D	1.0	50-54
B-	2.7	70-72		F	0.0	00-49

Deadlines:

- Journal #1 – Friday, January 19th, 2018

- Journal #2 – Friday, February 2nd, 2018
- Mid-term Solo Projects – Thursday, March 15th, 2018
- Journal #3 – Friday, March 16th, 2018 (reflection of Midterm process)
- Journal #4 - Friday, April 6th, 2018
- Theatre reflection essay – Thursday, March 22nd, 2018
- Final Group Projects – Thursday, April 12th, 2018
- Journal #5 – Monday, April 16th, 2018 (reflection of Final Group Project process)

The five journal entries will include reflections based on specific topics that I will offer during the term. You will be asked to reflect on your process: individual and group work.

Missed Work: If you miss an assignment due to legitimate circumstances, it will be possible to discuss an adjustment to the weighting of assignments. Late assignments will not be accepted without penalty unless an arrangement is made **in advance** of the due date. There will be a deduction of 5% each day for late submissions.

Final Group Project: If you miss rehearsals for your final group project, you may be removed from the group. If you have more than **3 unexcused absences**, you may not be eligible to participate in the final group project. In that case, you may present an individual project and forfeit the 50% group mark.

Drama 1490 (Winter 2018) - Course Overview: (Schedule subject to change)

Please be aware that the content of each class may fluctuate based on new breakthroughs or explorations achieved during the collaborative process.

Week 1 (Jan. 4th) & Week 2 (Jan. 9th & Jan. 11th):

- Introductions and expectations
- Improvisational work – Self-discovery, focused energy, sensory awareness, gestures, tableaux, and non-verbal/verbal expression
- Develop awareness of self and others through dramatic exploration
- Explore the Where, Who, and What through dramatic action: action, objectives, and conflict

Week 3 (Jan. 16th & Jan. 18th) & Week 4 (Jan. 23rd & Jan. 25th):

- Focus on the arc of a story (beginning, middle, and end)
- Explore non-linear and linear storytelling
- Explore dramatic metaphor
- Objects of significance
- Sharing your story – What is your story?
- Explore character relationships through improvisation

Week 5 (Jan. 30th & Feb. 1st) & Week 6 (Feb. 6th & Feb. 8th):

- Group dynamics and collaboration
- Explore Silent Tension through improvisation in solo, pair, and group collaborations
- Give and take during dramatic exploration

Week 7 (Feb. 13th & Feb. 15th):

- Introduction of Final Group Project Assignments
- Image-based explorations

- Expression through text

*******READING WEEK – FEBRUARY 19TH – FEBRUARY 23RD*******

Week 8 (Feb. 27th & March 1st):

- Expression through text (cont.)
- Connecting and responding to outside stimuli (i.e. Newspaper theatre, social context, music, etc.)
- The art of devising – Discovering a theme through group exploration

***Students must attend GPLT’s production of *The Children’s Hour* (Please refer to season dates below). More details will be provided in class.**

Week 9 (March 6th & March 8th) & Week 10 (March 13th & March 15th):

- The evolution of a collaborative process
- Explorations through language and sounds – vocal dynamics & nuances
- Creative explorations through writing – creating dramatic text

***Mid-term Solo Project Presentations – Thursday, March 15th, 2018**

Week 11 (March 20th & March 22nd) & Week 12 (March 27th & March 29th):

- Physical and textual connections
- Transitions – How to effectively move through the arc of a story
- In-class work/rehearsals (Final Group Projects)

***Theatre reflection essay on live performance of *The Children’s Hour* is due on Thursday, March 22nd, 2018**

Week 13 (April 3rd & April 5th)

- Review of dramatic elements
- In-class work/rehearsals (Final Group Projects) & wrap up

Week 14 (Final week – April 10th & April 12th):

***Final rehearsals for Final Group Projects – Tuesday, April 10th, 2018**

***Final Group Project Presentations – Thursday, April 12th, 2018**

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

- As an instructor, I strive to build a supportive and creative environment where students can explore the art of creating theatre using a variety of resources including imagination, personal experience, and research. Therefore, students must support and respect each other, the work of their peers, as well as their own work.
- This is a practical class with an emphasis on group work and participation. Students are expected to attend classes regularly. Missing classes will seriously impact student ability to succeed in the course.
- Cell phones must be turned off and stored away during class.
- Late assignments will be penalized by 5% per day.

- Students are responsible for play admissions. Whenever possible, we will aim to attend free dress rehearsals and/or performances. If ticket price becomes an obstacle, please notify the instructor in advance so that arrangements can be made to accommodate.

STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM AND CHEATING:

Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated and there will be penalties. For a more precise definition of plagiarism and its consequences, refer to the Student Conduct section of the College Calendar at <http://www.gprc.ab.ca/programs/calendar/> or the College Policy on Student Misconduct: Plagiarism and Cheating at <https://www.gprc.ab.ca/about/administration/policies>

Theatre Season for Grande Prairie Live Theatre:

The Children’s Hour	Feb. 22, 23, 24, March 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10
Vanya & Masha & Sonia & Spike	April 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21
Little Women (the musical)	May 24, 25, 26, June 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9
Babe The Sheep Pig	Jan. 26, 27, 28, Feb. 2, 3, 4