

CRN # 81747 TTh 12:30pm-1:50pm  
THEA 2368.01/.02  
Class Location: PAC – Studio #180  
Fall 2017

Office Hours: **By Appointment:**  
TTH 2:15pm – 3:15pm  
Office Location: UTC Theater Office #114  
Email: [pmv002@shsu.edu](mailto:pmv002@shsu.edu)

Pamela Vogel, Instructor

**Intermediate Acting**  
**The Building Blocks of Training**  
*Course Syllabus*

**COURSE SYLLABUS, CALENDAR, ANNOUNCEMENTS ON UPCOMING ASSIGNMENTS, DUE DATES, SCRIPTS, AND YOUR GRADES, CAN BE FOUND ON COURSE HOMEPAGE AT BLACKBOARD (Bb). CHECK IT FREQUENTLY!**

[www.shsu.edu/](http://www.shsu.edu/) Campus Tools/Blackboard

**Our acting studio is a cell-phone free zone.**

**THEA 2368**

**Course Objectives:** To instill the building blocks of the actor's training in each student, in order to develop the improved vocal communication skills and physical charisma necessary for compelling dramatic performance. Warm-ups, improvisation exercises, monologue and scene work are incorporated. NOTE: There is no required text. Review and continued reading from the Plays and Playwrights List (see at Bb) is recommended.

**Attendance:** Each student's point score for Attendance/Participation starts at 30 and is deducted as absences occur. To keep track, click on your My Grades page at the course homepage at Bb. A **maximum of three (3)** absences is the guideline to keep in mind. Please arrive on time and ready to work. Two tardies (2) = 1 absence. Excessive absences and tardiness will continue to reduce of your final grade. More than 3 absences results in a lowed letter grade. 10 or more than 10 absences, that is 1/3rd of the scheduled classes missed, results in an F.

You are recorded as absent unless there is written intervention from the Office of the Dean of Students (located in the LSC). Likewise, you may complete make up assignments only if you have a legitimate and documented reason approved by the Dean of Students Office, e.g., university obligation, hospitalization, court appearance, jury duty, funeral. No written work will be accepted after the last day of class, Thursday November 30<sup>th</sup> 2017.

- The Office of the Dean of Students is located in the Lohman Student Center; take your document(s) to that office, which, in turn, will notify all of your professors by e-mail.
- Timed Audition, and Comic Relief Assignments are scheduled on the last two (2) days of class. An absence on these days, results in no point scores for these assignments. Your grade is affected.

There is no final exam or required attendance for this class during student exam week.

Final Course Grade (Your Banner or Letter Grade) = Total Point Score

A = 200-180 points

B = 179-159 points

C = 158-138 points

D = 137-117 points

F = 116-0

All Performance Assignments will be scheduled in a particular order on the Class Calendar. It is each student's responsibility to keep his or her attention on Notifications Page/Announcements/Blackboard. If you are ABSENT on your scheduled rehearsal or performance day, YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO MAKE UP THIS PERFORMANCE ASSIGNMENT and will receive 0 points for the Assignment. Your partner will NOT be penalized. One (1) MAKE-UP assignment may be requested. MAKE-UP assignment is a written Assignment.

## THEA 2368 – Assignments and Point Score Breakdown

Attendance	Points 30 max	Performance Assignments	Points	Written Assignments	Points
		Scene #1	5		
		Self-Scripted Monologue	5		
		Monologue #1	10	Monologue # 1 Notation	5 + 5 = 10
		Suspense Scenes	10+10 = 20	Monologue #2 Notation	
		Three Entrances/Improv Scenes	10+10 = 20	Hard Copy	
				Play Share #1 #2 #3	10+10+10= 30
		Scene #2	10+10 = 20	Actor Outline Upload	
		Timed Audition/Monologue #1 and #2 Presentation	10		
		Comic Relief Assignment	20	Char Anal Paper Part 1 & Part 2 Upload	10 + 10 = 20

**Attendance/Participation:** Students are expected to participate in all activities, exercises and discussions. This score impacts your grade. Participation (active participation) is vital in this class.

### Performance Assignments:

Scene #1: Presentation of an assigned short scene. The class works on building character connection.

Self-Scripted Monologue: Presentation of a self-scripted 1 ½ minute monologue. Specific guidelines assigned in-class.

Monologue #1: Presentation of a 1-minute Monologue from a contemporary American play, plus **hard copy/print out** of your monologue text. Presentations begin/conclude on scheduled days (see Course Calendar)

Suspense Scenes: Presentation of a short scene(s). The class works on character growth and plot momentum.

Three Entrances/Improv Scenes: Presentation of three unique Entrances. Students understand needed requirements of the exercise via examples/discussion in class. Scripted Improv scenes continue/complete the exercise.

Scene #2: Presentation of a long scene. The class works on intensifying character relationship.

Timed Audition: Presentation of 1-minute Monologue #1 and a 2nd memorized 1-minute Monologue with a contrasting “feel”, plus **hard copy/print out** of both of your monologue texts. All Students showcase TWO monologues, BOTH of their choices, first presenting Monologue #1 and then Monologue #2, (not to exceed 2 minutes total) and observe.

Comic Relief Assignment: Exercises with comedy bits and classical comedy “types”. Scripted comedy scenes end the course.

### Written Assignments:

Monologue Notation: (for Monologue #1 and later for Monologue #2) Your selected contemporary monologues “scored” into 3 “Beats” and the Actions/Tactics (to + a verb) you will play, is a **hard copy** turn in.

Play Share #1 #2 #3: Attend 3 (of 4) main stage SHSU Department productions during the term. Upload Actor Observation Outline for each show. Short class discussion of the actors observed. Actor Observation Outlines are uploaded to SafeAssign Assignment at Bb. Find the Assignment TEMPLATE/Format and Guidelines at Blackboard.

Character Analysis Paper: Part 1 and Part 2: A formal paper (600-800 words). Analysis of your character in Suspense Scene. Character Analysis Papers are uploaded to SafeAssign Assignment at Bb. Find the Assignment TEMPLATE/Format and Guidelines at Blackboard.

**Classroom Etiquette and Attire:** Please wear clothes that you feel comfortable moving in. The SHSU Dept of T and MT believes that exciting, breathing, vibrant theatre is not possible without everyone contributing. This is not a lecture class. We will be 'discussing' different viewpoints of the craft of acting. These discussions, requiring active participation of each student, are not constructed towards a written analysis or test, but towards student implementation.

**Performance Training Disclosure:** SHSU/Pamela Vogel endorses the concept that the body is the performer's true instrument of creativity and craft. It is through the body (including voice production) that a performer communicates to an audience. Consequently, the nature of performance (acting, movement) training will at times require physical touch between instructor and student and/or between student and student in order to clarify or demonstrate the body's processes as related to the training.

- If you have any special needs or concerns, are uncomfortable with the nature of this work, or have physical conditions or injuries which may restrict or prevent your taking part in the work, please make an appointment with the instructor for further discussion. If you are uncomfortable discussing this with your instructor, please see our Department Associate Chair, Thomas Prior.
- Talk to me! If you need to contact me, you can email me. Please do not hesitate to contact me regarding questions on class activities, monologues/scene work etc., throughout the term.

### **University Policies:**

Please review these university policies regarding student participation in class: [www.shsu.edu/syllabus/](http://www.shsu.edu/syllabus/)  
Students also see this link as a separate item in **Syllabus & Schedule**.

Academic Dishonesty

Student Absences on Religious Holy Days Policy

Students with Disabilities Policy

Visitors in the Classroom

It is important to inform the instructor at the beginning of the term of this course if you need accommodations for learning disabilities. See Students with Disabilities Policy below.

**Academic Honesty:** The University expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. Please consult the following link for a full description of the university's academic honesty policy, see [http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf\\_www/aps/documents/810213.pdf](http://www.shsu.edu/~vaf_www/aps/documents/810213.pdf)

**Students with Disabilities Policy:** It is the policy of Sam Houston State University that individuals otherwise qualified shall not be excluded, solely by reason of their disability, from participation in any academic program of the university. Further, they shall not be denied the benefits of these programs nor shall they be subjected to discrimination. Students with disabilities that might affect their academic performance should register with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities located in the Lee Drain Annex. They should then make arrangements with their individual instructors so that appropriate strategies can be considered and helpful procedures can be developed to ensure that participation and achievement opportunities are not impaired. [disability@shsu.edu](mailto:disability@shsu.edu)  
telephone 936-294-3512, TDD 936-294-3786

SHSU adheres to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. If you have a disability that may affect adversely your work in this class, then I

encourage you to register with the SHSU Services for Students with Disabilities and to talk with me about how I can best help you. All disclosures of disabilities will be kept strictly confidential. NOTE: No accommodation can be made until you register with the Services for Students with Disabilities. For a complete listing of the university policy, see: [Services for Students with Disabilities](#)