

THEA 3373

Stage Movement for Actors

Syllabus - Spring 2018

THEA 3373.01 PAC 188 THEA 3373.02 PAC 188
TuTh 9:30am-10:50am TuTh 11:00am-12:20pm

Professor: Kevin Crouch
E-Mail: kevincrouch@shsu.edu
Phone #: 936.294.1333
Office: UTC 126
Office Hours: MWF by appt.

Note: Syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of Kevin Crouch.

Course Description: A course designed to explore the source of impulse. To encourage the student to remove their mind from their work and act on the instincts and impulses found within their entire body. This course will also server as an introduction to safe and effective stage combat and how it relates to scene work.

Course Objective: To stretch the artist to use his/her body in new ways and to explore new avenues for creating work. To explore the open process of Viewpoints and how it relates to scene work and the structured process of Stage Combat.

Classroom Attire: Please wear comfortable, non-restrictive clothing, preferably dance or yoga attire. Form fitting is always better. We will be bending and stretching in all directions. Skirts and JEANS are a BAD IDEA. Footwear: For Viewpoints we will be BAREFOOT. For Stage Combat we will be in tennis shoes/sneakers. Please remove all jewelry. Keep hair pulled back off of your face. **A water bottle is always smart.** Please eat before class, but NOT DURING. No food please.

Classroom Demeanor: This is NOT a lecture class. We learn by doing. Come to class focused and ready to move, interact, discuss, and perform. You will be asked to work alone as well as with others. **NO CELL PHONES, TABLETS, OR COMPUTERS IN CLASS. If you are caught texting or the like in class, your grade will be reduced. Please don't. No Classroom Visitors.**

If a cellphone rings, dings, etc. during class, EVERYONE does 20 push-ups. SILENCE YOUR PHONES! If my phone goes off, I do 20 push-ups.

The classroom is a space in which many ideas and opinions are expressed and discussed. I ask that all students show respect, sensitivity, and discretion with each other and the topics that may be discussed in the classroom.

Required Reading: No Textbook required.

The following texts may prove helpful or interesting to the student:

The Viewpoints Book: A Practical Guide to Viewpoints and Composition by Anne Bogart & Tina Landau; Stage Fighting: A Practical Guide by Jonathan Howell

Attendance Policy: I do take roll. Everyone gets one free absence. Use it wisely. Tardiness is unacceptable and disrespectful to both me and your fellow classmates. I start on time, don't be late. Excessive tardiness will result in a reduction of your final grade. (See Participation)

Grade Breakdown	Points
Class Participation	600
Viewpoints	200
Stage Combat	75
Stage Combat Scene Work	125
	1000 TOTAL

GRADING SCALE
900-1000 pts — A
800-899 pts — B
700-799 pts — C
600-699 pts — D
599 & below — F

Participation (600 pts, 25pts per class, 25 class days): The only way to learn is to be present and active in class. I do take roll and attendance/class participation are HUGE PARTS OF YOUR FINAL GRADE. However, showing up won't cut it. You will need to take an active role in the class exercises. If you show up on time, ready to work in the proper attire, and give 100% to your classmates, the work, and myself, you will get 25 points. Points will be lost for:

1. Tardiness: 5 min or less – Minus 5 point
 5 min or more - Minus 10 points
 10 min or more - Minus 25 points
2. Not actively participating and/or contributing to discussions and exercises: Minus 15 points
3. Texting or the like during class: Minus 15 points
4. Inappropriate footwear or attire that limits your movement: Minus 10 point

Viewpoints (200pts): You will be performing various exercises associated with Viewpoints. You will be graded on your comprehension and application of these exercises as they are performed in class. Excessive tardiness will lower this grade.

Stage Combat (75pts): You will learn various elements of basic unarmed stage combat including but not limited to: slaps, punches, kicks, hair pulls, knaps, etc. You will be graded on your comprehension and application of these elements as they are learned in class both for safety and execution.

Stage Combat Scene Work (125pts): You will be assigned a scene partner and together you will create a scene that involves violence. You will work on the scene both inside and outside of class. You will apply stage combat principles/chorography taught by your instructor to the violence within the scene. You will be graded on your partnering and safety and will present your scene to the class.

*****A Note about Scene Work*****

Part of your grade will be based on partner work. You must be available to work with a partner in the rehearsal process, both in the classroom and outside the classroom. If you are unavailable to work with your partner, your grade will be lowered. Please make an effort to meet and rehearse your scene. You will be thankful you did. If you do not show up on the day when your scene is due to go up, you will be given an automatic ZERO for your scene. Your partner will not be penalized. Scenes are presented to the class and then reworked. Your grade is based on both the initial and the reworked performance.

To reserve a room for rehearsal please use the Room Reservation Form found here:

<http://www.shsu.edu/academics/theatre/resources/room-reservation.html>

If the student is unable to complete course requirements, the student's grade will reflect this.

Semester Calendar Overview:

Reminder: Syllabus and Calendar is subject change at the discretion of Kevin Crouch.

Weeks 1 & 2: Viewpoints Intro

Weeks 3-6: Viewpoints of Time: Tempo, Duration, Kinesthetic Response, Repetition

Week 7 – No Class

Weeks 8-9: Viewpoints of Space: Shape, Gesture, Architecture, Spatial Relationship, Topography.

Weeks 10-15: Stage Combat

Finals: 3373.01 – May 10th (9:30am-11:30am)

Finals: 3373.02 – May 10th (12:00pm-2:00pm)

NO CLASS

*******February 27th & March 1st*******

Important Dates:

SHSU Department of Theatre and Musical Theatre Productions Schedule (Reserve Your Tickets NOW)

Lady Windermere's Fan
February 21st - 24th, 2018

Clybourne Park
March 21st - March 24th, 2018

The Shape of Things and Speech & Debate
April 10th - 14th, 2018

Pippin
April 18th - April 21st, 2018

**Last day to drop full-semester spring course without a grade of "Q" is Thursday,
February 1st, 2018**

Academic Honesty: The nature of a performance class encourages co-operation and collaboration between acting partners. The sharing of information and ideas is very appropriate. What violates the area of academic honesty is asking someone else to write show response for you or not attending one of the required productions, renting the movie and writing responses off the movie. The area of academic honesty is also violated when one turns in another individuals research, character journals or character analysis and claim it as one's own. Any student found guilty of plagiarism or dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action. Anyone who engages in this type of behavior runs the risk of receiving a zero on the assignment.

All students are expected to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain 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. The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted,

plagiarism, collusion and the abuse of resource materials. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:

<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/dean-of-students/index.html>

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 (telephone 936-294-3512, TDD 936-294-3786, and e-mail disability@shsu.edu). 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.

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:

<http://www.shsu.edu/dotAsset/7ff819c3-39f3-491d-b688-db5a330ced92.pdf>

Religious Holidays Section 51.911(b) of the Texas Education Code requires that an institution of higher education excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day, including travel for that purpose. Section 51.911 (a) (2) defines a religious holy day as: “a holy day observed by a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property taxation under Section 11.20....” A student whose absence is excused under this subsection may not be penalized for that absence and shall be allowed to take an examination or complete an assignment from which the student is excused within a reasonable time after the absence.

University policy 861001 provides the procedures to be followed by the student and instructor. A student desiring to absent himself/herself from a scheduled class in order to observe (a) religious holy day(s) shall present to each instructor involved a written statement concerning the religious holy day(s). The instructor will complete a form notifying the student of a reasonable timeframe in which the missed assignments and/or examinations are to be completed. For a complete listing of the university policy, see:

<http://www.shsu.edu/dept/academic-affairs/documents/aps/students/861001.pdf>