

TPP 2110: Acting 1, 8211
SPRING 2026
T,TH 10:40am-12:35pm
LOCATION: Constans G14

Professor: Stephanie Lynge
Pronouns: She/Her
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Course Description

This course is designed as an introduction to the basic principles, theories, and techniques of acting. Students will learn to effectively translate literature into production through performance. We will explore the acting process through character study, improvisation, physical/vocal awareness, ensemble relationship, and developing a personal connection to the audience and text.

Course Objectives

1. To develop an understanding of the discipline of the art of acting and to refine concentration skills necessary within that discipline.
2. To develop the ability to work as a supportive, courageous, and accountable member of an ensemble through improving discipline, building trust, and strengthening communication skills.
3. To establish a common vocabulary that serves as a foundation for the acting process.
4. To increase observational skills and develop self-awareness through exercises and improvisation.
5. To practice basic methods of relaxation as well as exercises towards physical and vocal freedom and control.
6. To apply the methods and techniques of the actor's process to one's own work through exercises and monologue and scene work.
7. To demonstrate a fundamental understanding of the building blocks of working on a monologue and a scene.

Required Texts

Curated selection of handouts
Possible additional text TBD

Published plays and reference materials, both of which may be obtained from the campus libraries, will be utilized by the student in class. Handouts may be distributed as well.

* The student will receive an addendum to the syllabus, a handout containing a glossary of terms and vocabulary.

Expectations of Monologue Work

- Thorough written analysis/prep-work
- Clear through-line of thought

- Clarity of objective(s)
- Clarity of tactics
- Vocal exploration
- Physicality
- Presentations are fully memorized at the time of first performance (which may be the workshop day)

Expectations of Scene Work

- Thorough written analysis/prep-work
- Both characters —live in the same world
- Clear through-line of thought
- Clarity in objective(s)
- Clarity in tactics
- Vocal explorations
- Physicality

Grading Details

You will not be graded according to your acting “ability”. You will, however, be graded on your development in the class and your commitment to the work. This includes fully participating in all exercises and supporting your classmates in their learning process. It also includes coming to class and being prepared to perform daily. A willingness to try new things and stretch your comfort zone (whatever that might be) will get you far in this class.

Assignments

Attendance and Participation: (25%)

Rehearsal Logs/Journals: (12%)

Each student will be required to do (at least) 2 30 minute rehearsals/explorations outside of class each week (after starting scene work).

Journal entries can/should include:

What (if any) discoveries or observations did you make?

What surprised or delighted you?

What roadblocks did you hit?

The entry should also include:

*Time of rehearsal

*Date

*Where you worked

Journal Entries/Logs will be due 3 times during the semester - deadlines will be shared with the class. If you have your sessions done before the deadline please send them early.

Monologues (10%)

Actors choose a short Shakespeare monologue (more details in class) to workshop in class. We will explore the ideas of being seen, meaning what you say, relationship (to

both audience and partner). It may seem odd to begin with this kind of text. However, in my experience, this is one of the best ways to create trust, honesty, and vulnerability in the space. There will be a final sharing of these monologues.

A/B Scenes: (10%)

Students will workshop the guideposts and improvised created of given circumstances using A/B scenes in and out of class. Final sharings will be presented.

Final Scene Work (15%)

Actors will be assigned partners and scenes from published plays or screenplays. Scenes will be workshopped in class. Rehearsal outside of class is expected.

Final Process paper (5%)

Production Response Papers: (8%)

Students are expected to attend both productions:

The Spring 2026 UF shows are:

F. Punk Junkies - performances February 6-15

The Visit - performances March 27- April 3

Ticket vouchers will be provided for shows. If the voucher is lost or stolen, it CANNOT be replaced. Tickets must be purchased well in advance. SHOWS SELL OUT. A sold out show is not an excuse and you will be held accountable for the assignment regardless. More details on this paper TBA.

Vocabulary/Term Exam: (10%)

Acting/Self Analysis"Paper (5%)

ON CONTENT:

Being an actor is rigorous. It requires us to be a master of our bodies, our voices, our powers of observation, of language and more. But perhaps most importantly (and most challengingly) it requires the actor to be vulnerable and to be SEEN. It can be (and often is) emotionally and intellectually exhausting.

There is no right or wrong in Acting. There is only what we experience and bring alive in the space both as actors and observers. As more truthful work is exposed, this can lead to discomfort. Please embrace the discomfort. Push against it. Roll around in it. Live in it.

However, there is a difference between experiencing discomfort and being unsafe. Please be judicious in learning the difference for yourself. You are the owner of your educational experience, your own emotional experience, and your own physical safety. If at any point you are unsafe, please notify the instructor and take care of Yourself.

As actors, our job is to "hold the mirror up to nature" (Hamlet), and to be students and

communicators of the human experience in all of its complexities. This often means confronting topics that are controversial, challenging, ugly, and frightening. Let us all approach those conversations with equal parts tenacity and grace!

CLASS POLICIES

Attendance:

Students are expected to be in attendance daily and to be on time. Students are allowed one “unexcused” absence that does not require documentation and does not conform to the UF “acceptable reasons for absence.”

Any other “unexcused” absence will result in a penalty of a partial letter grade (5%) from the final grade per “unexcused” absence. To be considered “excused” an absence must be accompanied by appropriate official documentation. Religious observances do not require Documentation.

Any absence from class for the following reasons must be supported by official acceptable documentation to avoid a grade penalty:

- Illness—doctors note must be on official letterhead with address and phone number, noting the date and time of visit and diagnosis verifying that an absence from class is warranted, doctor name and signature
- Serious family emergencies
- Special curricular requirements (e.g., judging trips, field trips, professional conferences)
- Military obligation
- Severe weather conditions
- Participation in official university activities such as music performances, athletic competition, or debate
- Court-imposed legal obligations (e.g., jury duty or subpoena)

*To help organize accommodations, students should inform the instructor by the end of the second week of classes of religious observances of their faith that will conflict with class attendance this semester.

Any student that acquires 3 absences (either excused or unexcused) will be required to meet with this course’s instructor and/or area faculty to discuss the student’s continued participation in the course.

For Majors: Failure to attend this meeting will result in Artistic Probation.

Tardiness:

Tardiness is disruptive to a class of this nature and will not be tolerated...it is also one of my greatest pet-peeves. Any tardiness will be recorded along with attendance.

Attendance will be taken promptly at the start of class. If you enter the room after the check-in has been started, you will be considered tardy.

That being said, I am a reasonable human being who has my own set of access needs. As

such, please communicate with me if something comes up.

2 tardies = 1 absence

Clothing/Dress:

Please wear clothes you can move in without adjustment. Practice this at home and see if you have the impulse to pull at or adjust your clothes.

Be prepared to be barefoot or wear rehearsal/movement shoes.

No Hats, Jewelry, or Jeans

*You may dress for your scene if you so desire!

UF POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Information about university-wide policies and resources can be found here: <https://syllabus.ufl.edu/syllabus-policy/uf-syllabus-policy-links/>

This syllabus is subject to change based on the needs of the class.