

The University of Alabama, Department of Theatre and Dance
TH 141 Acting One, MWF 2:00 – 2:50pm
Rowand-Johnson Hall 236, Fall Semester 2019
FINAL EXAM: Tuesday, December 10, 3:30 PM - 6:00 PM

Allison Hetzel, Associate Professor of Acting and Voice

Associate Teacher of Fitzmaurice Voicework (2008)

Master Teacher of Archetypes for Actors (2015)

Office 247 – UA Safe Zone, UA Safe Harbor

Campus Mailbox: Room 115 Department Office

Office Phone (205) 348-3127

Email: ahetzel@ua.edu - This is the best way to reach me!

Office Hours: Most Mondays 11:00 – 11:50, also by appointment, please contact me before any issues escalate.

Jeremiah Packer, Graduate Teaching Assistant

djpacker@crimson.ua.edu

Required Text: *Acting Onstage and Off*, by Robert Barton (6th, 7th Editions)
ISBN # 0-15-506073-2

Highly Recommended Text: *Everyday Voice Care* by Joanna Cazden

Attendance policy: Attendance is mandatory! After **two** unexcused absences. ***Each additional absence will lower your final grade, by a half of a letter grade (50 points).*** Absences will not be excused without documentation and verifiable cause. My preference as an instructor is to be contacted **prior** to any absence by email. You must also contact your acting partner if you must be absent. Please consider the penalties of absences in relation to the class grade, before missing class. In this acting class your attendance and participation is mandatory, class exercises and projects are essential for your artistic enrichment. Remember if you are an absent actor in the professional world you will be replaced with another actor!

What this means is:

- **After four absences total, you cannot earn a grade higher than a B after 100 points are deducted from your total final points. (If you were working at an A level)**
- **After six absences total, you cannot earn a grade higher than a C after 200 points are deducted from your total final points. (If you were working at an A level)**
- **To earn the total 200 points for attendance you must attend all classes, participate and be present.**
- **Each student is given two absences to be ill, have car trouble, and oversleep or to be somewhere else – I do not excuse these items.**
- **Please contact me about your own hospitalization, a death in the family or religious holidays these must be verifiable for an excused absence. As well as any University documented absences.**

- **I will contact you if you are failing the class (this is often a result of too many absences or poor class work and conduct) and you will not be able to successfully complete the semester without a failing grade.**

Late or Missed work will not be accepted without prior notification and arrangements.

Performances are an important part of this class if you are not prepared to perform on a date that you are scheduled to perform, your final grade for late paper and performances will be lessened by 5 points each class period until completed or handed in.

Tardiness: Three instances of lateness equal one absence. Please be on time this is crucial! Very Crucial!

Disabilities: To request disability accommodations, please contact Disabilities Services at phone Number 348 – 4285. After initial arrangements are made with this office, please set up an appointment to see me.

Academic Misconduct: All acts of dishonesty in any work constitute academic misconduct. This includes, but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, fabrication of information, misrepresentations, and abetting of the above. The Academic Misconduct Policy will be followed in any such case. This policy is outlined in the student affairs handbook, which can be obtained from the Student Life office in the Ferguson Center.

Important Website to Know

<http://ua.edu/uact/>

UAct: The University of Alabama is committed to an ethical, inclusive community defined by respect and civility. The UAct website (www.ua.edu/uact) provides extensive information on how to report or obtain assistance with a variety of issues, including issues related to dating violence, domestic violence, stalking, sexual assault, sexual violence or other Title IX violations, illegal discrimination, harassment, child abuse or neglect, hazing, threat assessment, retaliation, and ethical violations or fraud.

UA Severe Weather Guidelines

Severe weather may impact the University. It is important for the University community to understand the potential hazards and to respond appropriately. Severe weather may occur suddenly and leave little time for action. The University monitors the weather and will notify the community through the Warnings protocol. Additionally, the University has prepared Severe Weather Guidelines that are specific to campus. See the Severe Weather page for more weather related information.

The safety and well-being of our students, employees and visitors is our highest priority at The University of Alabama. Please be familiar with UA's severe weather guidelines and be prepared to quickly move to safety if severe weather occurs.

Some students and employees commute from adjacent counties. These counties may experience weather-related problems not encountered in Tuscaloosa. Individuals should take the necessary

precautions to ensure personal safety. Whenever the National Weather Service issues a warning, people in the path of the storm (tornado or severe thunderstorm) should take immediate life-saving actions.

Personal safety should dictate the actions that students and employees take.

- Classes will remain in session until the National Weather Service issues tornado warnings for the campus. In the case of a tornado warning, all University activities are automatically suspended, including all classes and laboratories.
- Please move immediately to the shelter or best available refuge area and remain there until the tornado warning has expired.
- Classes in session when the tornado warning is issued can resume immediately after the warning has expired at the discretion of the instructor.
- Classes that have not yet begun will resume 30 minutes after the tornado warning has expired provided at least half of the class period remains
- Encourage students in your classroom to follow these procedures by remaining in the building and going with you to a shelter or best available refuge area
- During a tornado warning, Crimson Ride will immediately suspend operations, and the driver will direct passengers to shelter in select buildings.

Remember, when severe weather strikes and the warning sirens sound:

- Go to the nearest shelter or best available refuge area.
- Stay tuned to radio or television stations for further weather statements.
- Remain inside until the severe weather threat has ended.

If a tornado warning is issued for the campus, students, employees and visitors will be notified using the methods listed below. If you receive notification of a tornado warning through any of these methods, move to safety immediately.

UA issues emergency notifications using the following methods:

- UA Alerts, which simultaneously deploys text messages, emails and phone calls
- Campus Indoor and Outdoor PA system
- Emails to students and employees
- Social media, including Twitter and Facebook
- Media alerts through TV and radio stations and newspapers
- UA Home page
- Digital signage across campus
- Crimson Ride bus marquees
- Campus cable network
- UAPD sirens

Additional information regarding the University's Emergency Management Program is available at: <https://ready.ua.edu/>.

Class Guidelines

- Treat fellow acting classmates with respect.
- Embrace a positive attitude along with positive energy this will strengthen your acting work in and out of this class.
- Please dress in attire that is comfortable and will not constrict your movement – **NO JEANS- FLEXIBLE SHOES – NO HEELS**, no tight fitting clothing on warm-up/movement or floor work days
- No eating in class
- Do not work on other work during this class
- Bringing a water bottle to class is **HIGHLY** recommended
- Cell phones should be turned off and put away when you enter the classroom, any phone ringing/beeping/vibrating and, any attempts to make or receive a phone call or text during the class will result in one tardy.
- **I do NOT want to see your cell phones during class time –NO TEXTING!**
- Hats and or sunglasses should not be worn during class, while costume pieces are welcomed for scenes
- Gum chewing is **NOT** permitted, this will hinder vocal quality
- Tongue and lip jewelry will need to be removed when performing
- A friendly reminder that this is **NOT** a good semester to get a piercing in the tongue, nose, or lip
- This is a great semester to **QUIT Smoking and Vaping**—this will ruin your instrument as an actor/singer.
- Touch will be an element of this class as part of the semester; actor alignment and partner work will be explored during the semester. Please let me know if you have concerns about this prior.
- Adult language and themes are common in theatre and acting roles, please see me prior if you have concerns about this.

Written Assignment Guidelines:

- All written assignments should be typed: double spaced with 12 pt. Times New Roman font
- **I will NOT accept emailed written assignments** (Please do not email papers – *really* do not do this unless you are hospitalized and it is the only option.)
- **I will NOT accept unstapled written assignments** (Buy a stapler now)
- **I will accept specific assignments on Blackboard.**
- **ACTING FOCUS PAPERS**, 2 to 3 pages in length – are due the following Monday after a show closes with a ticket stub stapled to the paper.
- **READING RESPONSES** to the text book and a play are required a one page response to each chapter typed – handed in the day that the chapters or play is discussed.
- The acting projects will have a written assignment due on the day of performance.
-

Course Requirements:

- Open scene **50 Pts** (with a written assignment)
- One Monologue **100 Pts (10% of your final grade)**
- Hand in Monologue Must do List (Journal Assignment Hand Out)
- Scene - dry run showing **50 Pts**
- Scene – Performance Showing , **150 pts (Entire scene project is worth 22% of your final grade)**
- Script and Character Analysis for Scene **20Pts**
- **Mock Auditions 100 Pts (10% of your final grade)**
- Written response to the two of the four UA Theatre productions in an Acting focus paper, 1 – 3 pages in length, 50 Points each, **100 Pts**. (You must pick the two show to write on, each show will be discussed and you are still required to see all four productions)
- **Acting focus papers are DUE the Monday after each production closes with a ticket stub stapled to the paper.**
- Reading, writing, and discussion assignments from text. **80 Pts total**
- **Written Response to Readings** one page typed response for each chapter, eight total (10 Points per chapter)
- Contemporary Play Response **50 Points**
- **(a two page written response to a play written after year 2005 and a short presentation)**
- **Test on Acting Terms 100 Points (10% of your final grade)**

- Attendance, Professionalism & Participation 200 Points (20 % of your final grade)
- Please keep copies of all written work in a folder for this class
- 1000 Points Total

Grade Scale: 1000 – 900 = A, 899 – 800 = B, 799 – 700 = C, 699 – 600 = D, 599 – 0 = F

TH-141 Acting I: (3 hours) *Prerequisite: Theatre major or minor.* The course is designed to introduce the beginning student to the art and craft of acting.

Course Objectives: The goal of Acting One is to become familiar with the basic principles of acting; in the world of theatre, through class exercises, assignments, observations, and applications. Using the voice, body, and mind to create characters and bring acting moments to life! The student will learn the steps involved in the process of acting and have the opportunity to apply this knowledge to acting assignments performed in class.

At the conclusion of the course the student will learn:

- The twenty steps of the Stanislavski system the student will explore the basic ingredients of acting; using contemporary material for scenes and monologues.
- The process involved in scene work and a monologue
- To create work in the community of the acting classroom, in pairs as group and individually as an actor.
- To develop, strengthen, and advance the actors' instrument of body, voice, and mind.
- To explore the craft and study of scene work and creating a character.
- To observe classmates work as actors and engage in discussions and feedback that reflects and articulates the process of acting.

Departmental Productions: Theatre Majors are expected to attend the UA performances! Please show your support to the Department of Theatre and Dance as well as your colleagues.

All theatre acting response papers are due the class period after the show closes—in class or on Blackboard.

Departmental Theatre and Dance Productions:

- Link to Showtime's and Dates can be found at <https://theatre.ua.edu>
- Ticket Information and Packages Please See the Box Office or ua.tix.com

The River, September 23-27, 29 Allen Bales Theatre (AB) no show 9/28

Intimate Apparel, October 1-6, Gallaway Theatre (GT)

Alabama Repertory Dance Theatre, October 8-11, Morgan Hall (MH)

Dance Alabama, November 12-15, MH

The Pirates of Penzance, November 11-17 AB no show 11/10

The Importance of Being Ernest, November 19-22, 24 GT no show 11/23

Class Schedule Fall 2019

(Subject to change)

August

W 8/21 Introduction to course (Departmental auditions for the season begin on Tuesday 8/21!)

F 8/23 Sharing of Acting Moments in Life

M 8/26 Warming-up, Voice and Movement (**Floor work- Please dress for this**)

5:00 PM Convocation for Theatre and Dance Majors –Morgan Auditorium Theatre

W 8/28 Continue Warming-up and an Introduction to the first ten steps (**Please dress for this**)

F 8/30 **Discuss Chapters 1 & 2 (Two one page written responses are due)**

Introduction to the open scene assignment—text and partners.

September

M 9/2 Labor Day – **NO CLASS**

W 9/4 Trouble Shooting with the Open Scenes

F 9/6 Present Open Scenes

M 9/9 Introduction to scene work assignment/ highlight the second ten steps

W 9/11 **Discuss Chapters 3 & 4 (Two one – page responses due) Review ALL Twenty Terms (Recall and Image Activity)**

F 9/13 Approaching Scene work with your partner (The Mini-Marriage)

(Ex 5.18 do with your partner outside of class)

M 9/16 Partner Work and Rehearsal Approaches

W 9/18 Explore Script with Partner Work /Rehearsal Approaches

F 9/20 Scene Workshop Day

M 9/23 **Discuss Chapter 5 (A one – page response is due)**

(Begin searching for a Monologue for the next Acting Project)

W 9/25 Begin Dry Runs (2 - 3 per day)

F 9/27 Continue Dry Runs (2- 3 per day)

(Begin searching for a Monologue for the next Acting Project)

M 9/30 Discuss the play *The River* - **written response paper DUE**

Continue Dry Runs (2 - 3 per day)

October

W 10/2 **Discuss Chapters 6 & 7** (Two one – page responses due) and Workshop Scenes

F 10/4 Conclude any Dry Runs ****READ Chapter 8 before you present your scene you will discuss this in class after you present scenes****

M 10/7 Discuss *Intimate Apparel*- **written response paper DUE**

Workshop Scenes

W 10/9 Begin Scene Presentations (3 to 4 scenes per day)

F 10/11 Continue Scene Presentations (3 to 4 scenes per day)

M 10/14 Conclude Scene Presentations (3 - 4 scenes per day)
W 10/16 Discuss monologue hunting and **Chapter 8 Partner Discussion**
(**You must read this chapter before you perform your scene**)
F 10/18 Introduction to Monologue hunting – **Meet at Gorgas Library near Java City**

M 10/21 **Bring a monologue to class to read in class – NO EXCUSES**
W 10/23 Continue monologue reading and beginning steps of monologue prep
F 10/25 Workshop Monologues/ Partner work

M 10/28 Review Twenty Acting Terms and begin to apply monologue prep
W 10/30 Workshop Monologues/ Partner work

November

F 11/1 Fall Semester Study Break – **NO CLASS**

M 11/4 Workshop and Coaching of Monologues/ Review Twenty Acting Terms
W 11/6 Workshop and Coaching of Monologues
F 11/8 **Present Monologues!** (8 – 10 per day)

M 11/11 **Present Monologues!** (8 – 10 per day)
W 11/13 Continue and Conclude, Shift Focus to the Second Monologue for Mock Auditions
F 11/15 Mock Audition Workshop

M 11/18 Discuss *The Pirates of Penzance*– **written response paper due**
W 11/20 Workshop Mock Auditions Monologues/Partner work
F 11/22 Mock Audition Day!
Mock Auditions (Each actor will present their second monologue)

M 11/25 **Contemporary Play Response Project – Paper DUE,**
Short Discussion of Plays Read, and *The Importance of Being Earnest*.
W 11/27 Thanksgiving Break – **NO CLASS**
F 11/29 Thanksgiving Break – **NO CLASS**

December

M 12/2 Review for Final Exam
W 12/6 Voice and Movement Archetype Workshop – Dress to move
F 12/6 Group Activity, Class Discussion – Last day of Class

December 9 - 13, Final Exam Week

Tuesday, December 10th Written Final Exam

3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.: Classes which first meet MWF between 2:00 p.m. - 2:50 p.m.