TPP 2100 – Acting for Non-Majors
TERM: Fall 2013
Section: 7292
Period: 2 (MWF-8:30-9:20)
Room: CON G-13
Instructor: Tom Foley
Email: tfoley3@ufl.edu
Office Hours: By appointment only
Office Location: McCarty C, 3rd Floor

UF COURSE CATALOGUE DESCRIPTION:
The discipline and the creative process of acting: formal and improvisational techniques for developing vocal, physical and analytical skills.

OBJECTIVES:
- Students will demonstrate competence in the terminology, concepts, methodologies, and theories used within the discipline of acting.
- Students will communicate knowledge, ideas, and reasoning clearly and effectively in written or oral forms appropriate to the discipline of acting.
- Students will analyze information carefully and logically from multiple perspectives, using acting-specific methods, and develop reasoned solutions to problems.

CRITICAL DATES:
Aug 30: Reflection Paper #1 due.
Sept 6: Monologue selection due.
Oct 4: Off book date for monologues.
Oct 9: Scored script and character analysis due.
Oct 11: Mid term grade update.
Oct 14: Never the Sinner quiz.
Oct 16: Never the Sinner paper due.
Oct 25: Monologues final presentations.
Oct 28: Guys and Dolls quiz.
Oct 30: Guys and Dolls paper due.
Nov 11: Play analysis paper due.
Nov 14: Character analysis and scored scripts due.
Nov 20: Concepts test.
Dec 2: Reflection paper #2 due.
Dec 4: Begin final scene presentations.

There will be written assignments for the monologues and scenes

Written work will be due on your workshop day.

Play production paper and quiz due dates are TBA. See course outline.
All students will also be required to prepare one warm-up exercise to be done at the beginning of class. This can be a physical warm-up, a voice exercise or a game. I will provide examples and resources where to find these. You will be expected to both teach and lead the exercise. A schedule will be made during the first week of class.

REQUIRED TEXTS:
Although there is no required text for this course, there may be assigned readings and handouts for which you will be responsible. In addition, you will be responsible for finding and/or reading plays for class material (for monologues). Scene material will come from a play selected by instructor. All class material must come from published plays.

REQUIRED VIEWING:
You are required to attend 2 UF School of Theatre and Dance productions listed below. You will be required to write a two-page critique of the acting (on one actor) to show you understand the concepts you have been learning. This is not a report. I will hand out guidelines for the paper before the show opens. All students must arrive at least 10 minutes before the show begins. DO NOT BE LATE. Some shows do not allow late seating. DO NOT TEXT ever during the show. Ever. You will be given ticket vouchers for the UF shows. The cost to you will be $2 for each show.

UF Production Dates:
Sept. 20-29  Miss Witherspoon- Black Box Theatre
Oct. 4-13  Never the Sinner – Black Box Theatre
Oct. 18-27  Guys and Dolls – Constans Theatre
Nov. 15-17  Agbedidi Africa - Constans Theatre

You will be required to see a performance of Never the Sinner and Guys and Dolls, only. You are encouraged to also attend Miss Witherspoon, but because of the limited seating available we cannot provide coupons for all productions. Your assignments on those 2 productions will be due on the Wednesday following closing.

You will receive coupons to purchase discounted tickets for $2.00. Do not lose the coupons. They cannot be replaced.

Keep your ticket stub. You must staple it to your paper when you hand it in.

There will be a quiz given in class on the Monday immediately following the final performance of a production. The questions will relate to the specific production (not just the play), so your good performance will require your attendance and full attention.

ATTENDANCE POLICY
Attendance will be taken daily. Due to the participatory nature of this course, attendance is mandatory. You are expected to be in class on time and ready to work. You are allowed two unexcused absences. If more than two absences occur, 30 points will be deducted from your final grade for each additional absence. Please use these allowed absences wisely as absolutely no exceptions will be made. In order for an absence to be excused, you must turn in the proper written documentation in a timely fashion (i.e., team travel, band, academic field trips, doctor’s excuse, etc.)
In addition to 2 unexcused absences, **you will be allowed 2 late arrivals.** Upon your 3rd late arrival, 30 points will be deducted from your final grade. (In other words, three tardy arrivals equal one absence.) Please note that it is **your responsibility to notify me after class** that you arrived late. If you come in late and I’m unaware, you may receive an absence for that day.

**LATE ASSIGNMENTS**
No late or make-up assignments will be accepted without an excused absence. In the event of an excused absence, late assignments will be accepted or performed no later than one class period after the date on which it was due.

**DRESS CODE**
Dress appropriately for an acting class. Wear comfortable clothes and shoes that allow you to move with ease. On final performance days, appropriate professional attire and/or costume are required.

**EXPECTATIONS REGARDING PREPARATION:**
All final showings of monologues and scenes should include full memorization of script, costuming and set blocking. In the work sessions prior to final showings, there should be an escalating level of expectation regarding memorization/preparation.

**EXTRA CREDIT**
Students may also write a critique of actor performances that are not part of the term’s required viewing. These theatre performances can include, but are not limited to, productions at the Hippodrome Theatre, Acrosstown Repertory Company, Gainesville Community Playhouse, and the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts. **Check with instructor regarding approved performances.** To receive full credit, a student must turn in a two page double-spaced critique of an actor’s (or actors’) performance(s) with ticket stub. These should be analyses, not be plot summaries, exercising course concepts and vocabulary. Limit 1 paper per term.

There will also be a film version of Shakespeare’s **Much Ado About Nothing** at the Hippodrome cinema opening on September 6. Students can write a two-page critique of one or more actor’s performance in that film, and hand that in with their ticket stub.

There will be a possible 50 points of extra credit available, depending on the quality of the work. Students are strongly encouraged to attend the stage productions at the Hippodrome Theatre this semester, whether you’re getting extra credit or not.

**Don't Dress for Dinner**  August 28- September 22
**Zombie Town**  October 9- November 3
**A Tuna Christmas**  November 22- December 22

Your experience of the class will be greatly enhanced by seeing some live professional theatre.

**GRADING BREAKDOWN:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reflection Paper #1</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reflection Paper #2</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syllabus Contract</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UF Production Quiz x 2 (20 pts. each)</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UF Production Paper x 2 (30 pts. each)</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Concepts Test 70  
Monologue Character Analysis 50  
Monologue Scored Script 50  
Monologue Final Performance 100  
Play Analysis Paper 50  
Scene Character Analysis 50  
Scene Scored Script 50  
Final Scene Performance 100

Total 1000 points

GRADE SCALE:
A = 921-1000 pts.  
A- = 900-920 pts.  
B+ = 870-899 pts.  
B = 821-869 pts.  
B- = 800-820 pts.  
C+ = 770-799 pts.  
C = 721-769 pts.  
C- = 700-720 pts.  
D+ = 670-669 pts.  
D = 600-669 pts.  
E = 599-0 pts

CLASS DECORUM
This class is of an exploratory and experimental nature. Exercises require full participation and often a sense of humor and a sense of "play". In order to foster a trusting and creative environment, respect of the instructor and of fellow students is essential. Please feel free to see me with any reservations you may have about the explorations in this class.

Also, respect your classmates as you would have them respect you. Give your full attention to your classmates as they work. There will be zero tolerance of cell phone use (including texting), sleeping, eating, drinking, doing work for other classes, reading, or disruptive talking in class.

Notes must be taken by hand. No laptops, tablet computers, or other electronic devices can be open once class has begun.

No food or drink is allowed in the classroom. Water only is permitted.

HONOR CODE:
As a result of completing the registration form at the University of Florida, every student has signed the following statement:

“I understand that the University of Florida expects its students to be honest in all their academic work. I agree to this commitment to academic honesty and understand that my failure to comply with this commitment may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from the University.”

If you cheat on a test or quiz, or plagiarize material, i.e., use someone else's words or ideas without attribution, you will automatically receive a failing grade in this class. Ignorance of the
definition of plagiarism or the absence of intent to deceive does not constitute an acceptable defense in matters of scholarly dishonesty.

Student guidelines for ethical behavior can be found at:
http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/students.html

The Student Conduct Code is available at:
http://www.dso.ufl.edu/studentguide/

LEARNING DISABILITIES:
If you have a disability that is documented with the Disability Resource Center and wish to discuss accommodations, please see me during office hours. If you have a learning disability that has not been documented, contact the DRC at 352.392.8565 (accessuf@dso.ufl.edu).

UNIVERSITY COUNSELING SERVICES:
3190 Radio Rd.
P.O. Box 112662
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32611-2662
Phone: 352-392-1575
Web: www.counsel.ufl.edu

FINAL NOTE:
This syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

I have carefully read over the (TERM) TPP 2100 Acting for Non- Majors Syllabus. I AGREE to all the rules and regulations of the class as outlined in this syllabus. Please return this form to you instructor. This form serves as a contact between student and instructor.

PRINT NAME:______________________________________________

UF ID#____________________________________________________

Signature:__________________________________________________

Date:______________________________________________________