

Actor's Ensemble  
THEA 3910.001/301(TuTh's 2:00pm - 4:20pm)  
&  
THEA 3910.002/302 (MW's 3:00pm - 5:20pm)

**\*Class Location RTFP 127\***

Office Hours: TuTh 11:30am - 1:30pm (by appointment only)

**Office location RTFP 221\***

Instructor: Nathan Autrey

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**\*\*\*The instructor reserves the right to change any information contained in this document, when necessary, with adequate notice given to the student.\*\*\***

Hours: 1;4

### **Course Description:**

This course explores the fundamental principles and practices of character development essential for stage performance. Students will cultivate their artistic growth by focusing on collaborative skills and the ability to effectively integrate a director's vision. The curriculum emphasizes both individual actor processes and the collective effort required to contribute to the overall story.

**Course Overview:** Students audition and then participate in directing exercises, classical and contemporary scenes. Serves as the acting ensemble for directing courses. May be repeated for credit.

### **Course Requirements:**

A. Grading: Your creative growth and thoughtful responses constitute the major focus of this class. Therefore, open discussion and deep involvement are essential. **900 pts** of your grade will be based on attendance and promptness that includes active participation and being prepared.

#### **1. Participation//Preparedness**

Weekly reflection posts are required for the Participation grade and must be submitted through Canvas discussion questions by 12PM on Thursday. Over the 12 rehearsal weeks, students can earn a maximum of 900 points for this component. Each week is worth up to 75 points, broken down as 55 points for participation and 20 points for the weekly written reflection.

#### **Weekly Requirements:**

- **Content:** The post should reflect on the week's rehearsals (directors are expected to hold at least two).
- **Length:** A minimum of 3-5 sentences.

- **Focus:** Detail your activities, discoveries made, any challenges or troubles encountered, and breakthroughs achieved during the rehearsals.
- **Rehearsal weeks:**  
26 JAN - 5 FEB - Week #1  
5 - 12 FEB - Week #2  
12 - 19 FEB - Week #3  
19 - 26 FEB - Week #4  
26 FEB - 5 MARCH - Week #5  
5 - 19 MARCH - Week #6  
19 - 26 MARCH - Week #7  
26 MARCH - 2 APRIL - Week #8  
2 - 9 APRIL - Week #9  
9 - 16 APRIL - Week #10  
16 - 23 APRIL - Week #11  
23 - 30 APRIL - Week #12
- **Preparedness Expectations** 1st pass - Ensure all necessary materials have been acquired, thoroughly read, and researched. Each individual should possess a physical copy of the materials, including group members, if applicable. Ready to rehearse the material.
- 2nd pass - You've been actively rehearsing, memorizing your material, clarity of given circumstances, ability to engage in and explore techniques discussed in class and are making artistic choices. At this stage, you're fully committed and open to receiving constructive feedback.
- 3rd pass - At this point, your work is performance ready. You've fully utilized the rehearsal time, refining your work through each session, especially our rehearsal session. Your choices are strong and clear, demonstrating confidence in your acting. You are wholeheartedly committing to the work, and it is evident in your performance. You are dressed and in appearance to the best of your ability to embody your character for convincing storytelling and to meet your needs as a performer.

## 2. Reflective Essay

**100 pts** of your grade will be based on writing a proficient reflective essay (**350-400 words, single-spaced**). The **reflective essay** as a self-assessment is a carefully crafted statement regarding the acting approaches, strategies, or methods attempted. It should include a concise and clear description of what worked or didn't work in terms of character exploration and final

characterization(s); a concise and clear description of the challenges and triumphs experienced as a company member; and finally, a concluding statement of what was learned by engaging in an artistic process. The reflective essay is **due Monday, May 4, by midnight. Please upload the completed essay (either as word or google doc, or pdf) via Canvas.** The final semester grade will appear in letter form, according to the UNT grading system (i.e., "A," "B," "C," "D," and "F").

**TOTAL 1000 POINTS**

**\*For every unexcused absence you will be dropped a letter grade\***

- 900-1000 points = A
- 800-899 points = B
- 700-799 points = C
- 600-699 points = D
- 0-599 points = F

**\*You can track your grade progress through Canvas.\***