

THEA 4140
Shakespeare: Fall 2022
Tuesday/Thursday 9:30am – 11:50am
AUD 100

Instructor: Sarah Rutan

Office Hours: T/Th 12-1:00pm (appointments appreciated)

E-mail: Sarah.Rutan@unt.edu

Textbook: Complete Works of William Shakespeare (can be found for free online)

Description:

Discovering a closer relationship, understanding and ease with Shakespeare are the primary focus of this class, which includes Breaking down Shakespeare's language through primary, secondary and tertiary methods, developing rehearsal techniques for the actor, cultivating a sense of curiosity and equivalency with this 450+ year old language, exploring all aspects of poetic rhetoric, and using the fundamental techniques of character and scene building. Acting is behaving truthfully under imaginary circumstances.

Objective:

At the completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- *Breakdown the poetic language of Shakespeare's text
- *Apply the advanced processes of acting fundamentals/realism work
- *Enhance their observation, curiosity and self-reflection/analysis of their acting instrument in this specialized form

Major Assignments:

Synopsis Project
Richard III Unit
Monologues 1 & 2
Final Scenes

Disability Accommodations:

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking reasonable accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with a reasonable accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request reasonable accommodation anytime, however, ODA notices of reasonable accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of reasonable accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of reasonable accommodation during faculty hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323 or <https://studentaffairs.unt.edu/office-disability-access>

Monologue/ Scene Work:

Your work in class on monologues and scenes will be based on:

- level of preparation (appropriate set, costume, props...work outside of class)
- level of memorization
- clarity of given circumstances /text analysis
- ability to engage in and explore techniques discussed in class

Grading:

Synopsis Assignment: 200pts

Richard III-

Presentation- 25pts

Breakdown/Actor Sheet- 25pts

Monologue #1:

Presentation- 100pts

Breakdown/Actor Sheet - 100pts

Monologue #2:

Presentation- 100pts

Breakdown/Actor Sheet- 100pts

In class Coaching Sessions: 150pts (3@50pts each)

Final Scene:

Presentation- 100pts

Breakdown/Actor Sheet- 100pts

TOTAL POINTS: 1000

Weekly Schedule*:

Wk 1: T- Syllabus & Opening Lecture

Th- Opening Lecture continued

Wk 2: T-Richard III Lecture & Assignment

Th- Iambic Pentameter

Wk 3: T- Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Breakdown Lecture

Th- Poetic Rhetoric

Wk 4: T- Punctuation Dance

Th- Richard III Presentations

Wk 5: T- Synopsis Assignment

Th- Synopsis Work Day

Wk 6: T- Monologue Idea Day (Synopsis Assignment Due)

Th- Monologue #1 Assigned

Wk 7: T- Monologue #1 Tablework

Th- Monologue #1 Table work continued

Wk 8: Monologue #1 Coaching Sessions (Tuesday and Thursday)

Wk 9: T- Monologue #1 Presentations

Th- Monologue #2 Assigned

Wk 10: T- Monologue #2 Table work

Th- Monologue #2 Table work continued

Week 11: Monologue #2 Coaching Sessions (Tuesday and Thursday)

Wk 12: T- Monologue #2 Presentations

Th- Final Scenes Assigned

Wk 13: Final Scene Coaching Sessions (Tuesday and Thursday)

Wk 14: Final Scene Coaching Sessions (Tuesday and Thursday)

Wk 15: Final Scene Work Week

Wk 16: **Final Scene Presentations**

****Schedule subject to change. All changes will be communicated in a timely manner***

ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY POLICY

(2 Meetings a Week)

Punctual attendance is critical for your success in the course. Thus, students are expected to be present and punctual for all classes.

The following policy is consistent with all acting courses in the department:

- Students are allowed no more than a total of THREE (3) absences during the semester.
- Students are considered tardy if they arrive for class no more than 30 minutes late.

Arriving more than 30 minutes late for class is considered an absence.

- Students are expected to attend class for the duration of the period. Leaving before the class concludes is considered an absence.

- An occurrence of tardiness for the class FOUR (4) times is the equivalent or ONE (1) absence.

- A total of (4) absences means that the highest grade the student can earn in the class is an F.

Any student with an issue in the area of attendance and/or punctuality will be referred to the Acting Faculty for guidance.

If a student's absences have resulted in a grade with which they are not pleased, they may choose to withdraw from the class.

The professor's roll is the official record of absences and tardiness. At any point, students are welcome to check the grade roster on Canvas to be sure that their attendance/punctuality record is accurate.

STUDENT OBLIGATION TO ACADEMIC/PRODUCTION WORK

Dance & Theater students are expected to budget and organize their time and efforts in order to meet both their academic and production commitments satisfactorily and on time. The faculty and staff recognize that the academic and production assignments within the department, as well as outside employment and other obligations, sometimes impose conflicting pressures on DT students. One of the main responsibilities of each student is to identify carefully and monitor the commitments that comprise his/her departmental assignments and outside obligations. It is also important to keep in mind that production work and outside obligations do not constitute an excused absence from DT classes or from the completion of any required class assignments.

STUDENT PERCEPTIONS OF TEACHING (SPOT)

Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. For additional information, please visit the SPOT website at www.spot.unt.edu or email spot@unt.edu.

The Department of Dance and Theatre also offers face-to-face SPOT evaluations, if the student wishes. Ask your professor for details if you wish to pursue that option.

ACCEPTABLE STUDENT BEHAVIOR

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom, and the instructor may refer the student to the Center for Student Rights and Responsibilities to consider whether the student's conduct violated the Code of Student Conduct. The university's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including university and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc. The Code of Student Conduct can be found at www.unt.edu/csrr.