

THEATRE 4600.001: Production of *Bus Stop*

Fall 2024 – Sarah Rutan

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Office Hours: T/TH 8-9 am (Appointments Appreciated)

For questions related to course:

Please email or call during office hours to schedule an appointment.

I. Required Text

Script to *Bus Stop* (distributed during first rehearsal)

II. Introduction to the Course

The subject of this course shall include rehearsing and conducting scholarly research for, and performing in DAT's production of *Bus Stop*

III. Course Goal

To examine the relationship between technique and practice. Those enrolled in the course will work as a research ensemble designed to motivate by direct and immediate application of acting techniques taught in separate courses. The hope is that this will engender insight and enthusiasm in the participant, leading to a powerful performance for the audience.

IV. Course Description

A. Research and Rehearsal

You will be required to actively present your research for the production via the development of your role. The areas of concentration may be:

- The historical, societal and philosophical meaning of *Bus Stop*.
- The acting skills necessary for performance of *Bus Stop*.
- The study of character development throughout an entire work.

B. Schedule

Each student shall carry out the assignments for the course by:

- Following the rehearsal and performance schedule distributed by the faculty or guest director.
- Attending the meetings, rehearsals, production calls, and performances on the schedules distributed to the members of the appropriate casts or staffs.

C. 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.

50% of your grade will be based on attendance and promptness that includes active participation and being prepared.

1. Attendance/Promptness

Each student shall:

- Attend each class meeting, including strike, and if scheduled, the “post-production” class meeting.
- Participate in all the rehearsals/technical calls for *Bus Stop*.
- Perform in all public presentations of *Bus Stop*.
- Serve satisfactorily as a member of the cast and crew of *Bus Stop*, as assigned.
- Be on time and ready for all such crew calls, rehearsals, and performances as he or she may be selected for.

A student who is late for a meeting or a rehearsal, or who leaves one of these sessions without being dismissed by its supervisor shall be counted absent for that session. **No unexcused absences shall be allowed**, and all excused absences must be approved by the faculty supervisor

or instructor of the course, and in many instances, by the Office of the UNT Dean of Students. **In particular, if and when a student's failure to attend the class activities named above is deemed by the instructor as harmful to the class production of *Bus Stop*, or interferes or hinders the success of this group activity, this student may be removed from a cast or crew assignment.** Absences shall be graded as follows:

2. Participation/Preparedness

It is expected that you give your undivided attention and support to your classmates during rehearsals. You can learn a great deal from watching others work. Each student shall participate in class activities so that the criteria listed below shall be met.

- Arrival at rehearsals/meetings: on time and ready to perform or work.
- Preparation: fully prepared for each rehearsal or call, including wearing the proper attire (see below).
- When cast is to be "off book": **check rehearsal/meeting schedule.**
- When staging is to be learned: **check rehearsal/meeting schedule.**
- Good manners: behave politely and with good manners at all rehearsals, work sessions, and performances/recordings.
- Interpersonal relationships: willing and cheerful support of group rehearsal, work session, and performance behaviors at all times.
- Treatment of equipment: use the equipment safely and with care, obeying all policies and procedures, rules and regulations, governing their use.
- Personal: use no intoxicants immediately before or during a rehearsal, a call, or a performance.

50% of your grade will be based on writing a proficient reflective essay (**400-500 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 Friday, October 11, 2024, by 5:00 p.m. Please email the completed essay (either as word or google doc, or pdf) to: sarah.rutan@unt.edu**

The final semester grade will appear in letter form, according to the UNT grading system (i.e., "A," "B," "C," "D," and "F").

B. Communication

Information regarding class will be distributed in advance. Information may also be posted on FB and/or the "Theatre Callboard" site on Canvas.