

THEA 3140

Acting Styles: Spring 2024

Tuesday/Thursday 2:30pm –4:50pm

RTFP 130

Instructor: Sarah Rutan

Office Hour: 8am-9am TTH RTFP (Appointments Appreciated)

E-mail: Sarah.Rutan@unt.edu

Reading List: Who's on First – Abbott and Costello

The Importance of Being Earnest – Oscar Wilde

The Servant of Two Masters – Script provided

The Burial at Thebes –a version of Sophocles' Antigone – Seamus Heaney

Description/ Objective:

Acting Styles will focus on the Period Styles from Greek to Vaudeville. Students will research and study the trends of the periods as well as the art, clothing and other societal impacts on each individual form.

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

- *Identify the primary structures of each style
- *Apply the processes of voice and body work dictated by each style
- *Work with an ensemble to present a specific style period

Attendance:

In-Class Participation is 50% of your overall grade. You can only learn Acting: Realism by being in the room and engaging in the exercises. Therefore. It is imperative to your success in class that you are present, on time and ready to work. If you are absent you will not receive your 20 participation points for that day. If you are more than 10 MINS TARDY you will forfeit 10pts of your participation day. This is due to that fact that

punctuality is of the highest importance in the theater world and to the fact that missing the warm-up is detrimental to your ability to work fully in class that day. **One can only learn acting by DOING.**

Dress Code:

Students are required to wear clothing that allows for unrestricted movement to each class. The main focus of our work takes place on our feet, on the ground and in motion. Therefore students must feel comfortable and able to move without restrictions. However, there may be specific styles that require the use of long skirts, character shoes (no-spike heel of 1.5 inches), and men's suit jackets. I will inform you of these needs ahead of time.

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

Assignments:

Scene Work: One can only learn acting by DOING. Therefore, it is imperative to your success in the class that you are present, on time, and ready to work. Each style will require scene work, memorization, and outside class rehearsals with your partner/s.

Final Group Project: The class will be broken into five groups each representing one of the main styles we studied over the course of the semester. (Vaudeville, Comedy of Manners,

Commedia, Restoration and Greek) Each group will be required to produce a 10 minute presentation on the style including The history, influences and “sign posts” of the style. *Please include visual aids* Each group will also be required to present a 10 minute scene example of the period, using an alternative playwright to the one used in class. Each member of the group is required to participate in at least one aspect. (Presentation or Scene) An Assignment Guideline will be handed out when the groups are assigned.

Grading:

Vaudeville Unit: 50pts

Comedy of Manners/Restoration Unit: 100pts

Commedia unit: 100pts

Greek Chorus Work: 50pts

Greek Scene: 100pts

Final Group Project and Presentation: 100pts

Attendance: 500pts

TOTAL POINTS AVAILABLE: 1000pts

Weekly Schedule*:

Wk 1: Syllabus/Vaudeville

Wk 2: Vaudeville

Wk 3: Vaudeville

Wk 4: Vaudeville/ Comedy of Manners & Restoration

Wk 5: Comedy of Manners & Restoration

Wk 6: Comedy of Manners & Restoration

Wk 7: Comedy of manners & Restoration/Commedia

Wk 8: Commedia

Wk 9: Commedia

Wk 10: Commedia/Greek

Wk 11: Greek- Chorus Work

Wk 12: Greek

Wk 13: Greek

Wk 14: Greek/Final Assigned

Wk 15: Final Prep

Wk 16: Finals Week

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