

THEA 3140

Acting Styles: Spring 2026

Tuesday/Thursday 1:30pm –3:50pm RTFP 132

Instructor: Sarah Rutan

Office Hour: 8:30am-11:30am M/W & FRIDAYS on Zoom (Appointments Appreciated)

E-mail: [Sarah.Rutan@unt.edu](mailto: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 – Carlo Goldoni (Tom Poston adaptation)

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. The student will continue and strengthen the practices taught in Realism, Movement and Voice. This will lead us to create fully Embodied Performances.

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

\*Identify the primary Key Signatures 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:**

Students are allowed THREE absences only in this Course. If you accrue a FOURTH absence, the highest grade you will be able to receive in this course is a D.

Three tardies will equal ONE ABSENCE.

Please be present, on time and ready to work. This is the professional standard that we will be striving to attain this semester.

**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.

*Scene Grading Breakdown-*

Each Unit is worth 200pts.

**Well prepared** In Class rehearsal- 50pts*Scene Performance-*

Well rehearsed- 10pts

Props/Costumes- 10pts

Specific Style Key Signatures- 80pts

Performance Quality- 50pts

**Grading\*:**

Vaudeville Unit: 200pts

Comedy of Manners: 200pts

Commedia del Arte Unit: 200pts

Greek Unit: 200pts

Unit Reflections: 50pt each unit/200pts

**TOTAL POINTS AVAILABLE: 1000pts**

**1000-900 A 899-800 B 799-700 C**

**699-650 D 650 & below F**

\*Grade Inquiries can be made during Office Hours - to maintain Student Privacy Standards.

**Weekly Schedule\*:**

Wk 1: Syllabus

Vaudeville Lecture/Project Assigned

Wk 2: Vaudeville Meetings

Vaudeville Work Day

Wk 3: Vaudeville Coaching 1st Pass

Wk 4: Vaudeville Coaching 2nd Pass

**Wk 5: Vaudeville Presentations**

Comedy of Manners Lecture/Project Assigned

**Wk 6: Comedy of Manners Meetings (UNIT #1 REFLECTION DUE)**

Comedy of Manners Work Day

Wk 7: Comedy of Manners Coaching 1st Pass

Wk 8: Comedy of Manners Coaching 2nd Pass

**Wk 9: Comedy of Manners Presentations**

Commedia Lecture/Project Assigned

**Wk 10: Commedia Meetings (UNIT #2 REFLECTION DUE)**

Commedia Work Day

Wk 11: Commedia Coaching 1st Pass

Wk 12: Commedia Coaching 2nd Pass

**Wk 13: Commedia Presentations/Greek Assigned**

Greek Meetings/Work Day (UNIT #3 REFLECTION DUE)

Wk 14: Greek Coaching 1st Pass/Final Paper Assigned

Wk 15: Greek Coaching 2nd Pass

**Wk 16: FINALS WEEK- GREEK PERFORMANCES/UNIT #4 REFLECTION DUE**

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