

Theatre 282

Course Syllabus -- Fall 2017
Scene Study I

Instructor: Tyler Marchant

Course Time: Monday & Wednesday 11:00am – 1:00pm

Classroom: NFAC 283

Office: NFAC 212

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Phone: 346-2530

Office Hours: Monday & Wednesday 3:30pm – 4:30pm, or by appt.

Final Exam: Final Exam will be given **Thursday December 21, 2:45pm – 4:45pm**

Required Texts:

Purchase:

Audition by Michael Shurtleff

The Intent to Live by Larry Moss

Plays to purchase for material used in class

Students are encourage to join Theatre Communications Group as a Student. Cost is \$25, and includes a subscription to American Theatre Magazine.

<http://www.tcg.org/Membership/BecomeAMember.aspx>

Learning Objectives:

Upon completing this course, you should be able to:

- To successfully play and trust yourself and others “in space”.
- To deepen and explore acting style and analysis.
- To explore various acting techniques using Stanislavski based methods.
- To perform a final scene utilizing methods & skills gained during the semester.

Coursework:

Each student will perform a **monologue** and **two scenes (or 1 scene + exercises)** for the class. Additional class work will vary depending on both the size and progress of the class. Students should understand a significant amount of time will be needed outside of class for rehearsal of acting material used throughout the course.

Artist Notebook

Each student will keep a **confidential** Artist Notebook to be turned in at any point at the instructor’s request. You must bring your notebook to every class. Artistic Notebooks must be designed/decorated on the front cover before the second week of classes *begins*, and designed/decorated on the back cover for class on December 7th. Failure to provide notebook upon request will result in loss of 50 Total final points towards your final grade for each occurrence (as well as a zero for any assignment connected to the journal that is missing at the due date).

Notebooks should be divided clearly (and labeled) into four sections. These sections include:

1. Classroom. This should include notes from lectures and discussion that occurs afterward, information about assignments, due dates, and notes from your reading of assigned pages. This section should also include notes/thoughts about the work of your classmates, as well as reflections upon your own performances. **YOU SHOULD HAVE A REFLECTION FOR EVERY PERFORMANCE OF YOUR CLASSMATES AND YOUR OWN WORK.**
2. Rehearsal Log. This should include the following for every rehearsal you have ALL semester long:
 - a. How long did you rehearse, and where?
 - b. A clear stated goal for your rehearsal.
 - c. Was the goal achieved? Yes or no, and WHY?
 - d. What is the new goal for the next rehearsal? What will you bring new to the next rehearsal opportunity?
3. Artistic Prompts. I will ask you a question each day of class. Please write the question and answer it before the next class session.
4. Inspiration & Reflection. This is your “golden box.” This might include quotes, clippings, drawings, any material (visual or written) related or unrelated to your current work or research that you wish to save for future reference. This is not a diary. It’s an *artistic journal*. Ideas you might include (this is just to get you thinking – this can be anything you want it to be!):
 - a. Conversations about theatre/art/life that you have with others.
 - b. Information about new shows that are opening. Reviews. Reflections on the work you see at the university production season, and work you see outside the university.
 - c. Images. What do you see that inspires you that you might create yourself, or see somewhere that capture you? Perhaps an image from the internet, magazine or news article. Or maybe it’s a watercolor or drawing that you make for yourself.
 - d. Stream of consciousness writing covering anything you wish that is going on in your life.
 - e. Reflections on your ongoing process of acting.
 - f. Challenges, achievements and goals.

Recording your observations and ideas on a regular basis is a good habit to develop. You will find that if you imagine that you are writing for yourself, and not to meet a class requirement, this section of the notebook will be very useful to you. You must show a consistent commitment to this section of the journal and you should plan to have a minimum of three entries per week.

There will be specific assignments given in class that must be included in the notebook, and there should be an entry *for each class session* – even if you miss class, you are responsible for getting the notes and including those in your notebook. **In order to get full credit for the notebook, you must have each class dated as well as numbered in order for clear identification within the first section of the Artistic Journal. (Ex. 9.18.17 Class # 3) I should be able to go through your notebook and clearly see each class entry. Each new class should start on the top of a new page.**

Your notebook will be used as a reference for you and the instructor, and will be graded based on depth and scope of the work within the four sections. For each class not outlined or assignment not completed in notebook, 50 points will be taken off your Total final points.

Grading:

Grading will be out of 1000 points.

Assignments:

Participation/Collaboration/Ensemble Building	150 Points
Monologue #1	150 Points (50 points for tablework)
Artistic Notebook content/assignments/Quiz	200 Points
Scene Performance #1	250 Points (50 points for tablework)
*Scene Performance #2 and/or Exercises	250 Points (50 points for tablework)

Total	1000 Points
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***Please note: assignments and/or points assigned per project may alter due to class size, overall class achievement, and/or other unforeseen circumstances.*

Range in Percentile	Grade Letter
93-100	A
90-92	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
66-69	D+
60-64	D
0-59	F

Grading Criteria:

The evaluation of this course will be given through the traditional “A” through “F” grading system. It is imperative that each of these letter grades is clearly defined in order for students to understand why a particular grade was given. It is also important to realize that grades are derived from objective evaluation and should not be perceived solely as negative feedback. The following is an index of the criteria for each letter grade:

A (90 – 100%) The student demonstrated an intellectual understanding of the material covered and incorporated the intellectual work into his/her performance. The student attended and actively participated in class and completed the assignments within the given time frame. The student was consistently prepared for class and showed strong improvement throughout the semester.

B (80 – 89%) The student understood and completed the assignments, but was unable to rectify some of the smaller problems. The student completed the assignments

well, exceeding the minimum requirements. The student was present during class and actively participated. The grade of “B” is very good: above average improvement.

C (70 – 79%) The student attended and participated in class, followed through on feedback, and made an effort to finish requirements. He/She improved enough to fulfill the minimum requirements. The grade of “C” is average.

D (60 – 69%) The student attempted to complete the assignments, but was unable to achieve some of the requirements. The “D” grade reflects the minimal amount of effort/improvement to receive a passing grade.

F (below 60%) The student did not attend all the class periods nor did he/she adhere to the assignment guidelines. The student did not adequately participate in class. No improvement was seen.

Class Policies:

- Attendance at all Faculty directed Theatre & Dance productions is mandatory.
- **Department Costume and Property Collection Use:** A student may not borrow a Department prop, weapon or costume unless it is integral to their classwork and not readily available (for example: a weapon or corset could be borrowed, a coffee cup could not). **The instructor of the course must first approve the object to be borrowed** and then the student must send an email to Cece Hill for a costume piece, Sarah Ross for a prop or Jared Hanlin for any weapon. **The instructor must be copied on the email.**
- Everything handed in must be **typed**, (unless otherwise stated) **stapled** if more than one page, **3-hole punched** and **with your name on it**. Failure to do so, will be ½ **late penalty**.
- Absolutely no flip-flops or high heels (unless using specifically in scene work.)
- Class requires regular attendance and participation. After two absences, **whether excused or unexcused**, your grade will be dropped one letter grade per absence.
- Attendance on performance days: Failure to deliver your performance on the assigned day results in a zero for that performance assignment. In addition, you must be on time the day you present your performance. If not, you will not present your performance. **There will be no make-up performances.** If you are performing in a scene and your partner(s) does not attend the performance day, the instructor will make arrangements **ONLY FOR THE MEMBER(S) OF THE GROUP WHO WERE PRESENT AT THE ORIGINALLY DESIGNATED PERFORMANCE TIME.**
- Be on time for class (Two late arrivals equal one absence).
- **No late assignments are accepted.** Failure to hand in an assignment at the beginning of class on the due date will result in a zero for that assignment.
- Dress appropriately for your class/performance – you may get dirty you will get sweaty.
- All performances must be memorized, unless otherwise noted.

- You will lose 25 points from your Total grade points if your cell phone disrupts the class.
- Active listening and participation are required.
- You are responsible for the information sent to you in your UWSP e-mail. Please check your UWSP e-mail daily for class updates.
- Students are responsible for all relevant policies according to the University Catalog and the UWSP Student Handbook.
- All students are expected to prepare for class by completing all the necessary readings for class and being prepared for all class assignments.
- You must have the full script for any monologue and/or scene assignments/performances you work with in class.
- Do your own work. Plagiarism, with print or Internet sources (using another person's ideas or expressions in your writings or speeches without acknowledging the source) carries severe penalties, ranging from a zero for the assignment to failure of the course. Please see UWSP guidelines and academic misconduct policies for further information.
- In the event of a medical emergency call 9-1-1 or use Red Emergency Phone at the bottom of the entrance steps to Jenkins theatre, closest to NFAC 283. Offer assistance if trained and willing to do so. Guide emergency responders to victim.
- In the event of a tornado warning, proceed to Men's or Women's bathrooms near NFAC 283, NFAC 285 or NFAC 290. See www.uwsp.edu/rmgt/Pages/em/procedures/other/floor-plans.aspx for floor plans showing severe weather shelters on campus. Avoid wide-span structures (gyms, pools or large classrooms).
- In the event of a fire alarm, evacuate the building in a calm manner through the exits near Jenkins Theatre entrance and proceed 200 yards from the NFAC. Notify instructor or emergency command personnel of any missing individuals.
- Active Shooter/Code React – Run/Escape, Hide, Fight. If trapped hide, lock doors, turn off lights, spread out and remain quiet. Call 9-1-1 when it is safe to do so. Follow instructions of emergency responders.
- See UW-Stevens Point Emergency Procedures at www.uwsp.edu/rmgt/Pages/em/procedures for details on all emergency response at UW-Stevens Point.”
- Safety link from UWSP's Preparedness webpage. <https://www.uwsp.edu/rmgt/Pages/em/preparedness/default.aspx>
- UWSP is committed to providing reasonable and appropriate accommodations to students with disabilities and temporary impairments. If you have a disability or acquire a condition during the semester where you need assistance, please contact the Disability and Assistive Technology Center on the 6th floor of Albertson Hall (library) as soon as possible. DATC can be reached at 715-346-3365 or DATC@uwsp.edu.