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THTR 520.01: Graduate Acting I

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THTR 520.01 Graduate Acting I

3 credit course Fall 2022

[TAs in various studios, weekly discussion in EDU 322 Thursdays 8.30-9.20 am]

Instructor: Dr. Bernadette Sweeney

Office: MCGILL 216 email: bernadette.sweeney@mso.umt.edu

Grad office hours available by appointment

Course Description:

Students will study acting and performance research methods, critical materials, secondary and primary materials, to supplement their work at TAs and acting coaches in our undergraduate acting training studios. They will attend and assist in the instruction and coaching in our acting classes, and study appropriate theories of the discipline in relation to performance theory, actor training, storytelling, on-stage representation etc. They will also become familiar with student conduct, health and other on-campus resources, and with School of Theatre and Dance protocols of casting, auditions, understudy and health and wellness etc.

Course Outcomes:

On completion of this course students will:

Have a critically informed understanding of their work in the studio and of a range of training practices

Have developed their skills as teachers of acting and acting coaches

Have developed their critical voices through practice, reading and research

Have articulated their engagement with the work through formal analysis, through informal review and through reflection on their own experience of the work, that of the students and that of their peers

Have regularly contributed to the graduate discourse on acting in our weekly class discussions.

Required Texts:

Reading and research materials will be available on the moodle shell for each relevant studio, and on our class moodle shell.

Work:

GRADED: 100%: attendance and class contribution to acting studios and weekly graduate meetings.

Ground Rules:

Please feel free to ask and answer questions inside and outside class. I am available for grad meeting hours on request and in my regular office hours as scheduled throughout the semester. If you have any questions about how you are doing, what is happening in studio, or any of the course material, contact me by e-mail, or arrange to see me during my office hours. Graduate students must meet the expectations of the acting instructor that they are working with in studio this semester as T.A.

Syllabus: (always subject to change). Syllabus will follow the relevant studio syllabus for studio work, for Acting I, III, and Advanced Acting: Comedy. Our weekly meetings will follow syllabi and studio training in our discussions.

Academic Misconduct & the Student Conduct Code

All students must practice academic honesty. Academic misconduct is subject to an academic penalty by the course instructor and/or disciplinary sanction by the University. All students need to be familiar with the Student Conduct Code. The Code is available for review online HERE: www.umt.edu/student-affairs/community-standards/default.php.

Course Modification

Students with disabilities may request reasonable modifications by contacting me. The University of Montana assures equal access to instruction through collaboration between students with disabilities, instructors, and the Office for Disability Equality (ODE). "Reasonable" means the University permits no fundamental alterations of academic standards or retroactive modifications. For more information, please consult https://www.umt.edu/disability/default.php.

School of Theatre and Dance Policies

All Theatre & Dance students must have an in-depth knowledge of the practices and procedures outlined in the School of Theatre & Dance Student Handbook. The Handbook is available online HERE:

https://www.umt.edu/theatre-dance/handbook.php.

There is inherent risk involved in many Theatre & Dance classes as they are very physical in nature. Please proceed through class, shop time, or rehearsal with caution. Always be mindful of your personal safety and the safety of others. Students participating in class/shop/rehearsal/performance do so at their own risk. Due to safety considerations, at **no** point during a student's time spent in class or serving on a production (in any capacity) should non-enrolled persons be guests of that student **without instructor's/stage manager's consent**. Presence of such unauthorized persons in a class, shop, or any backstage/off-stage area will negatively affect a student's grade.

Statement of Empowerment

The School of Theatre and Dance recognizes that theatre and performance content and processes can provoke; therefore, during the course of a class or rehearsal, students can choose to remove themselves from activities should they feel a threat to their well-being. Please communicate with your instructor and/or stage manager as soon as you can, either prior to or soon after leaving.

Wellness

Personal considerations such as health, wellness, and/or other issues can interfere with a student's ability to succeed and thrive in the university setting. For helpful resources, please contact the Curry Health
Center Counseling department at 406-243-4711 or schedule an online appointment. For a crisis or for after-hours care, you can contact the emergency rooms at St. Patrick Hospital or Community Medical Center; the National Suicide Lifeline: 1-800-273-8255; or the Crisis Text Line: text MT to 741-741.

For University of Montana Financial Aid, call 406-243-5373 or email faid@mso.umt.edu.

Please stay in communication with your faculty advisor and know that we are here to help. You can call in anytime to our office hours (posted on office doors) or email us to setup an appointment.