

Spring 2-1-2017

# THTR 415.01: Physical Performance Skills III

Kelly Bouma

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College of Visual and Performing Arts, School of Theatre and Dance

**Physical Performance Skills III/THTR 415 STAGE COMBAT Spring 2017**

**MASQUER AND MONTANA THEATRES\* T/TR 12:30-1:50**

Kelly Bouma  
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Office Location: McGill 216  
Office Hours: Tuesdays & Thursday 9-11 am or by appointment

**AIM:** The purpose of this course is to introduce the actor to stage fighting techniques as well as safety procedures and methods. In this class the actor will learn basic and intermediate unarmed stage combat movements including fight choreography. The actor will also learn the basic weapons techniques of rapier sword combat.

**OUTCOMES:** *At the end of the semester the actor will have a solid grasp on:*

- Emotional awareness and proprioception
- Actor safety and fundamentals of partnering
- Consent and Communication
- Choreography and Improvisation
- Choice—Action—Reaction: Telegraphing the attack
- Basic knowledge of the single rapier fighting style
- Capturing combat skills and choreography on video

**CONTENT and TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:**

|          |                    |  |
|----------|--------------------|--|
| Week 1:  | Jan 24/26          | Ensemble and Environment: Creating Our Space |
| Week 2:  | Jan 31/Feb 2       | Fundamentals of Partnering                   |
| Week 3:  | Feb 7/9            | Proprioception: Time and Space               |
| Week 4:  | Feb 14/16          | Choice—Action—Reaction                       |
| Week 5:  | Feb 21/23          | Breath and Vocalization (VIDEO ASSIGN #1)    |
| Week 6:  | Feb 28/Mar 2       | Crossing the floor                           |
| Week 7:  | Mar 7/9            | Take A Knap                                  |
| Week 8:  | Mar 14/16          | Choreography and Improvisation               |
| Week 9:  | Mar 21/23          | IN CLASS & VIDEO ASSIGNMENT # 2              |
| Week 10: | Mar 28/30          | SPRING BREAK                                 |
| Week 11: | Apr 4/6            | Adding a weapon: Single Rapier               |
| Week 12: | Apr 11/13          | The Dual                                     |
| Week 13: | Apr 18/20          | Fighting in Skirts                           |
| Week 14: | Apr 25/27          | The Massacre: Staging a Group Fight Scene    |
| Week 15: | May 2/4            | Boredom                                      |
| Final:   | *Wednesday, May 10 | 8:00-10:00 am PERFORMANCE                    |

\*<http://www.umt.edu/registrar/students/finalsweek2/default.php>

**EVALUATION:** *Your semester grade will be based on the following:*

- Active participation/Attitude toward the process and peers 20%
- Growth/Demonstration of skills and techniques taught 20%
- Choreography and scene performances 30%
- Video Assignments 20%
- Quizzes 10%

**VIDEO WORK:**

Assignment #1: A Safety Video

Assignment #2: Fighting for the Camera

**QUIZZES:** There will be a few quizzes that will cover vocabulary terms taught, safety rules, techniques and longer responses to ideas around concepts studied in class and history of stage combat

**MOODLE:** We will use Moodle as an online resource to post videos, feedback, quizzes and for other assignments

**TEXT:** Bring a notebook solely dedicated to this class for documentation purposes.

**POLICIES:**

You must wear appropriate movement attire to class, sweat pants or sweat shorts are a necessity. Well-fitted clothing works best for stage combat. If you do not have the appropriate attire you will not be able to participate. Absolutely no jewelry will be worn, long hair must be pulled back and fingernails should be kept short during the unarmed work.

Take off your shoes immediately upon entering the room. You will set up your own classroom at the top of class. Everyone will have a job and it is expected that these tasks are accomplished within the first 5 minutes of class.

No food or drink is allowed in the room (but bring a water bottle to class!). If you have any food or medicinal requirements, please let me know in the first week of class.

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 the intimate nature and potential for emotional triggers and overstimulation while practicing stage fighting, please be aware of your own personal, emotional safety and signs that your partner or others in class are experiencing any trauma.**

Due to safety considerations, at no point during a student's time spent in class should non-enrolled persons be guests of that student without my consent.

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 Code of Conduct](#).

All Theatre & Dance students must have an in-depth knowledge of the practices and procedures outlined in the [School of Theatre & Dance Student Handbook](#).

**\*MASQUER CLASSES: S17 LOCATION SCHEDULE**

|   |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Monday, 1/23-Thursday, 2/2                              | MASQUER                       |
| Friday, 2/3 ( <i>Montana State Thespians Festival</i> ) | <b><u>NO</u></b> CLASSES MEET |
| Monday, 2/6-Friday, 2/24                                | MONTANA                       |
| Monday, 2/27-Friday, 3/10                               | MASQUER                       |
| Monday, 3/13-Friday, 3/17                               | MONTANA                       |
| Monday, 3/27-Friday, 5/5                                | MASQUER                       |
| Finals Week (5/8-12)                                    | MASQUER                       |

UMArts Box Office will be open January 17-May 12, Tuesdays-Fridays from noon-6P plus one hour before a performance