Stephen F. Austin State University

Acting For The Camera

Fall 2017             THR 422-001             THR 422L-020
Instructor:          Brad Maule
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Office: Cinematography building 318 East Starr
Office Hours: Call and make an appointment

Class meetings: Cinematography Bld. 318 East Starr Ave.

Monday: 12:00 – 12:50 pm
Wednesday: 11:00 – 12:50 pm.
Friday: 11:00 – 12:50 pm.

Course Description: The process of acting in front of a camera for television and film production. This class includes various styles of technique for all different genres of media. This class helps translate stage (acting) skills to the camera. This is not to change or challenge theatre craft, but to give the student flexibility for film and television. The course also gives film students practical experience in directing actors.

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. The student will be able to analyze a script in ways that are necessary to a theatre/film practitioner or scholar/ critic. (A, F)

2. The student will demonstrate an understanding of theatre/film history and a variety of theatrical styles. (A, F)

3. The student will demonstrate collaborative and/or leadership competencies appropriate to participate or take a leadership role in an effective theatrical/film production. (A, F)

4. The student will demonstrate an understanding of the component areas of theatrical/film creation, process, production, performance, and study, and their interrelationships. (A, F)
5. The student will be able to form and articulate a critical analysis and evaluation of a work of theatre/film. (A)

6. The student will demonstrate intermediate to advanced competence in one or more theatre/film specialization(s). (A)

7. The student will be able to use an understanding of educational psychology and appropriate organizational skills to create a positive and disciplined learning environment for students of theatre/film. (E)

8. The student will be able to complete and document a major project as a stage manager, as a designer or technician, or as an actor or director, demonstrating advanced competence in the student’s specialty. (F)

9. The student will be able to present an effective presentation appropriate to the student’s specialization. (F)

Key:
A = BA (liberal arts) program
E = BA with teacher certification (theatre education) program
F = BFA program

PLO’s for BA and BFA in Theatre supported in this course:

1. See above and amend theatre to include television and film.
2. See above and amend theatre to include television and film.
3. See above and amend theatre to include television and film.
8. See above and amend theatre to include television and film.
9. The student will show through performance on digital media advanced competence as an actor.
STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

SLO’s for BA and BFA in Theatre supported in this course:

When you successfully complete this course, you will be able to…

1. Analyze a television or film script in ways necessary to interpret the meaning and intention of the writer and give a performance in that spirit.
2. Demonstrate the ability to collaborate with other students in class to give a performance that masters insecurities and channels them in a positive way.
3. Demonstrate an understanding of the process of acting. Learn about yourself from a casting person’s perspective and to be able to view yourself from a more objective viewpoint.
4. Learn the “business” of show business from headshots, resumes, acting classes, and unions, all the way to, “how to survive the first six months”.
5. And finally, how to find your “truth” for a scene.

Course Requirements:

1. **Perform six monologues or scenes from a film or television production.**
   A. First to determine your type and skill level as a performer.
   B. Second from commercial copy.
   C. Third from a sitcom.
   D. Fourth from nighttime television drama.
   E. Fifth from a feature film.
   F. Final scene is performer's choice.
2. One self-written monologue in class that is done over a thirty minute period in a stream of consciousness form without regard to topic, form, or spelling. You will read your self-written monologue in front of the class.

3. All scenes must be memorized for performance.

4. Active participation in class.
   The student must be an active participant not only in performance, but also in viewing and critiquing other student’s work. Many students think class is about their work on camera, but there is equal if not more value in watching your fellow students perform.

Grades will be given based on:

1. Performance
2. Memorization
3. Stream of conscious writing
4. Attendance
5. Participation
6. Terms test
7. Final test
8. The Final Scene Performed (Including Analysis)

Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.

Definition of Academic Dishonesty
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1)
submitting an assignment as if it were one's own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one's paper without giving the author due credit.

Please read the complete policy at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp](http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/academic_integrity.asp)

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**Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54)**
*Please copy and paste the following information regarding Withheld Grades into your syllabus. Add additional information as needed to meet your departmental or course needs.*

Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

**Students with Disabilities**
*Please copy and paste the following statement and place in your course syllabus.*

To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to [http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/).