



COURSE SYLLABUS: SUMMER I 2020 — ONLINE

Course Information

Acting for TV and Film - THE 597 001

MONDAY SECTION — CRN: 41600

TUESDAY SECTION — CRN: 41308

ONLINE

M 9:00a – 4:00p or T 9:00a-4p

Jun 01, 2020 - Jul 02, 2020

Instructor: Joe Reynolds, MFA

Office Location: T.B.A.

Office Hours: M - T - 4p - 5:30 and by appointment

Office Phone: 323-314-9566

University Email Address: Joe.Reynolds@tamuc.edu

COURSE INFORMATION

Materials – textbooks, readings, supplemental textbooks: Students will choose scenes from film or television scripts to perform in front of a camera.

Optional Readings:

The Science and Art of Acting for the Camera: A Practical Approach to Film, Television, and Commercial Acting by John Howard Swain
Secrets of Screen Acting 3rd Edition by Patrick Tucker
Looking at Movies by Richard Barsam and Dave Monahan

Course Description:

This course will define the differences between film, television and stage acting, as well as other aspects of the business of acting. You will be given scenes from film and television to rehearse and self-record your performance. You will also learn the basics of film production so you can create professional self-taped auditions. This course will also explain how to analyze the form, content, and meanings of movies.

Student Learning Outcomes:

By the end of course, every student with a passing grade will be able to:

1. Demonstrate what an actor does when acting for film or TV.
2. Demonstrate a knowledge of words or phrases that you may hear on a shoot.
3. Demonstrate an ability to analyze a film/TV scene.
4. Demonstrate a knowledge of the business of acting.
5. Demonstrate knowledge in these concepts by self-taping regularly.
6. Demonstrate proficiency in accepting and incorporating constructive criticism into your own performances, while developing the skills needed to humanely and insightfully evaluate both personal artistic efforts and the work of others.



Course Objectives:

1. To introduce and develop skills and techniques for on-camera performance.
2. To develop a basic understanding of the on-camera production process.
3. To develop critical on-camera audition and performance evaluation skills.
4. To develop a basic understanding of the business of acting.
5. To begin looking at movies analytically and perceptively

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Instructional / Methods / Activities Assessments

Assignments:

1. Quizzes and Final – (40%)

There will be three quizzes and one final. They will be multiple choice, T/F and short answer.

2. Performance Response – (5%)

You will be required to write ONE type written paper that identifies the presence or absence of the basic acting tenets outlined in class and what affect those elements had on the acting performance from a movie or TV show.

3. Reflection — (10%) — Write a one to two page reflection on how you've grown and what you've learned from your self-taping experiences.

4. Headshot/Resume — (5%)

You will also be required to create a professional resume listing your education, training and acting experience. You will demonstrate what elements make a good headshot in brief essay attached to your resume.

5. The Business of Acting: an informative paper — (10%)

You will be required to write a one and a half to two page type written paper that demonstrates your knowledge of resources helpful to building an actor's career. In this paper you will discuss websites, agents/managers, casting directors and type and branding.

6. Self-taped scenes: (30%)

Prepare one speech or scene from a TV/film script, 30 seconds 60 seconds. You can have an off camera reader with you while shooting this. (Do not write it yourself.) Memorize it and be ready to shoot the FIRST DAY of class.

Grading

Grades will represent levels of achievement.

1. Quizzes and Final (40%)
2. Performance Responses (5%)
3. Reflection (10%)



4. Headshot/resume (5%)
5. The Business of Acting - paper (10%)
6. Self-taped acting scenes (30%)

"A" = 90 – 100 %

"B" = 80 – 89 %

"C" = 70 – 79 %

"D" = 60 – 69 %

"F" = 59% or less

EXTRA CREDIT: As a general rule, there is no extra credit offered in this class. In the *rare* instance that an extra credit opportunity arises, that opportunity will be announced and equally available to all members of the class.

MISSING CLASS: Don't do it! We have a very limited time to cover the material and perform on camera. You need to attend every class in order to earn an "A" for this course.



COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Interaction with Instructor Statement:

Please contact me with any questions or concerns. This is a summer intensive course that requires your full participation and attendance. You can contact me through email and I will respond to the best of my ability.

Student Resources:

Department of Mass Media, Communication and Theatre

Performing Arts Center (PAC) #101

Phone: 903-886-5346 (Main Office)

<http://www.tamu-commerce.edu/mmct/default.asp>

Communication Skills Center

Hall of Languages #103

<http://www.tamu-commerce.edu/litlang/CSC/index.htm>

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Course Specific Procedures:

Students and teachers have duties to each other. Successful learning and instruction depends very much on honoring these obligations. Keeping on schedule is your responsibility. Deadlines are a critical part of all business organizations, and the arts are no exception.

University Specific Procedures:

ADA Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library 132

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

StudentDisabilityServices@tamu-commerce.edu

[Student Disability Resources & Services](#)



Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. From the Code of Student Conduct: "Civility in the classroom or online course and respect for the opinions of others is very important in an academic environment. It is likely you may not agree with everything that is said or discussed in the classroom/online course. Courteous behavior and responses are expected. To create and preserve a learning environment that optimizes teaching and learning, all participants share a responsibility in creating a civil and non-disruptive forum. Students are expected to conduct themselves at all times in a manner that does not disrupt teaching or learning. Faculty has the authority to request students who exhibit inappropriate behavior to leave the class/online course and may refer serious offenses to the University Police Department and/or the Dean of Students for disciplinary action." The Code of Student Conduct from Student Guide Handbook can be found here:

<http://web.tamuc.edu/studentLife/documents/studentGuidebook.pdf>

Academic Honesty:

Students will adhere to the tenets of academic honesty while in this class. Academic dishonesty includes working on non-group projects with others, deception, impersonation, cheating during a test, and plagiarism. These are all offenses that warrant disciplinary action up to, and including, an F in the course. Additionally, any student found guilty of a Breach of Conduct, including Academic Honesty, could face the following disciplinary actions imposed by the University:

- (1) Expulsion from the University. Students may not return to the University.
- (2) Suspension from the University for a definite or indefinite period of time.
- (3) Disciplinary probation with or without loss of designated privileges for a specified period of time. The violation of the terms of disciplinary probation or the infraction of any University rules
- (4) Loss of privileges.
 - a. Denial of the use of an automobile for a designated time (on campus).
 - b. Removal from elective or appointive office.
 - c. Ineligibility for pledging, initiation, and representation of the University.
 - d. Removal from residence hall or other University housing.
 - e. Loss of such other privileges as may be consistent with the offense committed and the rehabilitation of the student.
- (5) Admonition and warning.
- (6) Notification of parents.
- (7) Such other actions as may be approved by the University Discipline Committee or the Dean for Campus Life and Student Development.

Plagiarism is the use of someone else's information without proper and formal citation. Information about avoiding plagiarism can be found here:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/academics/graduateSchool/Thesis%20and%20Dissertation%20Services/avoiding-plagiarism.aspx>



Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to (<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>) and/or consult your event organizer). Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.