

Acting III

Course Syllabus- Fall 2019

Ms. Callie Llewellyn

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School Extension: (###)-###-####

Room: H-111

Course Description

Acting III is an acting technique intensive overview designed to educate students on the techniques of various acting coaches and teachers. Building upon the foundational skills developed in Acting I and Acting II, this class is open to only juniors who have taken both of the aforementioned course, with little exception to sophomores who have also met the prerequisites. Techniques of Kristin Linklater, Constantin Stanislavski, Sanford Meisner, Lee Strasberg, Stella Adler, Tadashi Suzuki, and more will be studied in overview. Students will perform different monologues in all styles studied and the semester will conclude with a performance of *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller in which students will explore a specific acting technique with the character(s) they are cast.

Course Objectives

- ★ Students will be able to discover and use different ways of communicating meaning and perspective both to their peers and to an audience.
- ★ Students will be able to share and debate personal ideas with a group to create a uniform performance.
- ★ Students will be able to examine and understand how their personal beliefs and attributes affect the way they approach and interpret drama and theatre work.
- ★ Students will be able to discover characters, types, and so forth that work for them as an actor.
- ★ Students will be able to apply knowledge they have learned about themselves to choose 5-7 appropriate monologues.
- ★ Students will be able to describe, understand, and demonstrate the Linklater Vocal Technique.
- ★ Students will be able to apply Linklater breathing techniques to monologue and/or scene work.
- ★ Students will be able to develop a warm up employing Linklater vocal technique and be able to teach it to their peers.
- ★ Students will be able to research an Acting Master's technique with a group.
- ★ Students will be able to understand the technique of the Acting Master they research.
- ★ Students will be able to create a group lesson plan to teach their peers' about the Acting Master they studied.
- ★ Students will be able to facilitate a group lesson plan to teach their peers about the Acting Master they studied.

- ★ Students will be able to identify the different elements of each Acting Master presented by their peers.
- ★ Students will be able to compare and contrast the benefits and perspectives of each Acting Master's method.
- ★ Students will be able to synthesize all they have learned about acting techniques into a believable and sustainable performance in **The Crucible**.
- ★ Students will be able to apply knowledge of technical elements to their production of **The Crucible** to develop a deeper performance.

Required Texts

Linklater, Kristin, and Andre Slob. *Freeing the Natural Voice: Imagery and Art in the Practice of Voice and Language*. Drama, 2007.

Miller, Arthur. *The Crucible*. Oxford University Press, 2019.

Brestoff, Richard. *The Great Acting Teachers and Their Methods*. Smith and Kraus, 1995.

Students will also be assigned to read one of the following:

Adler, Stella, and Howard Kissel. *Stella Adler: the Art of Acting*. Applause, 2000.

Stanislavsky, Konstantin, and Elizabeth Reynolds Hapgood. *An Actor Prepares*. Bloomsbury, 2014.

Strasberg, Lee, and Evangeline Morphos. *A Dream of Passion: the Development of the Method*. Media Production Services Unit, Manitoba Education, 2012.

Suzuki, Tadashi, and Kameron H. Steele. *Culture Is the Body: the Theatre Writings of Tadashi Suzuki*. Theatre Communications Group, 2015.

Williams, Scott. *Sanford Meisner: the Excercise of Repetition*. Arts Documentation Unit, 2006.

Other plays and readings may be assigned as the semester progresses. In these instances, online versions will be provided via our Google Classroom.

Required Materials to be Brought EVERY Day to Class

- 1 spiral notebook for note taking
- 1 regular or composition notebook for journaling
- 1 pencil

Attendance Policy

Students are required to attend class every day. Each student may have three excused absences. Should they miss a class, they must have doctor's note or guardian note that is ***signed by a guardian*** for family emergencies for it to count as an excused absence. Any absence that is not excused or exceeds the student's allotted three excused absences will result in a point being deducted from the student's participation grade.

The Crucible

The last unit of study involves putting on a class production of *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller. Every student in the class will be cast in the show ***and*** have a production/technical team role. This performance functions as the student's final grade for the semester, thus attendance is imperative. Students may only have **one excused** absence during this rehearsal process, and may not miss the Dress Rehearsal or any of the performances in which they are cast. For more information on the specific days of this, please see the "Schedule" section of this syllabus.

Dress Code Policy

Almost every day, we will be moving around and on the floor. Students must wear clothing they feel comfortable moving in and appropriate to move around in. Furthermore, students must adhere to school policies when dressing for class. Should students break dress code policy or wear clothing that prohibits or is inappropriate for movement, they will receive a 0 for participation points that day.

Technology Policy

Phones are only allowed with specific and explicit permission from the teacher. Without this permission, phones will be confiscated and given to the main office. Anyone found using their phones for purposes not relevant to the class will also be subject to confiscation.

Computers and tablets are not allowed for note taking unless accommodations are made with arrangements with the teacher. Computers may be used for sound and research purposes during appropriate times.

Food Policy

Food may be eaten at appropriate times. If you are unsure whether it is an appropriate time or not, you should ask.

Grading Policy

Grading Breakdown

Homework and Exit Slips- **5%**

Quizzes and Tests- **15%**

Performances- **20%**

The Crucible Assignments, Performance, and Tech Contribution (Final)- **20%**

Participation- **10%**

Research Project and Lesson Plan (Midterm)- **20%**

Reflections- **10%**

Late Work

All assignments should be turned in on time. However, life happens and assignments sometimes end up being turned in late. Should one of these situations arise, the student should inform me that their assignment is going to be late **at least 24 hours in advance** of the deadline in order for the assignment to adhere to the following grading policy:

1 day (24 hours) late- grade decreases half a letter grade

- For each additional day, the student will be deducted half a letter grade.
- After seven days, the assignment will no longer be accepted and the student will receive a zero.

Should the student not inform me that their assignment will be late 24 hours in advance of the deadline, the assignment will adhere to the following grading policy:

1 day (24 hours) late- grade decreases a full letter grade

- For each additional day, the student will be deducted a full letter grade.
- After three days, the assignment will no longer be accepted and the student will receive a zero.

The purpose of this policy is to help students strengthen their accountability. Deadlines are important, but I realize students have other classes and other life obligations that may get in the way. With this policy, I hope to help students learn to plan ahead, know what assignments they have going on, and plan their time accordingly, only turning in assignments late when they know they will not have time to finish it on time, rather than simple procrastination.

Cheating and Plagiarism

Any form of cheating or plagiarism is strictly prohibited and will result in the student receiving an automatic 0 on the assignment. Please see the student handbook for more information on what constitutes as cheating and/or plagiarism,

Important Dates Calendar

August				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
26 First Day of School	27	28	29	30 Ensemble Performance

September				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 Ensemble Reflection Paper Due	3	4 Monologue Proposals 1-3 Due	5	6
9 Monologues Proposals 4-6 Due	10	11	12 Personality Collage Due	13 Final Monologue Proposals Due Monologue Connection Paper Due
16	17 Group Warm Up Group 1	18 Group Warm Up Group 2	19 Group Warm Up Group 3	20 Group Warm Up Group 4 Linklater Test Assign Groups
23 Linklater Reflection Due Overview of the masters	24 In class research day	25 In class planning day	26 Pair and share what you have with another group, make revisions	27 Assigned Technique Book Test Revisions to group project

October				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
30 Group one teaches	1 Group one works/ directs monologues	2 Monologues performed in the style of G1's technique	3 Group two teaches	4 Group two works/directs monologues
7 Monologues performed in the style of G2's technique	8 Group three teaches	9 Group three works/ directs monologues	10 Monologues performed in the style of G3's technique	11 Group four teaches
14 Group four works/ directs monologues	15 Monologues performed in the style of G4's technique	16 Group five teaches	17 Group five works/ directs monologues	18 Monologues performed in the style of G5's technique
21 Monologue/Technique reflection paper due	22	23	24	25 <i>The Crucible</i> Quiz
28 <i>The Crucible</i> Auditions	29 <i>The Crucible</i> Auditions	30 <i>The Crucible</i> Tech Interviews	31	

November				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				1
4 Character Analysis Due	5	6	7	8 Tech Timeline Proposal Due
11	12	13	14	15 Tech Dream Proposal Due
18 Tech Test	19	20	21	22
25	26 Off Book Day	27 Half Day!	28 No School! Happy Thanksgiving!	29 No School! Happy Thanksgiving!

December				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2 All tech due	3	4	5	6
9 Tech	10 Tech	11 Tech	12 Dress Rehearsal	13 PERFORMA NCE
16 Strike	17	18 Crucible Reflection Paper Due	19	20
23	24	25	26	27

**Additional Performance on Saturday 12/14/19 at 8pm. Call will be 6:30pm.

Assignment and Exams List

Unit	Assignment	Date Assigned	Date Due
Unit One- Who Are We?			
	Ensemble Performance	8/26/19	8/30/19
	Ensemble Reflection Paper	8/30/19	9/2/19
Unit Two- Who Am I?			
	Personality Collage	9/6/19	9/12/19
	Monologue Proposals 1-3	8/26/19	9/4/19
	Monologue Proposals 3-6	8/26/19	9/9/16
	Monologue Final Proposal	8/26/19	9/13/19
	Monologue Character to Self Connection Paper	8/26/19	9/13/19
Unit Three- Linklater Vocal Technique			
	Group Warm Up Presentation	9/16/19	
	Linklater Test		9/13/19
	Linklater Reflection	9/13/19	9/16/19
	Linklater Readings	Assigned in class	Due the day after assigned.
Unit Four- The Masters- Researching Their Techniques			
	Test on Assigned		9/27/19

	Technique Book		
	Group Lesson Plan	9/20/19	Day of presentation
Unit Five- The Masters- Teaching, Directing, and Exploring their Work			
	Group One Teaches	9/20/19	9/30/19
	Monologue Performance	9/30/19	10/2/19
	Group Two Teaches	9/20/19	10/3/19
	Monologue Performance	10/3/19	10/7/19
	Group Three Teaches	9/20/19	10/8/19
	Monologue Performance	10/8/19	10/10/19
	Group Four Teaches	9/20/19	10/11/19
	Monologue Performance	10/11/19	10/15/19
	Group Five Teaches	9/20/19	10/16/19
	Monologue Performance	10/16/19	10/18/19
	Monologue/Technique Reflection Paper	9/27/19	10/21/19
Unit 6: <i>The Crucible</i> in Performance			
	<i>The Crucible Quiz</i>	10/18/19	10/25/19
	<i>The Crucible Auditions</i>	10/21/19	10/28/19 10/29/19
	<i>The Crucible Tech Interview</i>	10/21/19	10/30/19
	Character Analysis	10/31/19	11/4/19
	Tech Timeline Proposal	10/31/19	11/8/19

	Tech Dream Proposal	10/31/19	11/15/19
	Tech Test		11/18/19
	Off Book- Line Quiz	10/31/19	11/26/19
	All Tech Due	10/31/19	12/2/19
	Final <i>The Crucible</i> Reflection Paper	12/14/19	12/18/19

Contract

I _____ promise to adhere to all of the guidelines outlined in this syllabus. Should I break this contract in any form, I am aware that I am subject to the consequences also outlined in this syllabus.

I _____ promise that I will be present during all performances of *The Crucible* and know that if I am absent for even one performance without specific and written clearance from Ms. Llewellyn, I will receive a 0 for the entire grade which is 25% of my grade.

Student Signature: _____

Guardian Signature(s): _____
