

INTRODUCTION TO THEATRE: PERFORMANCE

Fall/Winter, 2017/18
Tues/Thur 10:00am – 11:15am
Room: 2T05

Teaching Assistant: TBA

Instructor (Fall Term): Tom Soares
Office: 4T06
Phone: 204-297-2727
E-mail: to.soares@uwinnipeg.ca
Office Hours: M,W, F 10am – 11am and
by appointment

Instructor (Winter Term): Shelagh Carter
Office: 4T08
Phone: 204-786-9489
Email: s.carter@uwinnipeg.ca
Office Hours: TBA

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is designed as an introduction to the basic concepts of theatre with an emphasis on the art and craft of the performer.

In first term students will be introduced to the basics of modern acting technique through acting exercises, improvisation, movement, vocal work and script analysis. The skills covered in each term will be evaluated through the presentation of a skills evaluation and one monologue in the fall term, and two contemporary scripted scenes in the winter term. Students will also be expected to keep an acting journal throughout the year. The journal should reflect acting experiences and discoveries made in class or rehearsal and will be the basis for an acting paper due at the end of the second term. The stylistic form of the course and the scene work is Realism. **Students are required to bring a notebook and pencil to all classes and rehearsals.**

Students will also be introduced to various forms of modern drama and script interpretation through an examination of three plays representing a range of contemporary work: *Tribes* by Nina Raine, *Tough* by George F. Walker, and *Top Girls* by Carrol Churchill.

The student's understanding of these plays will be evaluated through three short quizzes.

In terms of practical skills, the course objective is for the student to be able to generate a dramatic action in a given circumstance in such a way that an audience believes it. *A Practical Handbook for the Actor* will be used as a technical guide. Knowledge of this material will be tested in written form in the first term. In regards to analytical skills, the course objective is for the student to be able to examine a script from the perspective of an interpretive artist.

Over the course of the academic year, students will attend three (3) live productions. In the first term students will attend *Tribes* at the Winnipeg Jewish Theatre - (Oct 21- 29), and *Ubuntu (The Cape Town Project)*, (Nov 9 - 15) at Prairie Theatre Exchange. The play that students will attend in the second term is yet to be determined. Attending these three evenings of theatre and film screenings is a course requirement.

Mandatory "one-on-one" interviews will be held at the end of the term during the exam period or as scheduled between you and the professor. Failure to attend will be counted as an absence and marks will be deducted as per the attendance policy. Alternate arrangements will be made for students hoping to leave town before either of these dates; speak to the professor/instructor about your specific situation well in advance.

TEXTS**Required:**

Bruder, *et al.* *A Practical Handbook for the Actor.*

Raine, Nina. *Tribes*

Walker, George F. *East End Plays, Part 2*

Churchill, Carrol. *Top Girls*

Various Play scripts: TBA (Students may be required to purchase additional scripts to support monologue, scene or project work for the second half of the fall term and later in the year.)

Additional readings may be assigned in class.

Recommended:

Horvath, Mueller, Temchin. *Duo! Best Scenes for the 90's* (Applause Books)

Reference (not required):

Ball, David. *Backwards and Forwards: a technical manual for reading plays*

Shurtleff, Michael. *Audition*

MARK DISTRIBUTION

FALL TERM:	
Class Participation 1:	5%
Performance Skills Evaluation 1 (includes written component)	5%
Test: Practical Handbook	10%
Monologue (performance and written component)	10%
Journal	5%
Fall Term Total:	35%
WINTER TERM:	
Class Participation 2	5%
Performance Skills Evaluation 2	10%
Scene 1	10%
Scene 2	20%
Acting Essay (based off of journal)	10%
Winter Term Total:	55%
Play Quizzes (3 Quizzes over both terms averaged over 10%)	10%
Overall Total:	100%

With the exception of journals, all work submitted for evaluation must be typed (font size 12 with 1.5 spaces between lines). E-mail submissions will **NOT** be accepted.

Note that **Reading Week is Oct 8 - 14, 2017 for the Fall Term, and Feb 18 – 24, 2018 for the Winter Term.** No classes are scheduled during these periods.

CLASS PARTICIPATION

Class participation includes:

- preparation; attendance; punctuality
- meeting outlined deadlines for in-class activities
- participation in class activities and discussions
- demonstrated commitment to the course and work in class

*Note that cell phone use **is not** permitted in class. Cell phones are to be turned off and kept in school bags (not on your person).

CONVERSION SCALE

For the calculation of the final grade the following conversion table will be used:

A+	90 – 100%	GPA	4.5	C+	65 – 69.9%	GPA	2.5
A	85 – 89.9%	GPA	4.25	C	60 – 64.9%	GPA	2.0
A-	80 – 84.9%	GPA	4.0	D	50 – 59.9%	GPA	1.0
B+	75 – 79.9%	GPA	3.5	F	below 50%	GPA	0
B	70 – 74.9%	GPA	3.0				

DEFINITIONS OF GRADING DESCRIPTIONS

A+ Exceptional. Thorough knowledge of concepts and/or techniques and exceptional skill **AND** great originality in the use of those concepts/techniques in satisfying the requirements of an assignment or course.

A Superior. Thorough knowledge of concepts and/or techniques and exceptional skill **OR** great originality in the use of those concepts/techniques in satisfying the requirements of an assignment or course.

A- Excellent. Thorough knowledge of concepts and/or techniques together with a high degree of skill and/or some elements of originality in satisfying the requirements of an assignment or course.

B+ Very Good. Thorough knowledge of concepts and/or techniques together with a fairly high degree of skill in the use of those concepts/techniques in satisfying the requirements of an assignment or course.

B Good. Good level of knowledge of concepts and/or techniques together with considerable skill in using them to satisfy the requirements of an assignment or course.

C+ Competent. Acceptable level of knowledge of concepts and/or techniques together with considerable skill in using them to satisfy the requirements of an assignment or course.

C Fairly Competent. Acceptable level of knowledge of concepts and/or techniques together with some skill in using them to satisfy the requirements of an assignment or course.

D Barely Passing. Minimum knowledge of concepts and/or techniques needed to satisfy the requirements of an assignment or course.

F Failing

REHEARSALS

During the Winter Term all students will be required to take part in ongoing scene rehearsals outside of scheduled class time. This requirement will involve a **MINIMUM** of two to four hours per week. Students unable or unwilling to comply with this requirement are asked to withdraw from the course immediately.

Any student who repeatedly misses rehearsals, comes late, or fails to rehearse adequately will be asked to withdraw from the course. This includes all classes and out of class rehearsals. This provision has been established to protect the educational interests of scene partners and other classmates.

Scenes must be approved by the instructor **PRIOR** to the start of the allotted rehearsal period.

LATE ASSIGNMENTS

Deadlines for practical assignments are non-negotiable, except in emergency situations.

Papers will **NOT** be accepted after the due date. Extensions *may* be granted but only BEFORE the due date and with a valid reason, at the professor's discretion. **N.B. It is the student's responsibility to retain a photocopy or virtual copy of ALL assignments submitted for grading; in the event of loss or theft, a duplicate copy is required.**

Should a student be absent (unexcused) on the day of an assigned performance, the student will receive **0%** for that assignment. Should that student's absence affect a scene partner or partners, alternate arrangements will be made for their evaluation.

JOURNALS

The student is expected to keep a journal of the knowledge and experience that s/he acquires in class and any knowledge gained outside of class that has bearing on creative work. The entries should be of a reflective nature regarding classroom exercises, technical assignments, focused answers to specific questions, play/scene analysis, and observed discoveries about theatre, performance, and personal growth. This is also a good place to document your rehearsals and scene work that is being done outside of the classroom. **This journal will form the research basis for the final essay assignment and will be submitted with the Acting Essay.** It is required that the journal be submitted to the professor at least once during the first term for feedback and a preliminary mark. Students are encouraged to meet with the professor in the second term to discuss the progress of the acting essay.

The Acting Essay is a composite summary of the individual student's personal journey, process and theory of Acting and Performance based on the text *A Practical Handbook for the Actor*, class lectures and discussions, log/journal, personal discoveries, and rehearsal/performance experiences.

DRESS REQUIREMENT: **All apparel must fit well, and allow for ease of movement

As many of our classes are physical in nature, students are asked to wear comfortable clothing. Outdoor footwear must be removed before entering the studio. Please observe the following guidelines:

Pants must allow freedom of movement (i.e. sweats, tights, yoga/martial arts pants, shorts)
No low-rise pants, overly baggy pants or street shoes or hats
T-shirts or leotards (a fair bit of time may be spent on the floor so low-cut tops are a bad idea)
Bare feet/dance shoes
Hair tied back
No jewelry
No chewing gum

PLAY ANALYSIS AND QUIZZES

The following plays will be studied and used in the classroom:

Tribes by Nina Raine
Tough by George F. Walker
Top Girls by Carrol Churchill

The plays are to be read for the class in which they will be discussed; on this day a short quiz exploring your response to the play will also take place.

SCENE GRADING CRITERIA:

1. Are you playing action, i.e. is your character doing something to the other character(s)? (Specificity)
2. Is your character interacting impulsively with the other character(s) moment to moment?
3. Is your character reacting with a point of view (Choice) and connected to an inner life (Vulnerability)?
4. Does the character have a logical "through line" where required?
5. Are you meeting particular demands of the script? For example:
 - a) Special language requirements (rhythm, timing, diction, lyricism, poetic imagery, etc.)
 - b) Special style requirements (depth of character for realism and naturalism, stepping in and out of character for didacticism, massive variety and the surprise use of pauses for absurdism, ease in breaking the fourth wall for feminism, etc.)
6. Is there sufficient **commitment** to the action and circumstances to make the scene believable and emotional as opposed to merely intellectual? (Impulse)
7. Are the numerous shifts in action occurring clearly?
8. Are you taking advantage of the ironies available in the scene?
9. Is there progression in the scene, i.e. does something change?
10. Is the tension (leading to conflict) strong and clear?
11. Is your voice heard with appropriate volume and clarity?
12. Are the stakes sufficiently high to make the scene exciting?
13. Is the physical world in which the scene takes place used to strengthen the action?
14. Are the actor's voice, body, and inner impulse in harmony? (Unity)
15. Is the actor using her/his body effectively to carry the action of the scene? (Physical character, blocking and physicalization of action)

NOTE: The list above is a summary of the key considerations, which regularly arise when qualified adjudicators evaluate scene work. At various stages of training, some of these considerations may be weighted above others. However, it is difficult, at any point, to ignore any of the above criteria, particularly when some of the performers are achieving mastery in an area where others are not.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE (Subject to Change)**Fall Term:**

DATE	CLASS ACTIVITY	DEADLINE/ NOTES
September 5	-Review of Course Outline -Journal Writing Expectations	-Assign Reading of “Practical Handbook” (Due week 4, Sept 26. Quiz on Sept 28)
September 7	-Exercises / Ensemble Work	
September 12	-Exercises / Ensemble Work	
September 14	-Improvisation/ Zone of Silence -Acting Principles	
September 19	-Warm Up -Improvisation/ Zone of Silence -Acting Principles	
September 21	-Warm Up -Wrap up Zone of Silence	
September 26	-Discussion of “Practical Handbook”	Assign Reading of “Tribes” (Due Week 6, Oct 17)
September 28	-“Practical Handbook” Test -Go Over Uta Hagen’s 9 Ws (supplemental).	-Test “Practical Handbook” -Assign Skills Evaluation 1 (Due week 7, Oct 24,
October 3	-Warm up -(Spoken) Improvisations -Moment Before & Playing with Objective and Obstacle	-Monologue assigned. Monologue options due Oct 19. Performance is due in the last week of classes. (start looking). A list will be provided.
October 5	-Warm Up. -Exercises and Neutral Scenes -Raising the Stakes -Reminder “Tribes” Quiz next class (post Reading Week)	-Assign Reading of “Tough” (Due Week 9, Nov 7)
Oct 8 – 14	Reading Week (No Classes)	
October 17	-“Tribes” Quiz and Discussion.	-“Tribes” Quiz
October 19	-Warm Up -Neutral Scenes. -Playing Action and Listening.	Hand in monologue
October 21 - 29	Attend performance of “Tribes” at Winnipeg Jewish Theatre	Hold on to your ticket stub for proof of attendance
October 24	-Skills Evaluation 1	-Skills Evaluation 1
October 26	-Monologue Work -The 9 Ws work -Listening to Your Scene Partner	
October 31	-Discussion of WJT Production of “Tribes” -Monologue Work	-Bring in your ticket stub for “Tribes” for proof of attendance to this class.
November 2	-Monologue Work -Phrasing of an Action Workshop (Integrating Voice and Movement)	
November 7	-“Tough” Quiz and Discussion -“Tough” Play Structure and Analysis	“Tough” Quiz

November 9	-Wrap Up Tough Structure and Analysis -Monologue work -Properties of Action Workshop (Integrating Voice and Movement)	Written portion of monologue work is due (to be assigned in class). Students to prepare the first minute (off book) of their monologue for next class.
November 9 - 15	Attend Performance of “Ubuntu (The Cape Town Project)” at Prairie Theatre Exchange. Only seven days available for you to see this show.	Hold on to your ticket stub for proof of attendance
November 14	-Monologue Work/First Pass -Actors not presenting rehearse on own or with T.A.	-Actors are to be fully off book for Monologues.
November 16	-Discussion of “Ubuntu...” -Monologue Work/First Pass -Actors not presenting rehearse on own or with T.A.	-Bring in your ticket stub for “Ubuntu...” for proof of attendance to this class.
November 21	-Monologue Work/First Pass -Actors not presenting rehearse on own or with T.A.	
November 23	-Monologue Work/First Pass -Actors not presenting rehearse on own or with T.A.	
November 28	Monologue Assignment	Hand in Journal Entries for the term (to be returned)
November 30	Monologue Assignment	

Winter Term:

DATE	CLASS ACTIVITY	DEADLINE
January 4	Review 2 nd term schedule	Confirm assigned scenes “Tough”
January 9	Present your instrument	
January 11	Present your instrument	Assign “Top Girls”
January 16	Quiz: “Top Girls”	Analyzing / Discussion “Top Girls”
January 18	Simple Scene Lecture	Partner work scenes
January 23	Scene work	
January 25	Scene work	
January 30	Scene work	
February 1	Scene work	Off Book
February 6	Dress rehearsal ½ class	Props, costume, set confirmed
February 8	Dress rehearsal ½ class	Props, costume, set confirmed
February 13	Present Scenes First Group	
February 15	Present Scenes Second Group	
February 18-24	Reading Week	
February 27	Lecture Transitive Verbs Analyzing the Scene Further	Scene Partners Decided; Second Scene selection discussed
March 1	Scene work starts	Scenes chosen
March 6	Scene Work	
March 8	Scene Work	
March 13	Scene work	Off book
March 15	Scene work	
March 20	Dress rehearsal ½ class	Props, costume, set confirmed
March 22	Dress rehearsal ½ class	Props, costume, set confirmed

March 27	Present Scenes First Group	
March 29	Present Scenes Second Group	
April 3	Review / Assign Meetings with Prof.	Final Acting Paper Due

ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT

This class involves physical, cognitive, and/or vocal demands. Those with challenges in these areas must seek departmental guidance PRIOR to registration: 204-786-9955 or theatre@uwinnipeg.ca.

ATTENDANCE AND LATENESS (for first-year Performance classes)

Given that this is a practical studio course, extensive participation and professionalism are required. As a result, punctuality and attendance at class and at out-of-class rehearsals are of the utmost importance. Unexcused absences from lectures, labs, or out-of-class rehearsals will be penalized at a rate of 1% per instance. Unexcused lateness for lectures, labs, or out-of-class rehearsals will be penalized at a rate of .5% per instance. Attendance and punctuality will be recorded at the beginning of every class. After a **THIRD** late or absence, the instructor will schedule a meeting with the student to discuss withdrawal from the course. After a **FIFTH** unexcused absence the student will be required to meet with the Chair of the department to discuss withdrawal from the course.

Excused absences or lates require a medical note or prior arrangement with the instructor. It is at the instructor's discretion whether or not to excuse a non-medical absence. After **FIVE** excused absences the student will be required to meet with the Instructor to discuss whether it is realistic for him/her to continue in the course.

Given the rigorous, practical nature of studio courses, and the demands these courses make in terms of attendance and punctuality, students with chronic medical conditions that require extensive absence should meet with the instructor at the beginning of the term to discuss whether the course is appropriate for them.

NOTES FOR PERFORMANCE COURSES

Rehearsals for final presentations and public exercises are scheduled well in advance; students must arrange their university and work schedules so as not to conflict with them. Students must attend **ALL** scheduled rehearsals.

Any student who repeatedly misses rehearsals, comes late, or fails to rehearse adequately will be asked to withdraw from the course (see Attendance note, above).

As many of our classes are physical in nature, students are asked to wear comfortable clothing.

Outdoor footwear **must be removed** before entering **ANY** of the Studios: **0T09** (Concourse Studio), **0T19** (Mime Lab), **1T15** (Theatre), **2T05** (2nd Floor Studio), **2T15** (Movement Studio). We suggest you bring suitable dance shoes or slippers to wear in class. Your professors will monitor and enforce this regulation in order to preserve the integrity of the special flooring in these rooms. Please respect this rule.

Student actors, like professionals, are expected to provide their own basic makeup supplies where required for public exercises. Due to the potential for the transmission of skin diseases it is not recommended that students share makeup.

Senior acting students scheduled to perform in a departmental public exercise are asked not to modify their hair colour or style without first checking with the instructor/director.

Students who bring props, costumes, or furnishings to support scene presentations please note:

- the University will **NOT** be responsible for the loss of any such materials;
- students are responsible for the **IMMEDIATE** removal of such materials after **EACH** use – the department does not provide storage;
- materials not claimed **WILL BE DISPOSED OF** at the student's expense. Grades may be withheld until such costs are recovered;
- **students MUST NOT move existing furnishings from their current locations.**

HEALTH AND ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

Life happens to everyone. If you are experiencing a crisis in your life, or if you have a physical or mental health issue, communicate with your Professor or Accessibility Services – let us know so we can provide support or direct you to those who can. The earlier we know, the earlier we can discuss what resources might be available. Students with documented disabilities, or temporary or chronic medical conditions requiring academic accommodations for tests/exams/presentations (e.g., private space or more time) or during lectures/labs (e.g., note-takers) are encouraged to contact Accessibility Services (AS) at 204-786-9771 or accessibilityservices@uwinnipeg.ca to discuss appropriate options. All information about a student's disability or medical condition remains confidential <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/accessibility>. If you are registered with Accessibility Services, do not assume that Accessibility Services (AS) has informed your instructor that you have registered with them.

Students with documented disabilities, or temporary or chronic medical conditions requiring academic accommodations for tests/exams (e.g., private space) or during lectures/laboratories (e.g., note-takers) are encouraged to contact Accessibility Services (AS) at 204-786-9771 or accessibilityservices@uwinnipeg.ca to discuss appropriate options. All information about a student's disability or medical condition remains confidential <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/accessibility>

"THE REAL THING" LECTURE SERIES

The Department of Theatre and Film is presenting a series of six lectures which will be held on Wednesdays during the free period (12:30-13:20) in Theatre 1T15. Please note the dates in your diary **NOW**: Sept 20 (playwright Judith Thompson), Oct 18, Nov 15, Jan 17, Feb 28, Mar 14. This series will feature speakers from a range of areas in the performing arts: technical, performance, design, management, film, directing, playwriting, etc. These speakers will specifically address issues related to “the business of the business.”

Attendance at **ALL** lectures is **MANDATORY** for **ALL Honours students in Theatre (4000-level courses, all areas), as well as** students in: THFM-3101 Acting III: General, THFM-3201 Styles in Design, THFM-3801 Production II, and THFM-3920 Musical Theatre. Penalties for absence may be assigned by individual instructors.

Attendance for potential Theatre Honours/Majors and for Film Majors is optional but highly recommended.

2017 ORIENTATION ASSEMBLY

Each year in September we hold an *Orientation Assembly* to welcome students to the new term, introduce our new students to faculty and other students; provide information about the department, its various activities and those of its professors; and deliver news about what's coming up. This year our *Orientation Assembly* will be held on **Wednesday, September 13, 2017, 12:30-13:20 in Theatre, 1T15. ATTENDANCE IS COMPULSORY** for all Majors and Honours students. Those considering Honours are strongly recommended to attend. All others are welcome and encouraged to attend.

TAFSA

All students enrolled in at least one theatre or film class are automatically members of TAFSA, the Theatre and Film Students' Association, which plans a number of exciting activities each academic year. We are looking forward to regular **Performance Jams, Socials, DioFest** (an exciting new play festival featuring student written and produced plays), and the very popular **24/7 Event** during which students move into our building and several plays are written, rehearsed, produced, and presented – all in a period of 24 hours! Please join TAFSA to find out more at its organizational meeting: Mon Sept 18, 12:30-1:20, Room 0T10. This is a great opportunity for students to connect with other like-minded people and a way to get involved in the department events.

BUILDING SECURITY

The Asper Centre for Theatre and Film (home to the Department of Theatre and Film) is open from 8:00 am and 5:30 pm weekdays only. Students are permitted to be in the building between 8:00 am and 10:00 pm seven days per week (except statutory holidays when the University is closed) **BUT PLEASE NOTE:** outside of regular building hours, it is **MANDATORY** that everyone in the building **EITHER** carry an access card **OR** have a booking confirmation form in their possession (hard copy or electronic). **ALL EVENING STUDENTS in the building for classes MUST have an access card.** If a Security Guard checks and you do not have proper accreditation, **you may be evicted.**

These rules are in place to protect our students and our equipment; please respect them.

ELECTRONIC COURSE OUTLINE ADDENDA

Students must check our website at <http://uwinnipeg.ca/theatre-film> and read the menu items called *Fire Safety Instructions in the Asper Centre for Theatre and Film, Access Card/Building Use Policy* **AND** *Room Booking Instructions*. The link to the electronic *Online Room Booking Form* is also found at this location. Please read and note all instructions carefully.

GENERAL NOTES

This course outline should be considered a guideline only. Time constraints and other unforeseen factors may require that some topics be omitted or covered in less detail than indicated.

Archival records such as videotapes, sound recordings, and photographs may be made or taken during class or lab times. The University uses such materials primarily for archival, promotional, and teaching purposes. Promotional use may include display at open houses or conferences, or use in advertising, publicity, or brochures. In reading and accepting the terms in this course outline, students acknowledge consent for such use by the University. Should a student not wish to convey such consent, s/he should withdraw from this course immediately.

Cellular phones **MUST** be turned off during classes and examinations; texting is **NOT** permitted in class.

Any student attending a test or final examination may be required to present proof of identity; photo identification is preferred.

It is the student's responsibility to retain a photocopy or computer disk copy of **ALL** assignments submitted for grading; in the event of loss or theft, a duplicate copy is required.

Students are strongly advised to read the sections 8, 9, and 10 of the *Academic Calendar* for information on Academic Misconduct including plagiarism, and Appeals, (found on-line at: <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/regulationsandpolicies.pdf>).

Students conducting research interviews, focus groups, surveys, or any other method of collecting data from any person, including a family member, must obtain the approval of the appropriate ethics committee before commencing data collection. Exceptions are research activities in class as a learning exercise. See <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/research/human-ethics.html> for submission requirements and deadlines.

All students, faculty and staff have the right to participate, learn and work in an environment that is free of harassment and discrimination. The UW Respectful Working and Learning Environment Policy may be found online at www.uwinnipeg.ca/respect.

Students may choose not to attend classes or write examinations on holy days of their religion, but they must notify their instructors at least two weeks in advance. Instructors will then provide opportunity for students to make up work examinations without penalty. A list of religious holidays can be found at <http://uwinnipeg.ca/academics/calendar/docs/important-notes.pdf>

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2018 is the final date to withdraw without academic penalty from courses which begin in September 2017 and end in April 2018 (2017-18 Fall/Winter Term).

STUDENT PARTICIPATION POLICY

Theatre is a communal art form in which a number of interdependent artists and crafts people co-operate to create a work of art. This fact is necessarily transferred to the learning situation, and is reflected in many of the Department's courses. Consequently, it is the Department's policy that students are required to: complete homework such as reading, line-learning, script analysis, prop lists, design drawings, etc.; attend classes; attend rehearsals both within and outside of class times; and, in short, to exhibit commitment towards the inevitably shared endeavours of our field of study.

Any student failing to fulfil these requirements is harmful to the progress of dedicated students and may, after due warning, be asked to withdraw from any individual Departmental course.

COURSE CONTENT NOTE

All Theatre and Film Classes

Dramatic Literature depicts a wide variety of human action, both elevated and base, public and private, physical and psychological, sexual and non-sexual, etc. The Department of Theatre and Film will not undertake to censor the subject matter of dramatic works.

Students who have concerns about dealing with the full range of content and style in drama/film are urged to discuss these concerns with the course instructor.

Performance-Related Classes

Much of an actor's work is based upon actual experiences of life which become translated into fictional circumstances. Because of this, the teaching of acting may involve encouraging the student to examine personal and even intimate areas of life to help him or her access life experiences appropriate to the demands of the work.

Dramatic literature depicts a wide range of human actions, both elevated and base, public and private, physical and psychological, sexual and non-sexual, etc. Acting students must learn to simulate life truthfully in interaction with other students in the safety of the acting class and the rehearsal hall through exercises, discussions, and directions which address rather than avoid truthful, particularized, personalized action.

Performance classes often require strenuous physical activity. Classes may also involve physical interaction between students as part of class exercises or character development and occasional physical contact by instructors for purposes such as the demonstration of a technique or to make a posture correction. Students are responsible for wearing clothing appropriate to these activities.

Students who have concerns about dealing with the full range of actions and subject matter involved in drama are urged to discuss these concerns with their course instructor.