Acting 4389/6398

BOONE
10-12 M/10-11 W
Fall 2007

This will be a SURVEY COURSE based on the text FIVE APPROACHES TO ACTING by David Kaplan.........it is imperative that each student have this book for the course!

REQUIREMENTS:

ATTENDANCE:

1. Department policy concerning absentees: Each student is allowed 3 absences before grade is affected. These 3 are for illnesses, emergencies and the like. It would be wise to “save” these 3 for the above reasons. Once 3 are used, the 4th absence equals half letter drop; 5th equals whole letter drop; 6th equals 2 whole letter drops; and 7th is automatic F.

2. It is the student's responsibility to drop class due to excessive absences, otherwise grade will be figured according to policy. It is also the student's responsibility to keep records, and doctor's excuses, etc. and to submit them to me for clarification, in the event I do not accept them, student needs to include them when filing a petition to the department. (appeals filed at end of each semester.)

3. It is also student's responsibility to check with me if you are late, to make sure the absence is turned into a tardy. 2 tardys equal an absence and these can add up fast. NEW POLICY FOR THE
SCHOOL: LEAVING CLASS EARLY IS ALSO A TARDY, and will figure in accordingly. A TARDY IS DEFINED AS ENTERING AFTER THE ROLL IS CALLED, (at the top of class every day)

4. Auditions for movies, other theatres, video industrials, and outside performances will count as absences and no special consideration will be given because these absences occurred "in the business."

CLASS FOCUS

This course will focus on the dictates of the text: which is a variety of approaches to acting. Awareness, Grasp, Understanding, Experimenting, and braiding these approaches together through study of the text and PERFORMANCE is the order of the day.

TEXTBOOKS/scenes

Also required: HEDDA GABLER by Ibsen, IN THE JUNGLE OF THE CITIES by Brecht, THE MAIDS by Jean Genet, DESIRE UNDER THE ELMS by Eugene O’Neill and BURIED CHILD by Sam Shepard.........these have been ordered at the bookstore. We will all do a scene from each of these plays.

COURSE WORK

Students will be voluntarily placed equally in groups......each group will be in charge of guiding the class on a chapter from FIVE APPROACHES. The requirements for each group are as follows:

1. The class should read the chapter prior to the first day of instruction. The group should review/go over/point out the most relevant information without
reading to the class from the text. Find some way to challenge the class to get involved quickly. Creativity counts.

2. By using the example dialogue in the text, have each student “cut their teeth” by performing this dialogue. Reading with instructions by the group to concentrate on concepts of this approach. Group must become experts on their teaching concept.

3. Show part or all of the film that is suggested by Kaplan. Discuss or point out where specifically the film illustrates the technique you are teaching. (group in charge of all equipment needed for the day.)

4. Come up with exercises that emphasize the focus and involves the class, please be inventive.

5. Each chapter has a play that embodies the chapter, this play should be read before work can be done by all class members.....assign this play, and also arrange for organized class discussion of acting needs required.

6. Each student will perform a 1 to 2 minute scene from the play.......off book, and workshop ready, as the final requirement of the group’s teaching. If time is permitted, we will perform twice. FOR EACH SCENE, A NEW PARTNER!

7. The group must be working together, must be organized, and must have goals for each day of teaching.

8. Each individual class member will evaluate teaching and planning, as well as all group members, and assign everyone in group a grade. Group members will
evaluate each other and assign a grade. These will not be shared until I go over them.

9. In the performance of the major play for each chapter, the group in charge will do their scenes first.

10. Each group will have 7 hours total to teach. This will include time for the one-two min. scenes required by all. Time management is important.

SCHEDULING FOR GROUPS:

PART I: Me Stanislavski review Aug22, scenes due 27/28)

PART II: Sept. 5 (1 hour)
- Sept.10 (2)
- Sept 12 (1)
- Sept 17 (2)
- Sept 19 (1)
- Sept. 24 open day for discussion, questions, etc.

Part III: Sept 26 (1)
- Oct. 1 (2)
- Oct. 3 (1)
- Oct 8 (2)
- Oct.10 (1)
- Oct. 15 open

Part IV: Oct 17 (1)
- Oct 22 (2)
- Oct 24 (1)
- Oct 29 (2)
- Oct31 (1)

Part V: Nov 5 (1) first hour is open
- Nov 7 (1)
Nov 12 (2)
Nov 15 (1)
Nov 19 (2)

**Students absent on days assigned for exercises and performances will NOT be able to make up the grade. STUDENTS ABSENT ON DAYS THEIR GROUP IS IN CHARGE WILL AUTOMATICALLY MAKE A “D” FOR THE ASSIGNMENT. Student's absent on days of particular assignments and handouts must take responsibility for getting the material.**

**FINALS**

Each student will perform 2 NEW scenes from the assigned scripts, with the same partner, if you like, for rehearsal ease. These scenes should be 2 min. in length. Before or after, each scene team will explain their use of the techniques focused in the chapters in mounting these final scenes.

Performances will be the 28 and 29 of Nov. Last class day is Nov. 30.

**OTHER**

Students must see department productions. Students will be expected to be accountable in class for seeing these productions.

No particular office hours are kept, however I will be glad to see you, please make an appointment. My email is cboone@uh.edu and phone: 713-743-2910

****Because this is an advanced class, excessive absentees deter learning, and drive me nuts, so students will be asked to drop the class, regardless of excuses............
Also, because this is an advanced class, students attending class that are not prepared for any portion of the assignments, will be asked to leave the class. the burden should fall to the individual to celebrate that we are all still in need of new events to shape us.

GRADES

I will give an overall grade....concerning depth, communication, understanding, organization, participation...............of group endeavor (remember you also evaluate.)

individual participation and cooperation will be evaluated by me........

performances will each be graded separately as to a realization of the script. I WILL MAKE THESE GRADES AVAILABLE AS THEY COME IN CLASS......

Final performances will be just that.........

All grades will be equal...............