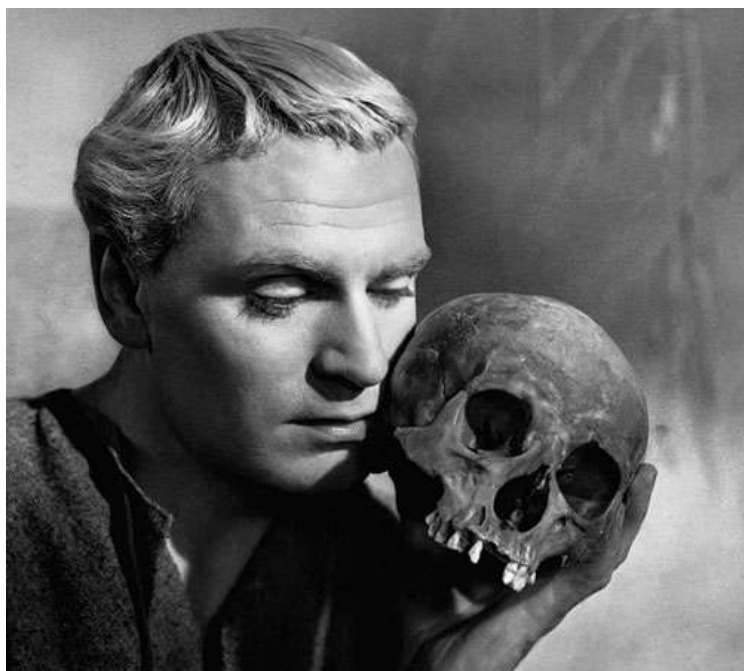


THEA 221 Special Topic: Acting One

Trimester 3 2012

19 November – 21 December 2012

20 Points



Laurence Olivier as Hamlet, 1948

TRIMESTER DATES

Teaching dates: 19 November to 21 December 2012

Last piece of assessment due: 21 December 2012

WITHDRAWAL DATES

Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds>

NAMES AND CONTACT DETAILS

Course Coordinator

Lori Leigh lori.leigh@vuw.ac.nz 463 6712 Room 304 77 Fairlie Terrace

Course Administrator

Cathy McCullagh cathy.mccullagh@vuw.ac.nz 463 5359 Room 202 83 Fairlie Terrace

CLASS TIMES AND LOCATIONS

Lectures

Tuesdays, Thursdays 11-11:50am Studio 102 77FT

Workshops

Tues & Thurs, or Wed & Fri 1-4:00pm Studio 102 77FT

Please register for workshops via the THEA 221 site on Blackboard: go to “Workshops” and then follow the instructions under the “SCubed - Tutorial Enrolment Instructions” link. Please read the instructions carefully. All workshops are in Studio 77 Fairlie Terrace (77FT).

TEACHING LEARNING SUMMARY

Course is delivered through a mixture of lectures and workshops. This course is practical in nature therefore demands consistent commitment and collaboration. Please wear loose, comfortable clothing which won't restrict your movement when physical exercises are scheduled.

COMMUNICATION OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Any additional information, or changes to the course, will be announced in class, posted on Blackboard, posted on the Theatre Programme notice boards on Level 3 of 77 Fairlie Terrace, or sent via email. If you are not going to use the Victoria email address set up for you, **you must** set a forward from the Victoria email system to the email address you do use.

COURSE PRESCRIPTION

Students will examine one or more major theories of acting through an integration of theoretical study, performance of their own acting projects, and analysis of performances from a spectator perspective. Practical exploration will include improvisation and work on dramatic texts. Written reflection and analysis will supplement in-class critical discussion.

COURSE CONTENT

This course will investigate improvisation, relaxation, physical and vocal warm-ups, and introduce students to the Stanislavski System and the Viewpoints method. We will workshop acting techniques and practices, and students will apply training tools to the presentation of a scene (with a partner) and a monologue.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Students who pass this course will:

1. Develop a basic understanding of contemporary acting techniques through practical application using improvisation, monologue, and scene work
2. Be introduced to the history and development of such techniques

3. Become familiar with terminology related to acting practices
4. Learn to analyse and critique the acting values associated with a live performance
5. Refine their skills in critical writing and self-reflection
6. Develop an appreciation of theatre through attending live performance

EXPECTED WORKLOAD

The expected workload for a 20 point course is 200 hours spread evenly over the 5 week trimester and breaks, or 40 hours per teaching week.

GROUP WORK

This course requires working on the presentation of a scene with a partner or partners. You will need to schedule rehearsal and preparation time with your scene partner(s) outside of class in addition to the time allotted in workshop. Though students will work in groups, marks will be awarded individually.

READINGS

Essential texts:

THEA 221 Student Notes, available from vicbooks (price TBA).

All textbooks and student notes for the third trimester will be available from vicbooks on Level 4 of the Student Union Building.

You can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or you can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered to you or they can be picked up from nominated collection points at each campus. You will be contacted when they are available.

Opening hours are 8.00 am – 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays). Phone: 463 5515.

MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT

Students are required to purchase at least one theatre ticket (\$12-\$30) in order to complete the Analytical Critique.

ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

Assessment for this course is internal. More detailed information on each assignment will be given out in class.

- **Analytical Critique (30%-1500 words):** This writing assignment involves attending a designated performance in town and writing an analytical critique on the acting values and other salient production elements. **NOTE:** Please allow for the cost of a theatre ticket (\$12-30). You will be

marked on logically developed discussion, accurate and adequate use of examples, clarity and concision, and incorporation of lecture material/terminology. **DUE December 4 @ 4:30pm**

- **Scene Presentation, Script Analysis, and Reflection (30%-300 words):** With a partner(s), you will present a 5 minute scene from a play in workshop. Following the scene presentation, you will submit a script analysis and a reflection. Assessments are based on textual analysis and application of performance skills and techniques discussed in lectures and workshops as well as a constructive and critical analysis of your results in performance. **DUE as scheduled in your workshop**
- **Monologue Presentation, Script Analysis, and Reflection (30%-300 words):** You will perform a 1-2 minute monologue from a play in workshop. Following the monologue, you will submit a script analysis and a reflection. Marking criteria for the monologue is the same as for the scene presentation only you will work individually. **DUE as scheduled in your workshop**
- **Participation/Contribution (10%):** This includes participation in the workshops including discussion, oral reflection, observation and constructive criticism of work presented, and other activities such as warm-ups and workshop exercises.

Please note: there is no study week for the third trimester

Relationship Between Assessment and Learning Objectives

- The Analytical Critique links to Learning Objectives 3, 4, 5, 6.
- The Scene Presentation, Script Analysis, and Reflection links to Learning Objectives 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.
- The Monologue Presentation, Script Analysis, and Reflection links to Learning Objectives 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.
- The Participation/Contribution Mark links to Learning Objectives 1, 2, 3, 4, 6.

ASSIGNMENT COVER SHEETS

Assignment cover sheets and extension forms can be found on Blackboard or outside the Programme office. Remember to fill in your tutor's name.

COLLECTING MARKED ASSIGNMENTS

Your marked assignments will be handed back by your instructor in lecture or workshop. Any uncollected assignments can be picked up from the Programme Administrator after the last day of teaching.

Assignments will be held in the Administration office until the end of the following trimester. You need to show your student identification to collect marked assignment from the Administration office.

EXTENSIONS AND PENALTIES

Extensions will be granted only in exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. Issues of workload do not constitute exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. If you require an extension, you must complete an extension request form (available on your course Blackboard site) prior to the assignment due date. This

must be accompanied by relevant documentation (e.g. a doctor's certificate) where appropriate. Tutors cannot grant extensions.

Work submitted after the deadline will be penalised by a 2.5 percent deduction from your total mark per work day. Late work also receives only minimal comments from your marker.

MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENTS

To gain a pass in this course you must:

- Complete all the work specified for this course, on or by the specified dates (subject to such provisions as are stated for late submission of work), including the Analytical Critique, Scene Work, and Monologue Work as outlined in the Assessment Requirements
- Attend 80% or more of the course workshops
- Attend workshops on the days you are scheduled to perform (unless excused for medical or other exceptional circumstances)

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

A class representative will be elected in the first class, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

STATEMENT ON LEGIBILITY

You are expected to present work that meets appropriate standards. Work submitted during the course (i. e. work that is internally assessed) should be typed or prepared on a computer. Where handwritten work is required you are expected to write clearly. If this is deemed 'illegible', you will be given a photocopy of the work and asked to transcribe it to an acceptable standard (preferably typed) within a specified time frame.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism>

TURNITIN

Work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine <http://www.turnitin.com>. Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted material on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions is not made available to any other party.

WHERE TO FIND MORE DETAILED INFORMATION

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study.

Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at

www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress. Most statutes and policies are available at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy, except qualification statutes, which are available via the *Calendar* webpage at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx (See Section C).

Other useful information for students may be found at the website of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic), at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic.

COURSE PROGRAMME

Wk	WORKSHOP	READING Title/Topic	LECTURE (Tuesday 11-11:50am)	LECTURE (Thurs 11-11:50am)
1	Improvisation Scene Partner Assigned	Acting May Be Hazardous to Your Health; Creative Experience, Status	20 NOVEMBER What is acting? How does one train?	22 NOVEMBER Improvisation
2	Scene Selections Script Analysis	Stanislavsky's System; Units and Objectives; Five Tools For Breaking Down the Structure of a Scene	27 NOVEMBER Stanislavski System	29 NOVEMBER Stanislavski System
3	Script Analysis Analytical Critique Due: 4 December	Scoring the Role; Physical Action, Analysing A Scene	4 DECEMBER Stanislavski System	6 DECEMBER Stanislavski System
4	Scene Presentations Due	Viewpoints; Source-Work: Viewpoints and Composition; Viewpoints in Rehearsal	11 DECEMBER Viewpoints	13 DECEMBER Viewpoints
5	Monologue Presentations Due		18 DECEMBER Training/Acting as a Profession	20 DECEMBER Reflection