

Theatre 680
Acting for the Camera

Instructor: Jimmy Bohr
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Quarter: Winter 2008
Call Number: 21250-1
Meetings: MW 2:00-3:18
BuckI TV

Office Hours: MWTh 3:30-4:30
or by appointment

Course Style: Lecture, Lab,
Discussion

Course Description

This is a practicum class focusing on the specific challenges of acting for the camera. In a practical format, each class will deal with one, two, and three camera set-ups, and the technical and artistic aspects of each. With a focus on the camera's intimacy, we will explore the specific acting demands of film, television and video acting.

Required Texts

Acting for the Camera, by Tony Barr

Recommended

Action! Acting for Film and Television, by Robert Benedetti

Course Objective

The objective of this class is to give the actor the technical skills to work comfortably in front of the camera. Utilizing their acting training to this point, we will explore how to translate stage performance to camera performance. We will investigate the rather nebulous issues of screen "presence" and "command", and the challenges of telling story with action rather than language.

Attendance

You are allowed two (2) absences per quarter. After 2 absences your grade will drop one-third a letter grade (e.g.A to A-) for each absence.

Two latenesses = 1 absence and arrival after 15 minutes after the start of class is considered an absence.

Classroom Decorum

- No cell phones on in class at anytime. No text-messaging.
- All performance assignments due on assigned dates
- All work must be memorized when due
- All must respect and appropriately handle the technical equipment provided
- All students will be expected to assist in the technical aspects of the class, running cameras, video equipment, sound mechanics, etc.
- Absolutely no food or drink allowed, except what is necessary for scene work, to protect the technical equipment

Assignments

There will be numerous acting assignments and exercises. There will be reading assignments from the required text and discussion of the text. There will be no written assignments.

Grading

Exercise and Scene work	35%
Classroom Participation	35%
Final Exam	30%
Total	100%

Safety

The phone number for the University Escort Service is 292-3322

Academic Misconduct

It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedure for investigation of all reported cases of student academic misconduct. The term “academic misconduct” includes all forms of student academic misconduct wherever committed: illustrated by, but not limited to, cases of plagiarism and dishonest practices in connection with examinations. Instructors shall report all instances of alleged academic misconduct to the committee (Faculty Rule 3335-5-487).

For additional information, see the Code of Student Conduct

http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/info_for_students/csc.asp

Disability Services

Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office for Disability Services will be appropriately accommodated, and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office for Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Ave.: telephone 292-3307, TDD 292-0901:

<http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/>.

Course Outline

Weeks 1 & 2 January 4, 7, 9

Introduction to class and introduction to technical equipment and procedures.
Discussion of differences between stage/screen acting
Monologue work.

Weeks 3, 4, and 5 January 14 – 30 (no class Monday January 21, MLK)

Working in a three camera set-up, Sitcoms and Soaps

Weeks 6, 7, 8 February 4 – 20

Working in a one camera film set-up.

Week 9 February 25 & 27

The on-camera audition.

Week 10 March 3 & 5

Final Projects