

## Theatre 382M

### Acting Studio 1C: Acting Shakespeare

---

Instructor:	Jimmy Bohr	Quarter:	Spring 2008
Phone:	(614) 292-9922	Call Number:	
Email:	bohr.6@osu.edu	Meetings:	Monday, Wednesday, Friday
Office:	1106 Drake Center		11:30 AM – 1:18 PM
Office Hours:	MWF, 2:00 PM – 3:00 PM or by appointment	Location:	DR 2064
		Course Style:	Lab, Rehearsal, Discussion

---

#### **Course Description:**

A practicum class in classical acting focused on the Shakespeare plays. This is an introductory class designed to give the student a basic understanding of the nature of Elizabethan theatrical traditions, classical text and complex verse structure. We will work to build an acting technique that addresses these challenges, and endeavor to give the student a set of skills to successfully work with Shakespearean text.

#### **Required Texts:**

Barton, John. *Playing Shakespeare*. Garden City: Anchor Books, 2001.

Bevington, David and William Shakespeare. *The Necessary Shakespeare*. London: Pearson/Longman, 2005.

#### **Course Objectives:**

- To learn to read and understand Shakespeare's plays
- To understand verse structure and its relevance to acting
- To find a visceral connection between language and playable action
- To develop a confidence in performing classical text while maintaining strong given circumstances, intentions, obstacles, and strategies, as well as emotional truth and clarity and moment to moment spontaneity
- To gain an understanding of distant historical and cultural contexts

#### **Attendance:**

Your attendance and participation is necessary for your own growth and development, as well as your fellow actors'. You are allowed two (2) absences per quarter. After 2 absences your grade will drop a point (A to A-) for each absence.

Tardiness is unacceptable. 2 latenesses = 1 absence and arrival 15 minutes after the start of class is considered an absence.

As a professional courtesy to your fellow students and the instructor, be present, be on time, and be prepared.

**Class Attire:**

Dress appropriately for whatever work is being done, either rehearsal clothes, or character appropriate clothes for scene work.

**Classroom Decorum:**

Failure to observe any of these requirements will prevent you from working and affect your grade:

- No food or drink (except water) in class at any time, except what is necessary for scene work.
- No cell phones on in class at anytime. No text-messaging.
- Absolute attention to whatever work is being done.
- Respect each other's work, and only positive and constructive criticism, when requested.
- All monologues and scenes must be presented on due date.
- All work must be memorized when due.
- All written assignments must be handed in on due date. Late assignments will result in a lowered grade.
- There will be a 5-minute break mid-class. Please hold restroom breaks until then.
- Outside rehearsal is NECESSARY and REQUIRED for this class. You must be prepared to work in class by rehearsing, reading, analyzing, and exploring outside the classroom. A lack of preparation will prevent you from working in class and will affect your grade.

**Assignments:**

Scansion Work (Written and Oral)

Work on Shakespearean text using poetic Scansion and other poetic devices. This work will be written and presented as an acting exercise.

Sonnet Work (Written and Oral)

We will work the Scansion and poetic devices with one of Shakespeare's sonnets. These will be presented as acting scenes, as well as written Scansion work.

Final Scene & Analysis

A scene from a Shakespearean play will be assigned, rehearsed and presented as the final exam. Appropriate Scansion work, scene breakdown and character analysis will be due at the time of the final presentation.

Monologue

Each student will chose a Shakespearean monologue to be rehearsed and presented along with the appropriate written Scansion work.

**Grading:**

Classroom Participation	20 %
Scansion Work (Written and Oral)	20 %
Sonnet Work (Written and Oral)	20 %
Final Scene	20 %
Final Scene Analysis	10 %
Monologue	10 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>100 %</b>

**Grading Scale:**

93 - 100.0	A
90 - 92.9	A-
87 - 89.9	B+
83 - 86.9	B
80 - 82.9	B-
77 - 79.9	C+
73 - 76.9	C
70 - 72.9	C-
67 - 69.9	D+
60 - 66.9	D
0 - 59.9	E

**Safety Considerations:**

The phone number for the University Escort Service is 292-3322. Use it or carpool with classmates at night.

**Academic Misconduct**

It is the responsibility of the Committee on Academic Misconduct to investigate or establish procedures for the 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](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 Avenue; telephone 292-3307, TDD 292-0901; <http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/>.

## Course Outline:

### Week 1

- M 3/24/08 Intro to Elizabethan Verse and Tradition  
Read chapters 1 & 2  
W 3/26/08 Assign Shakespeare speech for Scansion  
F 3/28/08 Intro to Scansion and poetic devices

### Week 2

- M 3/31/08 Work and rehearse selected speeches  
W 4/02/08 Discuss chapters 1 & 2  
F 4/04/08 Assign Sonnet selection

### Week 3

- M 4/07/08 Presentation of selected speeches, Scansion work on speech due  
Read chapter 6  
W 4/09/08 Finalize Sonnet selections  
F 4/11/08 Rehearse Sonnets

### Week 4

- M 4/14/08 Discuss chapter 6  
W 4/16/08 Implement readings into rehearsals of Sonnets  
F 4/18/08 Continue rehearsing Sonnets

### Week 5

- M 4/21/08 Presentation of Sonnets, discuss each presentation  
W 4/23/08 Finish presentation of Sonnets, Scansion work on Sonnet due  
Read chapters 3 & 4  
F 4/25/08 Assign selection of monologue

### Week 6

- M 4/28/08 Assign Shakespearean scenes  
W 4/30/08 Discuss chapters 3 & 4  
F 5/02/08 Read through scenes

### Week 7

- M 5/05/08 In-class rehearsal and discussion of scenes  
W 5/07/08 In-class rehearsal and discussion of scenes  
F 5/09/08 In-class rehearsal and discussion of scenes

### Week 8

- M 5/12/08 Monologue Selection  
W 5/14/08 In-class Scansion of Monologues  
F 5/16/08 In-class rehearsal and discussion of monologues

### Week 9

- M 5/19/08 In-class rehearsal and discussion of scenes  
W 5/21/08 In-class rehearsal and discussion of scenes  
F 5/23/08 In-class rehearsal and discussion of scenes

### Week 10

- M 5/27/08 Memorial Day, university closed – no class  
W 5/28/08 Presentation of monologues, discussion of each  
F 5/30/08 Presentation of monologues, discussion of each, Scansion work due

### Final Exam

- TBD by Registrar Scene Presentations - Scansion work, Scene Breakdown and Character Analysis due