

# TPP 4268C Acting for the Camera 1

Wed/Fri 3:30 – 4:50

Fall, 2022 - 3 credits

Prof. Ted deChatelet

(officially it's "Edward", don't let em fool ya)

Office: AL 179

Office hours: W/F 2:00-3:15 **or by arrangement**

Classroom: AL 102 (Studio 2)

Email: [edechatelet@fau.edu](mailto:edechatelet@fau.edu)



## Course Description

This course is focused on techniques to aid the actor in the transition from stage to film work. An examination of film acting and its unique challenges, this advanced acting course will effectively examine many of the most common situations faced by the film actor and solutions to the problems they present.

Additionally students will learn the skill of auditioning for the camera (for both commercials and narrative) including in-person and self-submit auditions. We will focus on contemporary realism although advanced students may experiment a bit with style (heightened language/situations, non-realism film, etc.)

## Instructional Method

In-Person Instructional Method. Attendance is mandatory.

## Prerequisites/Corequisites

TPP 4175 or permission of instructor

## Course Objectives/Student Learning Outcomes

Using Shakespeare's texts as a main tool, students will develop a confident working method of performing heightened language works. They will be able to break down the text on a technical level and then apply that to their imaginative work. A thorough study of at least two Shakespearean scenes and two monologues will be explored. Through individual monologue work, and scene study, students will form a technical and imaginative process of creating fully rounded characters on a heightened language level.

- You will be required to attend every class and participate or observe as instructed.
- Your active and enthusiastic participation in exercises, rehearsals, feedback sessions, and discussions is required.
- All work will require memorization, filming, and editing time outside of class. A minimum of 3 hours a week of outside work time will be required.

- You will record, edit, and upload three monologues for the camera to be critiqued during class time.
- You will record, edit, and upload three 2-person scenes for the camera to be critiqued during class time.
- You will watch 3 narrative film/tv episodes assigned by the instructor and turn in a 1-2 page response paper on each.
- You will prepare various audition sides assigned by the instructor for recording and critiquing during class.
- You will record, edit, and submit various “self-submit” auditions for critique during class.
- You will actively observe other student’s work and provide feedback in a constructive way with guidelines given to you by the instructor.

All monologues and scenes will be chosen by the student/s with guidance from the instructor. All materials must be approved by the instructor BEFORE being recorded and uploaded.

This class may be highly physical at times. If you have any physical problems that may keep you from participating fully please notify the instructor. Also, realize that some physical contact between instructor and student may be necessary during exercises and demonstrations. At times, scenes may require personal or physical intimacy with another student based on that scene’s requirements (i.e. fight scene, love scene). Please inform the instructor if there is any issue that causes you discomfort.

## Course Evaluation Method

Students will receive a grade for every scene, monologue, and audition. Award of points will be determined by the instructor and will be based on preparation, class participation, improvement, overall attitude, peer support, and enthusiastic participation.

## Course Grading Scale

Scene 1	50 pts
Scene 2	50 pts
Scene 3	50 pts
Monologue 1	30 pts
Monologue 2	30 pts
Monologue 3	30 pts
Papers (3 total)	30 pts (10 each)
In Class Auditions	15 pts
<u>Self-Submit Auditions</u>	<u>15 pts</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>300pts</b>

## Final Grade Breakdown

<b>92.5-100%</b>	<b>A</b>
<b>89.5-92.4</b>	<b>A-</b>
<b>87.5-89.4</b>	<b>B+</b>
<b>82.5-87.4</b>	<b>B</b>

<b>79.5-82.4</b>	<b>B-</b>
<b>77.5-79.4</b>	<b>C+</b>
<b>72.5-77.4</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>69.5-72.4</b>	<b>C-</b>
<b>67.5-69.4</b>	<b>D+</b>
<b>62.5-67.4</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>69.5-62.4</b>	<b>D-</b>
<b>Below 69.5</b>	<b>F</b>

**\*See Attendance Policy Below for how attendance affects the grading scale**

### **Policy on Makeup Tests, Late Work, and Incompletes**

Late work/submissions will be accepted with a 5% penalty per day (if you turn in any assignment 3 days late and that work earned a 95 (A) in quality, 15% would then be deducted (3 x 5%) and result in a grade of 80 (B-). Missed in-class work will only be rescheduled for excused absences. If a scene is turned in late and one person accepts culpability, only that student will receive the deduction. If both students are at fault, both will receive the deduction. Also, note that grades of Incomplete (“I”) are reserved for students who are passing a course but have not completed all the required work because of exceptional circumstances.

### **Classroom Etiquette Policy (if applicable)**

**Touch** – This class will be highly physical at times. If you have any physical problems that may keep you from participating fully please notify the instructor. Physical contact between instructor and student and between scene partners may be necessary during exercises and rehearsals. At times, scenes may require physical intimacy with another student based on that scene’s requirements (i.e. fight scene, love scene). Please inform the instructor if there is any issue that causes you discomfort. I will always ask your permission to touch you and it will never be in the groin or breast area. You, as the student, have every right to say **NO, and this will not affect your grade**. We will then work together to communicate an alternative way of understanding what is often a kinesthetic and tactile experience. Touch between students must be established with consent, clearly stating any boundaries.

**Dress Code** – Audition appropriate clothing is required for in-person audition days. All recorded work should be done in attire appropriate to the character (given the confines of your actual wardrobe).

**Cell phones/electronic devices** - Unless required for class, turn off and put away. You may only use cellphones during breaks or for the express purpose of taking notes. Please see the instructor **in advance** if there is an emergency reason why you might need your phone during class. If I catch you using your phone while your classmates are working/performing in front the class, I will lose my shit.

### **Policy on the Recording of Lectures**

**Due to the nature of the acting process this is a practical non-lecture class, therefore TPP 4140 is not eligible for recording.**

The only exception would be if you would like to have someone record your work (with express permission from any scene partner/s) for your own learning purposes.

*Florida Statute in 2021 states that students enrolled in a lecture course may record video or audio of class lectures for their own personal educational use. A class lecture is defined as a formal or methodical oral presentation as part of a university course intended to present information or teach students about a particular subject. Recording class activities other than class lectures, including but not limited to student presentations (whether individually or as part of a group), class discussion (except when incidental to and incorporated within a class lecture), labs, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving student participation, test or examination administrations, field trips, and private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the lecturer, is prohibited. Recordings may not be used as a substitute for class participation or class attendance and may not be published or shared without the written consent of the faculty member. Florida law allows an injured party to sue for damages, including attorneys' fees, totaling as much as \$200,000.00. Failure to adhere to these requirements may also constitute a violation of the University's Student Code of Conduct and/or the Code of Academic Integrity.*

## **Attendance Policy**

Acting is not a skill you can learn from a book. This is an advanced acting class for the serious theatre student. **Attendance is mandatory.** Always being present, prepared, and on time is a part of your training. Practice professionalism.

All legitimate class absences must have an accompanying letter or proof of legitimacy to be considered excused (i.e. University letters requesting the student's participation, court orders, police reports, obituaries, doctor's notes). Reasonable accommodation will be made for students participating in a religious observance.

Except in the case of emergency, illness, without a doctor's note, will only be excused with prior notice. Failure to notify the instructor prior to the class that you will not be attending due to illness will result in an unexcused absence. Illness, without a doctor's note, may only be used as an excused absence twice in a semester. If there is a third absence due to illness, a doctor's note ***specifically stating the student was unable to come to class will be required.*** A note from FAU's health center or other such health center that only notates a date and time will not be accepted. Emergencies will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

***For every unexcused absence, the student's letter grade will be dropped one full grade.***

Three unexcused tardies and/or leaving class early for unexcused reasons three times will be considered one unexcused absence. A doctor's appointment is not an excuse for arriving late or leaving early except in instructor-approved cases.

Unexcused absences cannot be made up or compensated for with additional course work. Missed practical work such as scene showings will only be rescheduled for excused absences.

*Students are expected to attend all of their scheduled University classes and to satisfy all academic objectives as outlined by the instructor. The effect of absences upon grades is determined by the instructor, and the University reserves the right to deal at any time with individual cases of non-attendance. Students are responsible for arranging to make up work missed because of legitimate class absence, such as illness, family emergencies, military obligation, court-imposed legal obligations or participation in University-approved activities. Examples of University-approved reasons for absences include participating on an athletic or scholastic team, musical and theatrical performances and debate activities. **It is the student's responsibility** to give the instructor notice prior to any anticipated absences and within a reasonable amount of time after an unanticipated absence, ordinarily by the next scheduled class meeting. Instructors must allow each student who is absent for a University-approved reason the opportunity to make up work missed without any reduction in the student's final course grade as a direct result of such absence.*

## **Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center**

*Life as a university student can be challenging physically, mentally and emotionally. Students who find stress negatively affecting their ability to achieve academic or personal goals may wish to consider utilizing FAU's Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center. CAPS provides FAU students a range of services – individual counseling, support meetings, and psychiatric services, to name a few – offered to help improve and maintain emotional well-being. For more information, go to <http://www.fau.edu/counseling/>*

## **Disability Policy**

*In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA), students who require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and follow all SAS procedures. SAS has offices across three of FAU's campuses – Boca Raton, Davie and Jupiter – however disability services are available for students on all campuses. For more information, please visit the SAS website at [www.fau.edu/sas/](http://www.fau.edu/sas/).*

## **Code of Academic Integrity**

*Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the university mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the university community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see [University Regulation 4.001](#).*

## Required Texts/Readings

*There are no required texts for this class. You're welcome.*

## Supplementary/Recommended Readings

*There are a million books about acting for camera. Your taste will vary. Read a synopsis and a few reviews and try one that looks interesting to you. If you hit on a good one, don't be shy about sharing recommendations with me. Here is a list to get you started:*

<https://www.backstage.com/magazine/article/amazing-books-camera-actor-9377/>

## Course Topical Outline

W	8/24	Let's Get Started
F	8/26	First Impressions
W	8/31	Story #1
F	9/2	Camera Exercise #1
W	9/7	Camera Exercise #2
F	9/9	Work Monologues
W	9/14	Monologue 1 Due
F	9/16	Work Scenes
W	9/21	Audition 1 (in class)
F	9/23	Work Scenes
W	9/28	Paper 1 Due
F	9/30	Scene 1, Performance 1
W	10/5	Rehearse and Stuff
F	10/7	Rehearse and Stuff
W	10/12	Mono 2 Due
F	10/14	Rehearse and Stuff
W	10/19	Audition 2 (self submit)
F	10/21	Rehearse and Stuff
W	10/26	Scene 2 Due
F	10/28	Paper 2 Due
W	11/2	Rehearse and Stuff
F	11/4	Rehearse and Stuff
W	11/9	Audition 3
F	11/11	Rehearse and Stuff
W	11/16	Rehearse and Stuff
F	11/18	Mono 3 Due
W	11/23	Paper 3 Due
F	11/25	No Class – Thanksgiving Break
W	11/30	Rehearse and Stuff
F	12/2	Scene 3 Due
<b>F</b>	<b>12/9</b>	<b>Final Exam (1:15 to 3:45pm)</b>

***Please Note! This is a TENTATIVE schedule and most likely will change! I will make every effort to keep you apprised both in class and in writing (via Canvas email) when changes occur! Your flexibility on this is greatly appreciated!***