

COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

NOTE: ANY CHANGES TO A CSD MUST GO THROUGH ALL OF THE RELEVANT APPROVAL PROCESSES, INCLUDING LTPC.

Academic School/ Department: Communications, Arts & Social Sciences

Programme: Performance and Theatre Arts

FHEQ Level: 5

Course Title: Screen Acting Techniques

Course Code: THR 5215

Course Leader: Dr Michael Barclay

Student Engagement Hours: 120

Lectures: 7

Workshop/ Tutorials: 38

Independent / Guided Learning: 75

Semester: Fall and/or Spring

Credits: 12 UK CATS credits
6 ECTS credits
3 US credits

Course Description:

Develops acting skills specifically relating to the camera - i.e., for film and television. In a series of practical workshops and lectures, students are introduced to the disciplines of acting for the camera, and discover the basic differences between acting for television and for film (as opposed to the theatre) as well as various styles of performance. Students learn how to develop realistic, sincere, and believable performances. They also become practiced in dealing with the maintenance of performance under adverse technical conditions. Students gain experience in the rehearsal process, the development of a character, and shooting procedures. They are also given exercises in interviewing for screen work and screen testing.

Prerequisites:

None

Aims and Objectives:

- To develop acting techniques and character analysis specifically relating to the camera - i.e. for film and television.
- To acclimatise students with regard to the shooting procedures and disciplines of screen acting.

Programme Outcomes:

At the end of this course, the students will have achieved the following programme outcomes.

A4 / A5 / A6 / B1 / B3 / B5 / B6 / B8 / B9 / B12 / C1 / C3 / C4 / C6 / C7 / C11 / D1 / D2 / D3 / D4 / D5 / D6 / D7 /

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification. This is located at the Departmental page of the portal.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of the course, successful students are expected to be able to;

- prepare performances with limited supervision and direction within defining guidelines accepting responsibility for achieving personal and group outcomes in order to produce intimate, realistic and sincere acting for the camera.
- operate in situations of varying complexity and predictability while demonstrating practical and creative approaches to character development and interpretation.
- deal with the limitations imposed by the technical requirement of screen acting while developing the ability to identify external expectations in order to adapt their own performance accordingly.

Indicative Content:

Screen character analysis and development
Improvisation
Screen naturalism
Shooting procedures
Shot size awareness
Continuity and finding the mark
Scene work

Assessment:

This course conforms to the Richmond University Special Programme Assessment Norms for Theatre approved by Academic Council on 28 June 2012.

Teaching Methodology:

Classes will include acting exercises designed to encourage the student to become less inhibited and to find realistic and truthful ways of interpreting and creating character. At each session there will be a mixture of theory and practice. Most exercises will be digitally recorded and the performances analysed afterwards by the lecturer and in class discussions. There will also be workshops dealing with the specific considerations required by screen acting including; continuity, vocal levels, hitting your mark as well as working in long shot, mid shot, close up and extreme close up. The student will also be given practice in screen test and audition techniques.

