COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT

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

Academic School/Department:	CASS
Programme:	Performance and Theatre Arts
FHEQ **Level:**	5
Course Title:	Screen Acting Techniques
Course Code:	THR 5215
Course Leader:	Prof Michael Barclay
Student Engagement Hours:	120
Lectures/Presentations:	7
Workshops/ Tutorials:	38
Independent / Guided Learning:	75
Semester:	Fall/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: This course aims to help students develop acting techniques and character analysis specifically relating to the camera - i.e. for film and television.

It will acclimatize students with regard to the shooting procedures and disciplines of screen acting.

Programme Outcomes:

5A (ii); 5B (ii); 5C(ii); 5D(i); 5D(i); 5D(ii)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification.

This is located at the archive maintained by the Academic Registry and found at:
http://www.richmond.ac.uk/content/academic-schools/academic-registry/program-and-course-specifications.aspx

Learning Outcomes:
By the end of this course, successful students should 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.
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• Respond to 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 at Academic Council on June 28, 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 analyzed 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.

Bibliography:

See syllabus for complete reading list

IndicativeTexts:

Cannon, Dee, *In–Depth Acting.* Oberon Books, 2012

Churcher, Mel, *A Screen Acting Workshop.* Nick Hem Books, 2011

Tucker, Patrick, *Secrets of Screen Acting.*   Routledge, 2003

Web Sites

http://www.pcrnewsletter.com

Please Note: The core and the reference texts will be reviewed at the time of designing the semester syllabus

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Change Log for this CSD:

Major or Minor Change?	Nature of Change	Date Approved & Approval Body (School or LTPC)	Change Actioned by Academic Registry
Major	Rewrite of Programme Outcomes	LTPC 30/5/14	
Minor	Minor rewording of Aims & Objectives	LTPC 30/5/14	
Minor	Minor rewording of Learning Outcomes	LTPC 30/5/14	
Minor	Updating of Indicative Texts	LTPC 30/5/14	