

## **COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT**

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

<b>Academic School/Department:</b>	CASS
<b>Programme:</b>	Performance and Theatre Arts
<b>FHEQ Level:</b>	6
<b>Course Title:</b>	Audition Technique and Critique
<b>Course Code:</b>	THR 6220
<b>Course Leader:</b>	Prof Michael Barclay
<b>Student Engagement Hours:</b>	120
Lectures:	7
Workshop / Tutorials:	38
Independent / Guided Learning:	75
<b>Semester:</b>	Fall/Spring
<b>Credits:</b>	12 UK CATS credits 6 ECTS credits 3 US credits

### **Course Description:**

This course involves the selection and presentation of monologues, both classical and modern, for audition purposes as well as the development of a process by which a student can effectively and accurately assess and critique performances. It examines casting from both sides of the audition table. It also considers the less obvious requirements of the audition process, including improvisation and screen testing and will be tailored as much as possible to the individual needs of each student.

**Prerequisites:** THR 5200 or THR 5210 or THR 5215

### **Aims and Objectives:**

The course aims to enable students to audition effectively as well as gaining an understanding of the casting process and performance assessment from the director's point of view.

**Programme Outcomes:**

6A (i); 6B(ii); 6C(ii); 6D(i); 6D(iii)

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:

- Operate in complex and unpredictable contexts, requiring selection and application from a range of largely standard techniques and information sources to arrive at effective performances for audition purposes.
- Set criteria for, and be effective in, professional and interpersonal communication in a wide range of situations in order to assess an actor's suitability for a particular role or roles and to intelligently critique their performance.
- Seek and apply new techniques and processes to their own performance and identify how these might be evaluated in cold readings, interviews and set piece audition situations.

**Indicative Content:**

- Performance critique and analysis
- Character and text analysis
- Approaches to Classical performance techniques
- Approaches to Modern performance techniques
- Alternative performance
- Cold readings and Screen Tests
- Improvisation

**Assessment:**

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

**Teaching Methodology:**

Theatre workshop techniques including voice and movement exercises as well as theatre games will be used alongside theoretical approaches to character development and interpretation. Students will be coached and directed in each of their presentation assignments and receive individual critiques and feedback. Exercises in which students critique each other's performances will be used throughout the course.

**Bibliography:**

See syllabus for complete reading list

**Indicative Texts:**

Alterman, Glen, *Secrets to Successful Cold Readings*. Smith & Kraus, 2007  
Hunt, Gordon, *How To Audition*. Harper Perennial, 1995

**Journals:**

*Plays and Players* (back copies)

**Web Sites:**

<http://www.thestage.co.uk>  
[www.pcrnewsletter.com](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 Indicative Content	LTPC 30/5/14	
Minor	Updating of Indicative Texts	LTPC 30/5/14	
Major	Rewrite of Learning Outcomes	LTPC 30/5/14	