“The Theatre is one of the few places left in the bright and noisy world where we sit in the quiet dark together, to be awake.” -Sarah Ruhl

MASKS AND SOCIAL DISTANCING WILL BE ENFORCED WHILE IN THE CLASSROOM.

Instructor:
Daniel Anderson
Phone: 325.486.6194
e-mail: daniel.anderson@angelo.edu
Office Hours: MW 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm. Due to Covid restrictions all office hours will be held through Zoom appointments.
Office Location: Carr Education-Fine Arts Bldg. Room 164, Suite 163

Course Meeting Information
Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays | 9:00-9:50AM | Carr E/FA 241A (Studio Theatre)

Recommended Text
Acting 1 | Wainscott, Fletcher | 4th Edition | Pearson Publishers
Black Acting Methods | Sharrell D. Luckett and Tia M. Shaffer | 1st Edition | Routledge

Required Additional Materials
Journal or Notebook
Writing tools (pen or pencil)

Course Description
A study and application of acting techniques and physical training. Designed to acquaint the beginning actor with the fundamentals of acting, this course explores the physical, vocal, emotional, and technical aspects of the actor’s craft. The student should be able to analyze characters for their qualities and characteristics, and the motivations that make characters (and people) take action.

Course Content
This course is a study and application of the various activities and methods of theatrical practice. It includes discussions and lectures designed to analyze and evaluate all aspects of the theatre experience: scripts, acting, directing, staging, history and criticism.

Attendance at representative plays is required. This course is part of the ASU theatre core.

The objective of the creative arts in a core curriculum is to expand the student’s knowledge of the human condition and human cultures, especially in relation to behaviors, ideas and values expressed in works of human imagination and thought. Through study in disciplines such as the creative arts, students will engage in critical analysis, form aesthetic judgments and develop an appreciation for arts as a fundamental to the health and survival of any society.

Course Specific Expected Learning Outcomes
Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:
1. Learn stage areas and terminology. Student will know stage areas, types and basic acting terminology.
2. Physical work on stage process; student will learn to adjust body to character.
3. Voice work on stage process; student will understand projection and vocal adjustments to character.
4. Developing character and analysis processes; student will be able to analyze character behavior, assess character culturally, emotionally and physically.
5. Self-awareness and sensory experience; student will learn to assess the character experience.
6. Script analysis; student will understand play and scene structure.
7. Scene development and performance; student will have performance experience (scene work and improvisation).
8. Relaxation, trust and discipline skill development through exercises; student will experience exercises related to acting preparation.
9. Apply knowledge of acting in interactions with people from other fields.
10. Demonstrate the ability to select and apply contemporary forms of technology to solve problems or compile information.
11. Read, analyze and apply written materials to new situations.

**Assessment of Expected Learning Outcomes**
This course will use a “point system” for all work, including test and participation. There are 1000 points possible in this class. The breakdown is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment Type</th>
<th>Point Value</th>
<th>Total Assignments</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Journals</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Play Reports</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Performances</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-Class Rehearsals</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monologue Final Performance</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peer Critiques</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Completed in class</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation/Discussion/Assignments</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Character Analysis</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Points</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>1000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The methods of assessment described below are followed by the correlating outcomes that they access.

1) **Written journals**: Worth 35 points each for a total of 140 points. Students will write about their in-class performances and their experiences with the exercises to assess goals and outcomes of the common acting exercises. The responses are an opportunity for the student to reflect on the experiences and for the instructor to follow individual progress more efficiently. Student is also required to write 3 additional journal entries per journal assignment related to daily class activities or the student’s general reflections on their acting growth. (Handouts to follow.) (Outcomes 2, 4, 5, 10, 11)

2) **Exercises/In-Class Performances**: Worth fifty (50) points each for a total of two hundred (200) points. Students will perform various exercises that complement the specific techniques being taught in class. (Handouts to follow.) (Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4)

3) **Play Reports**: Worth fifty (50) points. Play Reports will be written a minimum of one department productions produced this semester at Angelo State University. All written assignments must be neatly typed, free of grammatical and spelling errors, double spaced, one-inch margins on all sides and twelve-point font Times New Roman. You will be given a handout on the required content for the critiques. (Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11)

4) **Rehearsals in Class**: Students will perform in-class rehearsals of their monologues in class. (Handouts for each exercise to follow.) (Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 11)

5) **Peer critiques**: Students will constructively criticize all scenes using criteria to them given by the instructor. (Handout to follow.) (Outcomes 1, 2, 4, 5)

6) **Monologue Final Performance**: Students will perform a monologue of their choosing for their final project. (Handout to follow.) (Outcomes 1, 2, 4, 5)

7) **Participation/Discussion/In-Class Assignments**: Worth one hundred (100) points. Students will be given assignments throughout the semester. Students are expected to participate in class, including asking questions, answering questions and initiating classroom discussion, and participating in theatre exercises and acting games. If your final point count is between two grades, participation will be taken into account to raising or lowering the grade. (Outcomes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11)

8) **Character Analysis**: A complete analysis of the character the student will be portraying for the final project. (Handout to follow.) (Outcomes 1, 2, 4, 5)
Grading
Grades will be calculated using a 1000-point scale.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Points</th>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1000-970</td>
<td>A+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>969-920</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>919-890</td>
<td>A-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>889-850</td>
<td>B+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>849-810</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>809-780</td>
<td>B-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>779-750</td>
<td>C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>749-710</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>709-660</td>
<td>C-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>659-620</td>
<td>D+</td>
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<tr>
<td>619-590</td>
<td>D</td>
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<tr>
<td>589-550</td>
<td>D-</td>
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<td>549-0</td>
<td>F</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Content Disclosure
Courses within the Department usually deal with works of dramatic literature, both on the page and on the stage. Sometimes the situations, actions, and language of these works can be off-putting or offensive to some students, who might be offended on such grounds as sexual explicitness, violence, or blasphemy. As the Department is devoted to the principle of free expression, artistic and otherwise, and it is not the Department’s practice to censor these works on any of these grounds, students who might feel unduly distressed or made uncomfortable by such expressions should withdraw at the start of the term and seek another course.

Physical Contact Policy
In drama, the actor becomes a medium as well as a creator of art. Stage life, which may involve actions such as touching, laughing, crying, kissing, dancing, flirting, threatening, dueling, and/or fighting, is not something the actor merely mimics, but necessarily experiences in and with his or her own body and mind. The ancient maxim of Horace, 'in order to move the audience, the actor must first be moved himself,' is as valid today as when Horace stated it two thousand years ago: stage performance involves not only the externals of body and voice, but also the internals of longings and emotions. Effective teaching in the drama disciplines, therefore, may often involve physical and/or emotional interventions that can be demonstrative, suggestive, and/or challenging. This has been true as long as theatre has existed. Due to COVID, physical contact will be strictly monitored and avoided.

Electronics Policy
Cell phone use is not permitted in the classroom or during any class activity. Phones and other electronic devices are to be turned completely off (not just silenced) the moment you enter the studio and must remain off during the class period. Likewise, text messaging is prohibited in the classroom or during any class activity. Students utilizing the phone or messaging during class will be asked to leave the classroom and will receive an absence for the day. Messaging during an exam will be considered an act of academic dishonesty. Computers and Ipads can be used in class for the purpose of note taking and research. Students misusing their computers (i.e. being on-line, or on social media) will lose their computer privileges for the duration of the course. Be physically and mentally present.

In-Course Technology Use
This course utilizes the following platforms: Blackboard, Ramport, and Zoom. It is your responsibility to ensure that you are familiar with the platforms and seek the necessary help you require if you have questions. All lecture notes, recorded lectures, PowerPoints, and lesson materials are in Blackboard. In the event of technology issues, please maintain open and honest communication.
Flipped Classroom Expectations
Flipped classroom is a “pedagogical approach in which direct instruction moves from the group learning space to the individual learning space, and the resulting group space is transformed into a dynamic, interactive learning environment where the educator guides students as they apply concepts and engage creatively in the subject matter” (The Flipped Learning Network, 2014). According to the Angelo State University guidelines, students are expected to spend approximately two-three hours in preparation for each hour of lecture. The instructor anticipates that class work for this course will not exceed this guideline for most students. You will be expected to read the chapters, watch the pre-recorded lectures on Blackboard prior to arriving to classes by the designated deadlines. Class time is dedicated to applying the concepts of the course in practical and creative methods in addition to understanding how the concepts affect and involve all educational disciplines. This means the preparation for each lecture is more in-depth on the parts of the instructor and the students. However, the learning results have proven to benefit the students when all parties put forth this effort. In our current pandemic, this also allows for the most flexibility across our diverse student cohort. In the event of a state-mandated transition to a solely online environment, there will be minimum disruption to our learning environment and progress as a class.

Required Use of Masks/Facial Coverings by Students in Class at Angelo State University
As a member of the Texas Tech University System, Angelo State University has adopted the mandatory Facial Covering Policy to ensure a safe and healthy classroom experience. Current research on the COVID-19 virus suggests there is a significant reduction in the potential for transmission of the virus from person to person by wearing a mask/facial covering that covers the nose and mouth areas. Therefore, in compliance with the university policy students in this class are required to wear a mask/facial covering before, during, and after class. Faculty members may also ask you to display your daily screening badge as a prerequisite to enter the classroom. You are also asked to maintain safe distancing practices to the best of your ability. For the safety of everyone, any student not appropriately wearing a mask/facial covering will be asked to leave the classroom immediately. The student will be responsible to make up any missed class content or work. Continued non-compliance with the Texas Tech University System Policy may result in disciplinary action through the Office of Student Conduct.

Entering the Classroom
Students coming into the classroom will enter through the double doors on the side of the classroom in the Visual Art hallway next to the art studios once the instructor allows entry. The previous course will be exiting through the single door at the back of the classroom by the staircase. When you enter, you will be expected to take a cleaning wipe located to your left and clean your learning space. You must maintain the social distancing rules and sit in the same designated seat every class. When exiting the classroom, you will exit through the single door by the staircase. Attendance is taken using a variety of methods.

Course Work Load
According to the Angelo State University guidelines, students are expected to spend approximately two-three hours in preparation for each hour of lecture. The instructor anticipates that out-of-class work for this course will not exceed this guideline for most students.

Late Work: Because of the pacing of this course and performance-based nature of the work, performances, peer critiques, and exercises cannot be made up. In the event of illness, please communicate with your instructor in a timely fashion.

Attendance Policy
Timeliness and presence are crucial to excellence in the performing arts. Each student is allowed two (2) absences before your final grade is affected. For each absence beyond these allotted absences, your final grade will be reduced by ½ a letter grade with each subsequent absence. In addition to unexcused absences, three tardies or early exits will equal one absence. Please arrive on time. If you do not feel well, do not come to class. Lectures and lesson materials are provided on Blackboard, and Zoom sessions are available for clarification opportunities. In the event that you are quarantined due to COVID, please inform your instructor and do not come to class. This is a performance class and regular attendance (in person and/or online) is crucial to your success in this course. If you are not feeling well or someone you live with is not feeling well, do not physically come into the classroom.

Please note: The only university-recognized excused absences are participation in official university business or for bona fide religious holy days. Participation in official university business must be documented by written notice from sponsoring faculty or staff member at last one week prior to the event.
Everyone is required to attend on performance days.

Observance of a Religious Holy Day
Texas House Bill 256 requires institutions of higher education to excuse a student from attending classes or other required activities, including examinations, for the observance of a religious holy day. The student shall also be excused for time necessary to travel. An institution may not penalize the student for the absence and allows for the student to take an exam or complete an assignment from which the student is excused. No prior notification of the instructor is required.

ADA Statement
Angelo State University complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act in making reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you suspect that you may have a disability (physical impairment, learning disability, psychiatric disability, etc.), please contact the Office of Student Services at (325) 942-2191, Student Life Office, room 112. If you need disability accommodations in this class, please see me as soon as possible.

Academic Advising
The College of Arts and Sciences and Department of Communication, Mass Media and Theatre require that students meet with a Faculty Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Faculty Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, faculty advisor, and the department chair. Communication, Mass Media, or Theatre majors who have questions about advising or declaring a major in the department, can call 942-2031. Undeclared majors are supported by ASU’s Center for Academic Excellence located in Library A312, and can be reached at (325) 942-2710.

Grade Appeal Process (OP 10.03 Student Grade Grievances)
A student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see Operating Procedure 10.03 at http://www.angelo.edu/opmanual/docs/Section_10_Academic_Policies-Students/OP_10.03_Grade_Grievance.doc

Honor Code Policy
Violations of academic integrity are very serious matters and are clearly documented in the ASU Student Handbook. The work a student submits in a class is expected to be the student’s own work and must be work completed for that particular class and assignment. Plagiarism means intentionally or knowingly representing the words or ideas of another as one's own. This may include your own previous work. Plagiarism includes quoting or paraphrasing from other sources without acknowledging/citing the source of your information or presenting quoted material as your own words. You must be very clear about attribution of sources and you must know how to cite sources in a paper. Please see full Honor Code Policy at http://www.angelo.edu/cstudent/documents/pdf/Student_Handbook.pdf

Civility In the Classroom
Students are expected to assist in maintaining a classroom environment that is conducive to learning. In order to assure that all students have an opportunity to gain from time spent in class, unless otherwise approved by the instructor, students are prohibited from using laptop computers, cellular phones or other text messaging devices, beepers, eating or drinking (except for water bottles), making offensive remarks, reading newspapers, sleeping, or engaging in any other form of distraction in the classroom.

In instances where a student is proved to be a distraction, the student will lose five points from their grade. Second occurrence will result in ten points removed. On the third occurrence, the student will be removed permanently from the classroom.

Additionally, in the case of a violation of this policy, the instructor will talk with the student about the inappropriate behavior immediately and will follow-up after class or with a scheduled meeting.
In the case of a second incident, the instructor will refer the student to the department chair who will schedule a meeting with the student. At this meeting or any subsequent meeting, the chairperson will inform the student that repeated deviations from expected classroom behavior will result in removal from the class.

If a third incident occurs, the instructor will ask the student to leave the class. If the student refuses, the Campus Police will be called to remove the student. The student will be immediately dropped from the class and reported to the student Dean of Students office.

**Title IX at Angelo State University**

Angelo State University is committed to providing and strengthening an educational, working, and living environment where students, faculty, staff, and visitors are free from sex discrimination of any kind. In accordance with Title VII, Title IX, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE), and other federal and state laws, the University prohibits discrimination based on sex, which includes pregnancy, and other types of Sexual Misconduct. Sexual Misconduct is a broad term encompassing all forms of gender-based harassment or discrimination and unwelcome behavior of a sexual nature. The term includes sexual harassment, nonconsensual sexual contact, nonconsensual sexual intercourse, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, public indecency, interpersonal violence (domestic violence or dating violence), sexual violence, and any other misconduct based on sex. You are encouraged to report any incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Office of Title IX Compliance and the Director of Title IX Compliance/Title IX Coordinator, Michelle Boone, J.D. You may submit reports in the following manner:

- **Online:** www.angelo.edu/incident-form
- **Face to Face:** Mayer Administration Building, Room 210
- **Phone:** 325-942-2022
- **E-Mail:** michelle.boone@angelo.edu

*Note, as a faculty member at Angelo State, I am a mandatory reporter and must report incidents involving sexual misconduct to the Title IX Coordinator. Should you wish to speak to someone in confidence about an issue, you may contact the University Counseling Center (325-942-2371), the 24-Hour Crisis Helpline (325-486-6345), or the University Health Clinic (325-942-2171).*

For more information about resources related to sexual misconduct, Title IX, or Angelo State’s policy please visit: www.angelo.edu/title-ix.

**Policy on Children in Class:** Currently, the university does not have a formal policy on children in the classroom. The policy described here is thus, a reflection of my own beliefs and commitments to student, staff and faculty parents. If you are a parent, I invite you to discuss the following accommodations with me ASAP.

I hope that you will feel comfortable disclosing your student-parent status to me. This is the first step in my being able to accommodate any special needs that arise. Please know that your parenthood status is also protected by Title IX. While I maintain the same high expectations for all student in my classes regardless of parenting status, I am happy to problem solve with you in a way that makes you feel supported as you strive for school-parenting balance. Thank you for the diversity you bring to our classroom.

Normally, I allow children to be brought to our classrooms. However, with the current pandemic, no one besides students registered in the class are allowed in the room. If you must miss class due to your children’s needs, please attend to them, and I will provide the lecture material for you.
**Class Schedule**

*All dates tentative and subject to change*

M – Jan 25: Introduction to the Class/Syllabus
W – Jan 27: What is Acting?
F – Jan 29: **NO CLASS**

M – Feb 1: Preparing to Act, Theatre games, and Basic Object
  - Lessons 1 & 2 Read By 9 am
W – Feb 3: Preparing to Act, Theatre games, and Basic Object
F – Feb 5: **Zoom session: Warm ups and Q&A**

M – Feb 8: Sense Memory, Immediacy, and Fourth Wall
W – Feb 10: Sense Memory, Immediacy, and Fourth Wall
F – Feb 12: **Zoom Session: Q&A and guided exercises**

M – Feb 15: **Basic Object Performances and discuss Endowment**
W – Feb 17: **Basic Object Performances and discuss Endowment**
F – Feb 19: **Zoom Session: Discussion of Basic Objective Exercise**

M – Feb 22: Goals & Obstacles
  - Lesson 3 Read by 9am.
W – Feb 24: Goals & Obstacles
F – Feb 26: **Optional Zoom session: Q&A and guided exercises**
  - **Journal #1 Due**

M – Mar 1: Acting with the "Other" and Creating a Monolouge
  - Lessons 4 & 28 Read by 9 am
W – Mar 3: Acting with the "Other" and Creating a Monolouge
F – Mar 5: **Zoom session: Q&A and guided exercises**

M – Mar 8: Conditioning Forces and Beginning to Act
  - Lesson 5 Read before 9 am
W – Mar 10: Conditioning Forces and Beginning to Act
F – Mar 12: **Zoom session: Mid-Term check-in**

M – Mar 15: Tactics and Expectations
W – Mar 17: Tactics and Expectations
F – Mar 19: **Optional Zoom session: Q&A and guided exercises**
  - **Journal #2 Due**

M – Mar 22: **Endowment Exercise Performance** and discuss 3 Entrances
W – Mar 24: **Endowment Exercise Performance and** discuss 3 Entrances
F – Mar 26: **Zoom Session: Performance Discussion**

M – Mar 29: Group A: First Contact with the Play and GOTE
  - Lesson 8 Read by 9 am
  - **Monologue Selection Due**
W – Mar 31: Group A: First Contact with the Play and GOTE
F – Apr 2: (POSSIBLY NO CLASS)
M – Apr 5: **3 Entrances Performances**
W – Apr 7: **3 Entrances Performances**
F – Apr 9: **Zoom Session: Character and Circumstance**

M – Apr 12: Movement and Voice
W – Apr 14: Movement and Voice
F – Apr 16: **Optional Zoom Session Q & A**
M – Apr 19: In-Class Monologue Work
W – Apr 21: In-Class Monologue Work
F – Apr 23:
M – Apr 26: In-Class Monologue Work
W – Apr 28: In-Class Monologue Work
F – Apr 30:
M – May 3: **Monologue Performances**
W – May 5: **Monologue Performances**
F – May 7: **Zoom Session: Monologue Critiques.**

Final Exam: Wed, May 12 8:00 am – 10:00 am
Fall 2020 Syllabus Contract
Return this signed page to the instructor

Due August 28th

I ________________ have read the 1351.010 syllabus and understand its contents. I will fulfill the requirements necessary for the grade I want.

____________________
Student Name

____________________  ________________
Student Signature        Date