

# TH 394 · Special Topics: Acting for the Camera

## Course Syllabus

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Office Location: EC117H | Office Hours: Tues/Thurs 2pm – 4pm, Fri 3pm – 5pm

Class Times: M/W 12:30 - 1:50 pm | Location: EC201 / Fine Arts Theatre

*\*This document which may be subject to change*

### BASICS ABOUT THIS COURSE

A continuation of theatrical acting courses, this course provides an in-depth exploration of acting techniques for the camera and experience creating self-promotional media content. Prerequisites: TH102 or CO210 or consent of the instructor.

Course Content: Students will record, edit, and produce a variety of content, gaining experience in front of and behind a camera.

Objectives: Upon successful completion of this course, students will have demonstrated the ability to:

0. Create an audition tape;
1. Create a suitable recording environment for remote voice acting;
2. Analyze and critique a recording of oneself;
- 3.

Course SLO	Fine Arts PLO	ILO
Analyze character needs from a script using Hagan or Chuddick techniques.	1 - Using common terms, techniques and methods of expression in the artistic languages of performing and visual arts, analyze the creations and presentations of other artists	An appreciation of the arts and sciences
Apply makeup appropriately for the needs of a character on camera, including basic and one intermediate technique.	4 - Demonstrate mastery of one artistic skill in public displays and performances using professional production values from coursework	An appreciation of the arts and sciences
Analyze production needs (setting, costume, props) from a script.	1 - Using common terms, techniques and methods of expression in the artistic languages of performing and visual arts, analyze the creations and presentations of other artists	An appreciation of the arts and sciences
Create and upload content to a publicly accessible website.	4 - Demonstrate mastery of one artistic skill in public displays and performances using professional production values from coursework	An appreciation of the arts and sciences
Deliver individual and small scene performances in a timely and disciplined manner.	4 - Demonstrate mastery of one artistic skill in public displays and performances using professional production values from coursework	

## COURSE SCHEDULE

<b>Week 1</b>	<b><u>Wednesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup></u></b> Introductions, Course Syllabus
<b>Week 2</b>	<b><u>Monday, January 27<sup>th</sup></u></b> Getting Used to Seeing Yourself  <b><u>Wednesday, January 29<sup>th</sup></u></b> Recording “Interviews” <i>*Assign Commercial Project</i>  <b><u>Friday, January 31<sup>st</sup></u></b> <i>*Self-Recorded Interviews Due</i> <i>Moodle Discussion</i>
<b>Week 3</b>	<b><u>Monday, February 3<sup>rd</sup></u></b> Introduction to Editing Software  <b><u>Wednesday, February 5<sup>th</sup></u></b> Editing Assistance (Students bring in projects to edit)  <b><u>Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup></u></b> <i>*Commercial Due</i> <i>Moodle Discussion</i>
<b>Week 4</b>	<b><u>Monday, February 10<sup>th</sup></u></b> Cinematography: Shot Types and Angles Shot Lists and Storyboards  <b><u>Wednesday, February 12<sup>th</sup></u></b> Filling out a Shot List
<b>Week 5</b>	<b><u>Monday, February 17<sup>th</sup></u></b> <i>*Assign Music Video Project</i> Working in Front of a Camera—Retakes, Continuity and Consistency  <b><u>Wednesday, February 19<sup>th</sup></u></b> Working in Front of a Camera—Close Ups, Extreme Close Ups  <b><u>Friday, February 21<sup>st</sup></u></b> <i>*Music Video Shot List &amp; Storyboard Due</i>  <b><u>Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup></u></b> <i>The Last Five Years</i> Opening Night  <b><u>Friday, February 21<sup>st</sup></u></b> <i>The Last Five Years</i> Performance  <b><u>Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup></u></b> <i>The Last Five Years</i> Performance

<b>Week 6</b>	<p><b><u>Monday, February 24<sup>th</sup></u></b> Costumes Lecture &amp; Make Up Workshop</p> <p><b><u>Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup></u></b> Special Effects Make Up Workshop</p> <p><b><u>Thursday, February 27<sup>th</sup></u></b> <i>The Last Five Years</i> Opening Night</p> <p><b><u>Friday, February 28<sup>th</sup></u></b> <i>The Last Five Years</i> Performance</p> <p><b><u>Saturday, February 29<sup>th</sup></u></b> <i>The Last Five Years</i> Performance</p>
<b>Week 7</b>	<p><b><u>Monday, March 3<sup>rd</sup></u></b> <b>NO CLASS</b> – CHamoru Heritage Day</p> <p><b><u>Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup></u></b> Taking Headshots (Students bring in and apply makeup for headshots)</p>
<b>Week 8</b>	<p><b><u>Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup></u></b> Pick Up Shots / Editing Day</p> <p><b><u>Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup></u></b> <b>*Music Video Due</b> Music Video Viewing</p>
<b>Week 9</b>	<p><b><u>Monday, March 17<sup>th</sup></u></b> <b>NO CLASS</b> – Spring Break</p> <p><b><u>Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup></u></b> <b>NO CLASS</b> – Spring Break</p>
<b>Week 10</b>	<p><b><u>Monday, March 24<sup>th</sup></u></b> <b>*Assign Voice Dub Project</b> Preparing a Sound Booth</p> <p><b><u>Wednesday, March 26<sup>th</sup></u></b> Character Voice</p> <p><b><u>Friday, March 28<sup>th</sup></u></b> <i>Moodle Discussion: Sound Booth Set Up</i></p>
<b>Week 11</b>	<p><b><u>Monday, March 31<sup>st</sup></u></b> Microphone Etiquette (Students bring in material to read)</p> <p><b><u>Wednesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup></u></b> Audio Editing—Cleaning up Recordings, Splicing Audio</p> <p><b><u>Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup></u></b> <b>*Voice Dub Due</b> <i>Moodle Discussion</i></p>

<b>Week 12</b>	<b><u>Monday, April 7<sup>th</sup></u></b> <i>*Assign Romantic Pairings</i> Read Scenes, Discuss Characters
	<b><u>Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup></u></b> Rehearsals: Group A, Group B
	<b><u>Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup></u></b> <i>Gaslight</i> Opening Night
	<b><u>Friday, April 11<sup>th</sup></u></b> <i>Gaslight</i> Performance
	<b><u>Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup></u></b> <i>Gaslight</i> Performance
	<b><u>Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup></u></b> <i>Gaslight</i> Closing Matinee
<b>Week 13</b>	<b><u>Monday, April 14<sup>th</sup></u></b> Rehearsals: Group C, Group A
	<b><u>Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup></u></b> Rehearsals: Group B, Group C
	<b><u>Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup></u></b> <i>*Romantic Scene Due</i>
<b>Week 14</b>	<b><u>Monday, April 21<sup>st</sup></u></b> <i>*Assign Comedic Pairings</i> Read Scenes, Discuss Characters
	<b><u>Wednesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup></u></b> Rehearsals: Group A, Group B
<b>Week 15</b>	<b><u>Monday, April 28<sup>th</sup></u></b> Rehearsals: Group C, Group A
	<b><u>Wednesday, April 30<sup>th</sup></u></b> Rehearsals: Group B, Group C
	<b><u>Friday, May 2<sup>nd</sup></u></b> <i>*Comedic Scene Due</i>
<b>Week 16</b>	<b><u>Monday, May 5<sup>th</sup></u></b> <i>*Assign Monologues</i> Monologue Selection
	<b><u>Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup></u></b> Monologue Discussion and Analysis
<b>Week 17</b>	<b><u>Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup></u></b> Monologue Rehearsal—Record and Review
	<b><u>Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup></u></b> Monologue Rehearsal—Record and Review
	<b><u>Friday, May 16<sup>th</sup></u></b> <i>*Audition Tapes Due</i>
<b>Week 18</b>	<b><u>Monday, May 19<sup>th</sup></u></b> <i>Final Exam Day</i> <i>Viewing Final Versions of Films</i>

## PROJECTS

### Commercial (10):

**Solo Project:** Students will film and edit together a 1 minute “commercial” advertising a product or service of their choosing.

The advertisement may be scripted or improvised and will have both an “On-Camera” and “Voice Over” portion. Camera work and editing techniques may be as simple or complex as students wish.

Students will be graded on commitment and energy, while getting a gauge of challenges throughout the process, which will be discussed on the class’s Moodle Forum.

### Music Video (30):

**Group Project:** Students will be split into small groups and will be asked to choose a song to create a story around. **Lip-syncing will be disallowed.** The goal of this project is to use facial expressions and body language to convey the story.

Each student in the group will be expected to be on camera for each type of shot the instructor asks for and will be graded on their on-camera performance, not the editing.

Students will be asked to submit a shot list and storyboard for this project prior to filming to ensure objectives are being met.

### Voice Dub (10):

**Solo Project:** Students will choose a 1–2-minute clip from any form of animated media they would like, including games, comics, and cartoons, and will replace the character’s voices with their own.

Students will be graded on clarity of the recording and believability of the character voice. Editing will be taken into consideration but will not be the focus.

### Romantic/Comedic Scenes (30):

**Paired Project:** Students will be split into pairs and will be asked to film both a Comedic and Romantic scene of the instructor’s choosing. Students will also be asked to fill out a character analysis worksheet for these scenes.

The cinematography may be as simple or complex as students desire—the focus will be on students’ performance.

### Audition Tape (20):

**Solo Project:** Students will choose two contrasting 1-minute monologues (Dramatic and Comedic, Contemporary and Classical), and will record an audition tape with these materials. Environmental noises, visual background, audio quality, lighting and shadows, and performer’s attire will all be taken into consideration along with the performance itself.

## MOODLE

Discussions will be held online via Moodle.

The Moodle Key for this class is: **394SP25**

Any links or texts relating to the class will also be uploaded to the Moodle page if able.

## COURSE ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

### Attendance/Participation in Class:

Students will be expected to attend every class and participate in various activities/discussions. Should you not be able to attend for any reason, please notify the instructor and your group members as soon as possible.

**Missing a group presentation or performance will result in a failing grade for that assignment.**

**Three tardies (coming in 15 minutes late to class) will equal to one absence.**

**Two unexcused absences will be permitted, each one after that will dock 10% from your attendance grade.**

## GRADING

•	<i>Attendance</i>	<i>100%</i>
•	<i>Commercial</i>	<i>10%</i>
•	<i>Music Video</i>	<i>30%</i>
•	<i>Voice Dub</i>	<i>10%</i>
•	<i>Comedic Scene</i>	<i>15%</i>
•	<i>Romantic Scene</i>	<i>15%</i>
•	<i>Audition Tape</i>	<i>20%</i>

Grade	Points	Description
A+	98 - 100	<b>Outstanding</b> Honors-level performance with superior quality and extraordinary distinction.
A	93-97	
A-	90-92	
B+	87-89	<b>Good</b> Solid accomplishment, indicating a substantial mastery of course materials and a good command of skills required by the course.
B	83-86	
B-	80-82	
C+	77-79	<b>Adequate</b> Students have achieved the level of competency needed for advancing to a subsequent course that has this course as prerequisite.
C	70-76	
D	60-69	<b>Deficient</b> Minimal passing, but not adequate to take a subsequent course that has this course as prerequisite.
F	0-59	<b>Failure</b> Inadequate to receive credits.

## Course Policies

### **Accommodation**

If you are a student with disability who will require an accommodation(s) to participate in this course, please contact the Student Counseling and Advising Service Accommodations office to discuss your specific accommodation needs confidentially. I will receive notification your approved accommodation(s) from the SCAS Accommodations office.

If you are not registered, you should do so immediately at the Student Center, Rotunda office #4, ph/(TTY): 735-2460, to coordinate your accommodation request.

<b>Plagiarism Policy</b>	Plagiarism is a serious breach of the student code of conduct at UOG. It includes copying exam answers, copying writing without proper citation, paraphrasing another author without proper citation or representing another person's work as if it was your own (see the UOG Student Handbook p. 49). If you are caught plagiarizing (or cheating), the minimum penalty is failure of the project or exam. Severe cases will be turned into the student disciplinary board and may be failed from the course.
<b>Smoke-Free</b>	UOG is a tobacco-free, smoke-free campus. Thank you for not using tobacco products on campus, and for helping make UOG a healthy learning and living environment.
<b>Food/Gum</b>	No eating is allowed in class, unless required due to health-related issues. Drinks are permitted, though dairy or highly sugared drinks are discouraged for the sake of vocal performance. <b>Chewing gum is <i>not</i> accepted during class or during performances whatsoever.</b>
<b>Clothing</b>	Due to the nature of the class, please wear clothing that you feel comfortable moving around in. We will be stretching, laying on the ground, or even climbing onto elevated surfaces, so please keep this in mind. Close-toed, non-heeled shoes are also recommended in case there is moving scenery involved at any point in the class.