Theatre Arts 1352.001 and .002—Acting Two
Spring 2012—Tuesday/Thursday 2-3:15
Spring 2012—Tuesday/Thursday 3:30-4:45

Instructor: J. Don Luna
Office Hours: Monday 10-12; Tuesday/Thursday 12:30-2 pm Friday by appt.
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The mission of the Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi Theatre Program is to provide students with the tools needed in preparation as theatre educators or professional practitioners, or for continuation of their studies on the graduate level.

The goal of the program is to provide students with meaningful experiences that promote an understanding of theatre as a medium of expression and collaboration. We give students the opportunity for creative and critical thinking, problem solving, and exploration in an environment that values artistic integrity, understands failure as well as success and is part of the educational process, and respects the viewpoints of others in the encouragement of artistic truth. The extensive season of the Theatre Program serves not only as a training lab for our students, but also enhances the cultural and aesthetic experience of our campus and is a major cultural resource for the residents of South Texas.

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION
A continuation of Acting I with emphasis on characterization based on the theories and teachings of Konstantin Stanislavski and Sanford Meisner. Acting techniques, improvisational approaches, and methods of character analysis will be emphasized. Each student is required to be an active participant. The course will include such activities as GROUP PRESENTATIONS, physical and vocal exercises, improvisational activities and games, relaxation, rehearsal and performance of theatrical scenes and monologues, and reading quizzes.

II. REQUIRED TEXTS
*The Sanford Meisner Approach: An Actor’s Workbook* by Larry Silverberg
ISBN: 1-880399-77-6
*The Seagull AND The 3 Sisters* by Anton Chekhov, available online at http://digital.library.upenn.edu/webbin/gutbook/lookup?num=1754

SUGGESTED TEXT (for Teacher Certification emphasis)
Acting Through Exercises John L. Gronbeck-Tedesco

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES
It is the objective of this course to give the student a practical exposure to the methods of acting, allowing the student to build both an understanding of the
craft, as well as to develop basic physical and psychological realistic acting techniques—both intellectual and emotional.

IV. OUTSIDE REQUIREMENTS
In addition to individual preparation for class, it will be the responsibility of each student to collaborate with her or his partner(s) outside of class in order to rehearse for required scenes. Further, you will be required to see two theatrical performances at TAMU-CC. You will be responsible for buying tickets to these productions. Consider it a necessary expense for the course just like a book, lab manual, or course materials. These performances will be discussed in class. Don’t forget that seeing actors onstage is a very important part of your training. Plan to see each of the following shows:

HENRY V       February 21-26
6 DEGREES OF SEPARATION   April 17-22

Students are also expected to assist with the UIL clinic Feb 24,25,26. This is a weekend so please plan accordingly.

V. EVALUATION

100 points Final Exam
70 points 10 pts each reading outlines
70 points Reading Quizzes
100 points Group presentation
100 points Scene 1—Chekhov
100 points Scene 2—Contemporary Realism
100 points Urinetown Review
100 points The Skin of Our Teeth Review
100 points Monologue 1
100 points Monologue 2
60 points 40 minute play performance

Grading Scale:
A 900-1000 points
B 800-899 points
C 700-799 points
D 600-699 points
F Below 600 points

VI. ATTENDANCE
Attendance in this course is critical to your success. For purposes of grading, no distinction will be made between excused and unexcused absences (excluding absences for recognized religious holidays, death in your family, doctor’s excuse
with documentation, and approved university functions.) Your absence affects
the progress of the entire class. **Each absence in excess of two will lower your**
**average a full letter grade.** More than four absences will result in a failing grade
for the course. Exceptions under **extreme** circumstances may be made at the
discretion of the instructor. You must consult with me immediately prior to the
absence when possible to make such an exception viable.

**Lateness:** Three late arrivals constitute one absence. If you arrive more than ten
minutes late you will be considered absent. Time management skills are one of
the most significant tools of the profession. The practice and development of
these skills is expected.

**Missed Assignments:** No make-up work for outlines, quizzes or missed in-class
activities. Reviews are due on the assigned deadlines and will not be accepted
late. An unexcused absence on the date of an assigned performance will result in
a failing grade for that activity unless prior arrangements are made with the
instructor. (Exceptions to deadlines will only be made in extreme circumstances
at the discretion of the instructor.)

VII. **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**
Any student found guilty of academic dishonesty, such as plagiarism or cheating
will receive an “F” for the assignment, and, if the situation warrants it, for the
entire course.

VIII. **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**
Any student with a documented disability needing academic adjustments or
accommodations is requested to speak with me as soon as possible, preferably
during the first two weeks of class. All discussion will remain confidential.
Contact the Services for Students with Disabilities Office (825-5816) if you have
a disability or suspect that you have a disability requiring academic
accommodations.

IX: **DROPPING A CLASS**
I hope that you never find it necessary to drop this or any other class. However,
events can sometimes occur that make dropping a course necessary or wise.
Please consult with me before you decide to drop to be sure it is the best thing to
do. Should dropping the class be the best course of action, you must initiate the
process to drop by going to the Student Services Center and filling out a course
drop form. Just stopping attendance and participation WILL NOT automatically
result in your being dropped from the class. April 1, 2011, is the last day to drop a
class with an automatic grade of “W” this term.

X. **CLASSROOM PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR:**
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that
each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful
atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom
behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

XI ACADEMIC ADVISING:
The College of Liberal Arts requires that students meet with an Academic Advisor as soon as they are ready to declare a major. The Academic Advisor will set up a degree plan, which must be signed by the student, a faculty mentor, and the department chair. The College's Academic Advising Center is located in Driftwood 203E, and can be reached at 825-3466.

XII GRADE APPEAL PROCESS:
As stated in University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, 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 University Rule 13.02.99.C2, Student Grade Appeals, and University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Office of Student Affairs.

XIII READING MATERIAL OUTLINES:
All outlines must be handed on the day they are assigned. They must be in outline format and 12 pt. font. Quizzes on the material will be orally administered and must be answered on the back of the outline page(s).

IX GROUP PRESENTATIONS:
Each group of 2-3 students will present the information of the week’s assigned reading. Each group must meet and discuss the presentation with the Instructor a week before the scheduled date of the presentation. The presentation will consist of an approved outline of the material from EACH presenter and come up with 5 questions on the material to be presented as a quiz (approved by the instructor a week in advance). Each group must report on the material and lead the class in the discussion of the material. The group will then lead the class in exercises that demonstrate the concepts presented in the reading material.
X  **MONOLOGUE WORK**
Monologues must be memorized and ‘performance ready’ for the 1st look. This is a time to receive feedback on your performance. Students not ready for presentation will be denied this feedback opportunity and will have 10 points reduced from their monologue grade.

XI  **SCENE WORK**
Scenes must be memorized and blocked for the 1st look feedback. Scenes not ready for presentation will be denied this feedback opportunity and will have 10 points reduced from their scene grade (if one partner is ready but another is not, the scene will be presented with one partner holding book so as not to penalize the partner who is ready).

XII  **40 MINUTE PLAY PERFORMANCE**
Students will receive a grade from their director of the 40 minute play. FAILURE TO MEET ALL SCHEDULED REHEARSALS (UNLESS EXCUSED BY THE DIRECTOR) WILL RESULT IN THE LOSS OF ALL POINTS FOR THIS PERFORMANCE!!! The grade assigned by the director will be considered by the instructor in awarding the points for this performance.

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### Tentative Class Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>CLASS CONTENT</th>
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| Thursday | January 12 | Syllabus & Expectations  
Select groups for class reading presentations and quizzes  
**ASSIGNMENT:**  
Read and outline Moore pgs. Ix-16 and outline the material. |
| Tuesday  | January 17 | Discussion of Moore: Pgs. ix-16  
Due: Outline, Quiz and discussion  
**Please purchase THE SEAGULL or THE 3 SISTERS** and begin to look for a monologue and scene for us to use in class this spring.  
Monologue and scene selection due Feb 1st  
**ASSIGNMENT:**  
Read and outline Moore pgs. 17-24 |
<p>| Thursday | January 19 | Discussion of Moore pgs. 17-24 |</p>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Physical Action Exercises</td>
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<td><strong>ASSIGNMENT:</strong> Read THE SEAGULL</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Scene and monologues selections due on Feb 1st</td>
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<td>Physical Action Exercises</td>
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<td><strong>ASSIGNMENT:</strong> Read and outline Moore pgs. 25-45</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td><strong>Group one</strong> presentation of Moore Pgs. 25-45</td>
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<td></td>
<td>“Elements of an Action”</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Outline, Quiz and discussion</td>
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<td>Group led exercises</td>
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<td>Discussion of THE SEAGULL</td>
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<td><strong>ASSIGNMENT:</strong> Select a scene and monologue from THE SEAGULL or THE 3 SISTERS to work on in class</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Scene partner and scene selection</td>
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<td>Exercises on Monologue scoring and selection</td>
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<td><strong>ASSIGNMENT:</strong> Type and score the monologue in the style presented in class</td>
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<td>Read and outline Moore pgs. 46-67</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Hand in monologue typed and scored.</td>
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<td><strong>Group 2</strong> presentation of Moore</td>
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<td>46-67</td>
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<td><strong>ASSIGNMENT:</strong> Read and outline Kaplan pgs. 3-22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>February 9</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>February 14</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>February 16</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>February 21</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>February 23</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>February 28</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>March 1</td>
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<td>Date</td>
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<td>Tuesday, March 6</td>
<td>Group 6 Moore pgs. 77-90&lt;br&gt;Outline, quiz and discussion&lt;br&gt;Group led exercises of material</td>
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<td>Thursday, March 8</td>
<td>Hand in scene analysis&lt;br&gt;1st look Chekhov scenes</td>
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<td>Tuesday, March 13</td>
<td>1st look Chekhov scenes</td>
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<td>Thursday, March 15</td>
<td>CHEKHOV scenes due for grade&lt;br&gt;ASSIGNMENT:&lt;br&gt;Bring Contemporary Scenes (with partner selected) and monologues to class</td>
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<td>Tuesday, March 27</td>
<td>Continue Chekhov scenes&lt;br&gt;Bring Contemporary Scenes to Class with partner selected&lt;br&gt;Meisner work in class</td>
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<td>Thursday, March 29</td>
<td>Meisner work in class&lt;br&gt;ASSIGNMENT:&lt;br&gt;Read, outline Uta Hagen handout</td>
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<td>Tuesday, April 3</td>
<td>Group 7 Uta Hagen presentation&lt;br&gt;Outline, quiz and discussion&lt;br&gt;Group led exercises&lt;br&gt;ASSIGNMENT:&lt;br&gt;Memorize and score monologue</td>
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<td>Date</td>
<td>Event Description</td>
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| Thursday   | Hand in monologue scored 1<sup>st</sup> look monologue (memorized)  
Work on scenes in class |
| Tuesday    | 1<sup>st</sup> look monologues (memorized)  
Work on scenes in class  
ASSIGNMENT:  
Present monologue for grade |
| Thursday   | Monologue presented for grade  
ASSIGNMENT:  
Scene memorized, blocked and written analysis |
| Tuesday    | Scene analysis due  
1<sup>st</sup> look Scene (memorized, blocked) |
| Thursday   | 1<sup>st</sup> look Scene (memorized, blocked)  
ASSIGNMENT:  
Scene presentation  
6 DEGREES review |
| Tuesday    | Contemporary Scene Performance for grade  
DISCUSSION OF 6 DEGREES |
| Thursday   | Scene Performance (cont) |
| Tuesday    | Final Exam |
| TBA        | PRESENTATION OF 40 MINUTE PLAYS FOR A GRADE |