

THEA 80B-Theory and Technique of Advanced Acting for the Camera
Winter 2024
De Anza College

Instructor: Liz Stimson
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Class Meets: T/TH 9:30-12:15 in MLC 226
Office Hours: T/TH 12:15-12:45 in MLC 226 & by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is a continuation of the study of on camera acting. This course will provide students with a working knowledge and experience of playing in front of the camera and auditioning in front of the camera. The student will gain a more advanced level of understanding of on camera acting and a deepening of the actor's art and craft.

Recommended Text: THE CAMERA SMART ACTOR by Richard Brestoff
(Available in De Anza library reserves)

Optional: USB Flash Drive

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

1. Recognize the process by which actors are interviewed, auditioned, and cast for all forms of media production.
2. Practice and distinguish effective body movement and voice modulation as it pertains to camera acting styles, camera angle and shot size and continuity of takes.
3. Demonstrate advanced skills in the practice and performance of scripted work for the camera and the subsequent critiquing of the work including self evaluation.

COURSE OBJECTIVE:

1. Demonstrate advanced knowledge of the camera media from an actor's perspective.
2. Analyze, prepare, rehearse and perform advanced scripted material both on camera and voiceover.
3. Identify and articulate advanced problems in character development within the context of a shooting schedule.
4. Demonstrate a working vocabulary of equipment used in multi-media, film, and television entertainment industries.

POLICIES:

Late Work: Assignments are due on the date listed in the syllabus. It is the student's responsibility to reach out to the instructor (email or office hours) if an extension is needed.

Dropping: It is the student's responsibility to add or drop the class. Please see [De Anza College Academic Calendar Winter 2024](#) for specific dates.

Disabilities: Students with disabilities, including invisible ones, are encouraged to communicate with the instructor their needs and appropriate accommodations. [De Anza Disability Support Services](#)

Participation: Please wear clothing which does not restrict movement. Expect to be physically active.

HELPFUL SERVICES:

De Anza College Library Website: [De Anza College Library](#)

Online tutoring and workshops available at: [De Anza Student Success Center](#)

IMPORTANT DATES:

JANUARY 15

Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday - no classes, offices closed

FEBRUARY 16-19

Presidents' Holiday - no classes, offices closed

MARCH 1

Last day to drop classes with a W

MARCH 25-29

[Final exams](#)

ATTENDANCE POLICY:

100 points out of the total 400 points for the class are for class participation.

- First two absences (excused or unexcused) no points taken off from participation
- Each tardy counts as ½ of an absence.
- I will accept excuses for illness, religious holidays and family emergencies. Please contact me ahead of time in these cases. No points taken off.
- You will not pass the class if you miss more than 6 class meetings (for ANY reason)

ASSIGNMENTS:

Recording #1 (voice-over)	50 points
Recording #2 (teleprompter)	50 points
Recording #3 (final scene)	100 points
Character Analyses	50 points total (2 @ 25 points each)
Film Review	50 points
Participation	100 points
Total Points	400 points

GRADING:

Grade	Numerical Equivalent
A	400-372
A-	371-360
B+	359-348
B	347-332
B-	331-320
C+	319-299
C	298-280
D+	279-268
D	267-252
D-	251-240
F	239-0

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students who present the work of others without giving proper credit (citation), will receive an “F” grade for that assignment which cannot be made up. If you feel that you are having trouble with an assignment and require assistance please meet with me during my office hours or schedule an additional time to meet.

[Academic Integrity De Anza College](#)

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE: THEA 80B--Winter 2024

In Class	Assignments (available in Canvas)
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Week 1 (1/9, 1/11)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome, syllabus review, etc • Warm-ups and improv 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Choose TWO voice-over scripts & submit <u>2 hard copies of each script</u> (script links available in Canvas)
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	(due 1/16) • Read Articles in Canvas
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Week 2 (1/16, 1/18)

• Warm-ups and improvs	• Voice-over cold readings • Voice-over Character Analysis —will do in class 1/18 • Read Articles in Canvas
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Week 3 (1/23, 1/25)

• Voice-over Rehearsals • Phasic Relaxation	• Rehearse voice-overs
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Week 4 (1/30, 2/1)

• Recording #1: Voice-over • Warm-ups & Improv	• Record voice-overs • Read Articles in Canvas
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Week 5 (2/6, 2/8)

• Warm-ups & Improv	• Final Scene Selection Hard copies (3) (due 2/20)
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Week 6 (2/13, 2/15)

• Auditions (voice-over) • Recording #2: Teleprompter	• Teleprompter Work • Final Scene Selection Hard copies (3) (due 2/20)
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Week 7 (2/20, 2/22)

• Cold Reading Scenes	• Assignment: Film Review (due 3/12) • Character Analysis--Scene (in class 2/22)--no analysis = no rehearsal
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Week 8 (2/27, 2/29)

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review Hitting your mark, eyeline	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assignment: Chroma Key Image (due 3/5)
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Week 9 (3/5, 3/7)

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Blocking, Business/Activities• Rehearsals	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read Articles in Canvas
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Week 10 (3/12, 3/14)

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rehearsals• Off book• Recording #3: Final Scene	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recording of final scene• Read Articles in Canvas
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Week 11 (3/19, 3/21)

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recording #3: Final Scene	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recording of final scene
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Week 12 (3/26)

Final: Tuesday March 26th: 9:15-11:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Viewing of final scenes
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