

**THEATRE 2306:001 Movement for the Performing Arts**  
**Course Syllabus**  
**Spring, 2014**

Instructor: Dona Roman  
Office: 203C Fine Arts Bldg.  
Phone: x8219

Office Hours: MWF 11:00-12:00  
MW 3:30-5:00 or by appointment  
E-mail: droman@sulross.edu

**DESCRIPTION:**

An introduction and study of body awareness, interpretation of movement for character development and performance.

**TEXT:**

**REQUIRED:** Movement for Actors. Nicole Potter (2002)

**REFERENCE ONLY:** Body Learning. Michael Gelb (1981). Aurum Press, Ltd.  
The Alexander Technique Workbook. Richard Brennan (1992). Element Publishers.  
Laban for All. Jean Newlove and John Dalby (2004). Routledge Publishers.

**GOALS:**

1. Gain knowledge and awareness of the physical instrument.
2. Learn to connect and use body freely and efficiently.
3. Develop strategies for connecting feelings and emotions to physical exploration.
4. Incorporate use of techniques learned into acting scenes and improvisations.
5. Participate in musical theatre audition process.

**CLASS MEETINGS:**

Attendance is required. Course is strictly graded on performance. Any unexplained\* absence of any class will lower overall grade 7 pts., and each subsequent absence will lower grade an additional 7 pts. Six (6) absences, of any kind, will result in a WF. Assignments not completed will not be accepted after one week. Students are responsible for unattended classes. \*Students must contact instructor prior to class and receive permission to miss class in order to be considered an explained absence.

Qualified students with disabilities needing academic or other accommodations to ensure full participation in our programs, services and activities should contact the Disabilities Services Coordinator, Counseling and Prevention Services, (432) 837-8203.

**UNIVERSITY RULES/REGULATIONS:**

Rules and regulations regarding plagiarism, dishonesty, and other issues concerning classroom participation can be found in the University Rules and Regulations and Student Handbook.

**EVALUATION:**

Grades will be based on the following criteria: 50% will be based on completion of assignments. Mid-term and Final presentations will constitute remaining 50% of grade (25% each).

**GRADES:**

A=100%-90%

B=89%-80%

C=79%-70%

D=69%-60%

F=below 60%

**Course Schedule**

Week 1: Biomechanics and Psychological Gesture

Week 2: Psychological Gesture

Week 3: Theatrical Stillness and Introduction to Alexander Technique

Week 4: Alexander Technique and Introduction to Laban

Week 5: Laban

Week 6: Laban

Week 7: Mid-term Acting Scenes

Week 8: Mask and Ritual

Week 9: Improvisation

Week 10: Period Dance on the Stage

Week 11: Shakespeare and the Three Center of the Body

Week 12: Molière and Restoration Comedy Style

Week 13: The Williamson Physical Technique

Week 14: Introduction to Margolis Method and Thanksgiving Break

Week 15: Final Acting Scene work

**Final Project due: Wednesday, December 10 @ 12:30 p.m.**

## **Theatre Program Learning Outcomes:**

The graduating student will demonstrate:

1. knowledge of eras and contributions made throughout Theatre History and Musical Theatre History.

Additionally the graduating student with a concentration in Acting/Directing will demonstrate:

2. the ability to express themselves creatively through appropriate theatrical performance;
3. the ability to analyze scripts;
4. the ability work creatively with actors and technicians in mounting a laboratory theatrical production; and
5. the ability to apply standard requirements to all aspects of technical production.

Additionally the graduating student with a concentration in technical/design will demonstrate:

6. the ability to apply all approaches to theatrical design and rendering of the design; and
7. the ability to address all technical aspects of a theatrical production

Additionally the student will be able to:

8. describe the theatre process and compose a functional definition for the theatre event;
9. describe the close link between theatre and religion;
10. name the basic responsibilities and roles of the playwright, director, actor and designer in the theatre production;
11. have a basic understanding of the difference between tragedy, comedy, melodrama, farce, epic and absurdist theatre;
12. describe the uniqueness of the theatre art;
13. understand and describe the elements necessary to bring about a unified production;
14. identify a variety of theatre spaces;
15. know the names and works associated with key figures in the theatre; and
16. demonstrate their understanding of acting, directing, playwriting or design in the areas of set, sound, or make-up.