

## **THEATER PRODUCTION AND PRACTICE (72)**

### **Syllabus**

**Instructor:** Rod Menzies, April Shawhan, Leslie Miller

#### **Course Description**

Exploration and laboratory experience in one or more of various aspects of production and postproduction practice for entertainment media, including theater, film, video and digital media. “The Performance Project” introduces the student to the fundamental rehearsal process culminating in performance. Students, acting as creative rather than interpretive artists, work on a collaborative, piece of film using a process involving on camera acting.

Participants are assigned to a specific group and work with a director/facilitator for the duration of the On-Camera Acting Institute, creating a performance piece that is filmed during the Institute. Performance Project rehearsals provide time for research, creative exploration, collaborative discussion, organization, planning, and rehearsal.

#### **Course Goals and Objectives**

- Develop collaboration skills for the purpose of strengthening ensemble building  
Learn to know, trust and support classmates; learn to be a team player
- Work towards developing an artistic sensibility for the overall production  
Develop skills related to character creation and development
- Enhance storytelling techniques
- Challenges students to implement skills from morning classes into a fully realized performance
- Develop a sense of ownership and positive self-esteem in creating original work  
Working on problem solving skills
- Incorporate design elements (props, costumes, lights, sound) into piece

**Class requirements:** Each section will have its own set of graded assignments, required classwork and rules for participation. A syllabus for each section outlining the requirements and grading criteria will be distributed at the first class meeting.

**Attendance:** Attendance is mandatory. Absences force your partner to be unable to work and tardiness disrupts the whole class. Every unexcused absence causes your grade to drop and two tardies equal one absence.

**Participation:** Participation in class is an expectation. You should always be prepared to be called on, ready and eager to volunteer. The following will aid you in having a successful experience in this class:

An open mind and attitude  
Commitment to the work and process  
Cooperation with and respect for all students

**Accommodating Students with Disabilities:**

*Students needing academic accommodations based on disability should contact the Center for Accessible Education (CAE) at 310-825-1501 or in person at Murphy Hall A255. When possible, students should contact the CAE within one week of the start of the summer session institute start date, as reasonable notice is needed to coordinate accommodations.*

*For more information, visit [www.cae.ucla.edu](http://www.cae.ucla.edu)*