



SYLLABUS FOR PHYSICAL THEATER I

Credits 1

THE 1601-01CL Physical Theater I Spring 2023

Instructor: Jessica López-Barkl, Associate Professor of Theater and Speech, Theater Program Director

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Office Hours: M/W/F 5-6 PM

Course Format: In-person/On-campus

Meeting Times/Location: Friday 3:15-4:05 PM, Seelig Theatre E113

Course Start Date: 1/27/23

Course End Date: 5/12/23

Last Day to Withdraw: Friday, April 7, by 5 PM

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Actors learn the art and language of images, imagination, physical creativity, and physical comedy. Such techniques as neutral and character mask work, improvisation, and story telling free the actors' bodies of excessive thinking while strengthening and honing their imagination, allowing them to create potent performances and deep character work.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Measurable Student Learning Outcomes:

General Education Learning Outcomes. #8 THE ARTS

Students will demonstrate:

1. understanding of at least one principal form of artistic expression and the creative process inherent therein.

Upon completing this course, students will:

- Demonstrate improved ability to perform given tasks in the production of a live performance utilizing physical theater.

- Demonstrate improved understanding of the given “tools/materials” used in the production of a live performance utilizing physical theater.
- Demonstrate an appreciation for the issues of responsibility/discipline necessary to create a successful live performance no matter what element each individual is responsible for with physical theater.
- Demonstrate people skills necessary for effective ensemble work (teamwork) to occur.
- Experience a heightened sense of discovery.
- Develop and expand imagination and expression.
- Reduce self-consciousness and inhibition.
- Start to become aware of any unconscious limiting habits in physical behavior.

CO/PREREQUISITES

None.

COURSE MATERIALS

Access to a computer and the internet. Clothes that are not distracting and that you can move in. An open mind.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

[Brightspace](#) (Digital Learning Environment) is where your course materials can be located.

Pulse – Mobile access to your Brightspace Classes. Download from your phone’s Play or App Store. Choose the app from SUNY.

Brightspace Help – contact Brightspacehelp@sunysullivan.edu or go to E006 for in-person help.

Campus Tech Support Phone: 845-434-5750 extension 4457

Campus Tech Support Email: ithelpdesk@sunysullivan.edu

ACCESSIBILITY AND ACCOMMODATIONS

SUNY Sullivan values equity and inclusion; we are committed to a climate of mutual respect and full participation. Our goal is to create learning environments that are usable, equitable, inclusive and welcoming. If there are aspects of the instruction or design of this course that result in barriers to your inclusion or achievement, please notify the instructor as soon as possible.

Students with disabilities are also welcome to contact [Kelly Dearborn](mailto:kdearborn@sunysullivan.edu) (845-434-5750 ext 4328 or kdearborn@sunysullivan.edu) within The Department of Learning and Student Development to discuss a range of options to removing barriers in the course, including accommodations.

REGULAR AND SUBSTANTIVE INTERACTION

As your instructor, I plan to interact and engage with each of you on a regular basis throughout the term to support your learning. I will provide direct instruction related to the course's learning objectives, respond to your questions, grade and/or provide feedback on your submitted coursework, post regular announcements, and engage in the course discussion areas regarding academic course content when appropriate.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

PARTICIPATION EXPECTATIONS

For Discussion Forums: You will need to respond with college level spelling and grammar. If you cite something, be sure to use MLA. (There is a tutorial available if you do not know how to cite...). In brainstorming discussion forums, you will need to respond to four students. In Feedback Forums, you will need to respond to each student that posts. This means you should check in to the on-line class daily, post your original post **ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE MODULE**, and then proceed to spend the rest of the day checking in and responding, in order to watch and respond to every speech in the forum. I will only give full points to the student who responds, at least once to every speech posted. Lastly, please use the Liz Lerman Method of Critical Response as your guide to good feedback. The article is in course information. However, briefly, please begin with positive feedback and then give opinions in a neutral/open way...i.e..." I thought your use of the word "um" was unconscious, and therefore, troublesome to the fluidity of your speech."

In regards to what you can expect from me as an instructor: You can expect that I will always utilize my one rule (The Golden Rule) to treat you as you would like to be treated, so...I will always attempt to have everything graded and commented upon within 2-3 days of its posting. I hated not knowing my grade or how I did for weeks on end, so...you won't receive that kind of treatment from me. I will also always attempt to respond to any emails or questions within 24 hours of receiving them.

FEEDBACK AND SUGGESTIONS

There is a Questions section in the Content area of the Learning Management System. Please create a thread for any questions you may have about the class. No question is a dumb question, and your fellow students may have the same one but are too afraid to ask.

EVALUATION AND GRADING SCALE

No Late Assignments Accepted, unless an act of God (hurricane, tornado, ice storm) occurs or you have a PREVIOUS arrangement with the professor.

Rubrics for each assignment are on Brightspace for evaluation methods.

GRADING WEIGHTS:

Weekly Participation/Discussions 50%

Weekly Journal

40%

Final Presentation

10%

GRADING SCALE:

Grade, Grade Points, & Numerical Equivalent

Grade	Grade Point	Numerical Equivalent
A	4	93-100
A-	3.67	90-92
B+	3.33	87-89
B	3	83-86
B-	2.67	80-82
C+	2.33	77-79
C	2	73-76
C-	1.67	70-72
D+	1.33	67-69
D	1	63-66
D-	0.67	60-62
F	0	0-59

COURSE POLICIES

LATE WORK/MAKE-UP POLICY

No Late Work Accepted.

ONLINE ATTENDANCE POLICY

For on-line/remote learning classes we assume that you will be checking in at least three times for each module (3 contact hours – class time and otherwise) in addition to, at least 3 hours of work at home for the speeches or research. This will be obvious in the discussion forums. If you only check in on at the beginning of the module, then you will have a hard time catching up. Check in by 9:30 AM on the first day of the module, check again a couple more days, and then the time during the last hours of the module.

The SUNY rules state that you need to complete an assignment in the module or email the instructor to be counted as "present" in the module that is occurring.

NETIQUETTE

[For use with online classes. Can be removed for seated classes] [Add your own course netiquette expectations. Include a link to your campus code of conduct information. Consider co-creating agreed upon standards for interactions in the course with course participants. (Aligns with OSCQR standard [5.39](#)). **Remove this text.**]

ADDITIONAL COURSE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Please use this link to help you understand netiquette:

<https://www.rasmussen.edu/student-experience/college-life/netiquette-guidelines-every-online-student-needs-to-know/>

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

Found on the college website at <https://sunysullivan.edu/academic-policies/>

BASIC NEEDS STATEMENT

To learn effectively you must have basic security: a roof over your head, a safe place to sleep, enough food to eat. If you're having trouble with any of those things, please contact the Dean of Student Development Services at dean@sunysullivan.edu, or me. Together we can work to make sure those needs are met.

NAMES & PRONOUNS

This institution recognizes the importance of a diverse student body, and we are committed to fostering equitable classroom environments. You are invited to share how you want to be referred to both in terms of your name and your pronouns (he/him, she/her, they/them, etc.). I will do my best to address and refer to all students accordingly, and will support you in doing so as well. In this classroom, we will respect and refer to people using the names and personal pronouns that they share.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week 1: Syllabus and begin Improv Unit: (Keith Johnstone and Jacques Lecoq).

Week 2: Continue learning Improv Exercises (Keith Johnstone and Jacques Lecoq).

Week 3: Biomechanics Unit (Vsevolod Meyerhold).

Week 4: Continue Biomechanics Unit (Vsevolod Meyerhold).

Week 5: Viewpoints Unit (Mary Overlie and Anne Bogart).

Week 6: Continue Viewpoints Unit (Mary Overlie and Anne Bogart).

Week 7: Stillness Unit (Tadashi Suzuki).

Week 8: Continue Stillness Unit (Tadashi Suzuki).

Week 9: Scenographic Instrument Unit (Jacques Copeau, Adolphe Appia, Gordon Craig)

Week 10: Poor Theater Unit (Jerzy Grotowski).

Week 11: Theater Anthropology Unit (Eugenio Barba).

Week 12: Assign final projects begin exercises to work on them.

Week 13: Physical theater exercises to help the final project.

Week 14: Physical theater exercises to help the final project.

Week 15: Final project presentations.