

**PHYSICAL THEATRE II**  
**#415a**  
**Section 63022D**  
**Fall 2014**

**Zach Steel**  
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**Office Hours**

Available by appointment. Call or email as above.

**Course Goals**

The function of the class is as follows:

- To discover and develop an open and honest relationship between performer and audience.
- To harness listening and reacting skills and hone the performers awareness of the moment.
- To approach failure and success with the same enthusiasm.
- To confront and destroy the powerful beast of self-doubt.
- To empower the actor not merely as a performer, but as a creator/deviser of theatre.
- To unabashedly bring play and celebration to every moment of performance.

**Course Overview**

The content of the class follows this curriculum:

Stage 1: Listen and React  
Stage 2: Birth of The Clown  
Stage 3: Thin Ice  
Stage 4: In/Out Clowns and Double Acts  
Stage 5: On With The Show

This class will challenge students to fully give in to the present moment, to redirect their focus to the relationship between performer and audience, to examine the threshold of what can be done with our bodies and voices in performance, to confront preconceptions about ones own individual capabilities and discover what makes each individual funny, to celebrate ones greatest failures and experience the magnitude of true openness in front of an audience.

**Suggested Reading**

**Why Is That So Funny?** by John Wright  
**The Moving Body** by Jacques LeCoq

**Class Meetings**

MW 3 – 4.50PM  
Location MCC 107

## **Final Exam**

Monday, December 15, 2-4PM

## **Grading Policy**

- A work of excellent quality
- B work of good quality
- C work of average quality
- D work of below average quality
- E work of inadequate quality

## **Your grade is assessed according to**

Class Work – 50%

Midterm – 25%

Final – 25%

## **Attendance, Tardiness, Absences**

No absences are permitted except in case of illness or emergency.

No lateness permitted.

Violation of these requirements will result in grade deductions.

## **Course Assignments**

As allocated in class

## **Schedule**

Week 1	Introduction/Listen and React
Week 2	Listen and React
Week 3	Listen and React
Week 4	Listen and React
Week 5	Birth of the Clown
Week 6	Thin Ice
Week 7	Thin Ice
Week 8	Thin Ice
Week 9	In/Out Clowns and Double Acts
Week 10	In/Out Clowns and Double Acts
Week 11	In/Out Clowns and Double Acts
Week 12	In/Out Clowns and Double Acts
Week 13	On With The Show
Week 14	On With The Show
Week 15	On With The Show

**Please note**

“Students requesting academic accommodations based on disability are required to register with Disability Services and Programs (DSP) each semester. A letter of accommodations can be obtained from DSP when adequate documentation is filed. Please be sure the letter is delivered to me (or to TA) as early in the semester as possible. DSP is open Mon-Fri, 8.30-5.00. The Office is in Student Union 301 and their phone no. is 213 740 0776.”

Academic Integrity: Dishonesty in any form harms the individual, other students, and the School of Theatre . Therefore, USC policies on academic integrity will be enforced in this course. Papers suspected of containing plagiarized material (the unacknowledged or inappropriate use of another’s ideas, wording, or images) will be verified for authenticity by the School of Theatre through internet services. I expect you to familiarize yourself with the academic integrity guidelines found in the current SCampus ([www.usc.edu/dept/publications/scampus](http://www.usc.edu/dept/publications/scampus)).