

ACTING 420a (63027D)- (Senior Project)

Term: Fall 2017

Day/Time: Monday/Wednesday, 12-1.50

Location: MCC106

Instructor: Kate Burton

Title: Professor of Theatre Practice

Office: MCC 208

Office Hours: By appointment

Contacts: burtonk@usc.edu 213 740 4647 (o)

Course Description/Learning Objectives/Required Reading/Final Exam: The goal of this course is to pick up where you left off in your Poetic Realism work with Mary Joan Negro. We will focus on texts from the modern American canon in the late 20th and 21st centuries. Suggested texts are various plays of Sam Shepherd, Balm in Gilead and Hot L Baltimore by Lanford Wilson, Angels in America by Tony Kushner, Indecent by Paula Vogel and Blood and Gifts and Oslo by JT Rogers. We may choose to focus on one play or extended scenes or acts from this group. This is your senior year and a very exciting time. We will tackle the material that is the most appropriate for your needs now and looking towards the future. You are about to become professional actors and I will be treating you as such. I expect utter commitment to your time in class and your outside work to prepare for class. This should be a time where you can assess how prepared you are for whatever lies ahead. The great work continues! The final exam will be presented classroom work TBD.

Grading Policy

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

Your grade is assessed according to

Class Work – 50%

Midterm – 25%

Final – 25%

Course Assignments & Class Schedule

WEEK	FIRST CLASS	SECOND CLASS
1	Table Read	Table Read
2	Table Read	Table Read
3	Scene Work	Scene Work
4	Scene Work	Scene Work
5	Scene Work	Scene Work
6	Scene Work	Scene Work
7	Scene Work	Scene Work
8	Scene Work	Scene Work
9	Scene Work	Scene Work
10	Scene Work	Scene Work
11	Scene Work	Scene Work
12	Run-thru	Run-thru
13	Run-thru	Run-thru
14	Run-thru	Run-thru

Attendance, Tardiness, Absences

We expect the highest level of commitment from you in your final year here at USC. Lateness is not tolerated without prior notice. Unexcused absences are not permitted. Communication with the instructor is essential in case of emergency or illness. Violation of these requirements will result in disciplinary measures.

Statement for Students with Disabilities

Any student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability is required to register with Disability Services and Programs (DSP) each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from DSP. Please be sure the letter is delivered to me (or to TA) as early in the semester as possible. DSP is located in STU 301 and is open 8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Website and contact information for DSP: http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerprograms/dsp/home_index.html, (213) 740-0776 (Phone), (213) 740-6948 (TDD only), (213) 740-8216 (FAX) ability@usc.edu.

Statement on Academic Integrity

USC seeks to maintain an optimal learning environment. General principles of academic honesty include the concept of respect for the intellectual property of others, the expectation that individual work will be submitted unless otherwise allowed by an instructor, and the obligations both to protect one's own academic work from misuse by others as well as to avoid using another's work as one's own. All students are expected to understand and abide by these principles. *SCampus*, the Student Guidebook, (www.usc.edu/scampus or <http://scampus.usc.edu>) contains the University Student Conduct Code (see University Governance, Section 11.00), while the recommended sanctions are located in Appendix A.

Statements on Academic Conduct and Support Systems

Academic Conduct

Plagiarism – presenting someone else's ideas as your own, either verbatim or recast in your own words – is a serious academic offense with serious consequences. Please familiarize yourself with the discussion of plagiarism in *SCampus* in Section 11, Behavior Violating University Standards <https://scampus.usc.edu/1100-behavior-violating-university-standards-and-appropriate-sanctions/>. Other forms of academic dishonesty are equally unacceptable. See additional information in *SCampus* and university policies on scientific misconduct, <http://policy.usc.edu/scientific-misconduct/>. Discrimination, sexual assault, and harassment are not tolerated by the university. You are encouraged to report any incidents to the *Office of Equity and Diversity* <http://equity.usc.edu/> or to the *Department of Public Safety* <http://capsnet.usc.edu/department/department-public-safety/online-forms/contact-us>. This is important for the safety whole USC community. Another member of the university community – such as a friend, classmate, advisor, or faculty member – can help initiate the report, or can initiate the report on behalf of another person. *The Center for Women and Men* <http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/cwm/> provides 24/7 confidential support, and the sexual assault resource center webpage sarc@usc.edu describes reporting options and other resources.

Support Systems

A number of USC's schools provide support for students who need help with scholarly writing. Check with your advisor or program staff to find out more. Students whose primary language is not English should check with the *American Language Institute* <http://dornsife.usc.edu/ali>, which sponsors courses and workshops specifically for international graduate students.

The Office of Disability Services and Programs

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Emergency Preparedness/Course Continuity in a Crisis

In case of a declared emergency if travel to campus is not feasible, USC executive leadership will announce an electronic way for instructors to teach students in their residence halls or homes using a combination of Blackboard, teleconferencing, and other technologies.

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