Filmmaking for Actors
THTR 516

Spring 2023

NTARE GUMA MBAHO MWINE
mwine@usc.edu

Office Hours

Thursdays 3pm-5:50pm

Course Description and Overview

The course is designed to help the actor demystify on camera acting and be self-sufficient at self taping auditions. Through a series of on camera games and exercises acting students will deepen their understanding and relationship with the camera.

Course Objectives

Students will conduct on camera exercises and have the opportunity to focus on individual and group projects, which will be shared with the class as a whole at the end of each session. The students will regularly create original content and deliverables throughout the course that will strengthen their relationship and understanding of acting on camera.

Supplementary Materials

Play: How it Shapes the Brain, Opens Imagination and Invigorates the Soul
Written by Stuart Brown, M.D., with Christopher Vaughan founder of National Institute for Play.

Available for purchase at Amazon.com

Class Meetings

Tuesdays 3pm-5:50pm in MCC 111

Final Exam

Presentation of a short film

Grading Policy

A   work of excellent quality
B   work of fair quality

C   work of substandard quality
D   work of dire quality

Course Schedule: A Weekly Breakdown

	Topics/Daily Activities	**Readings and Homework**	**Deliverable/ Due Dates**
Jan 10th, 2023	Self tape audition	Required on camera work outside of class	TBD
Jan 17th, 2023	Self tape audition	Required on camera work outside of class	TBD
Jan 24th, 2023	Self tape audition	Required on camera work outside of class	TBD
Jan 31st, 2023	TBD Exploring yin yang on camera for the actor.	Required on camera work outside of class	TBD
Feb 7th, 2023	TBD Actors will film and present dailies of yin yang on camera for review and discussion. Continue filming	Required on camera work outside of class	TBD
Feb 14th, 2023	Actors will film and present dailies of yin yang on camera for review and discussion. Continue filming.	Required on camera work outside of class	TBD

Date			
Feb 21st, 2023	Continue of yin yang exercise for review and discussion.	Required on camera work outside of class	TBD
Feb 28th, 2023	TBD	Required on camera work outside of class	TBD
March 7th, 2023	TBD final project	Required on camera work outside of class	TBD
March 21st, 2023	TBD final project	Required on camera work outside of class	TBD
March 28th, 2023	TBD final project	Required on camera work outside of class	TBD
April 4th, 2023	TBD final project	Required on camera work outside of class	TBD
April 11th, 2023	TBD final project	Required on camera work outside of class	TBD
April 18th, 2023	TBD final project	Required on camera work outside of class	TBD
April 25th, 2023	Present 5 week final project	Required on camera work outside of class	TBD

Attendance, Tardiness, Absences

We expect the highest level of commitment from MFA actors. 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
http://sait.usc.edu/academicsupport/centerprograms/dsp/home_index.htmlprovides certification for students with disabilities and helps arrange the relevant accommodations. If an officially declared emergency makes travel to campus infeasible, *USC Emergency Information*
*http://emergency.usc.edu/*will provide safety and other updates, including ways in which instruction will be continued by means of blackboard, teleconferencing, and other technology.

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.