

THTR 480a Syllabus #2 New Copy Fall 2024
Performance for Camera: Auditioning for Camera
Instructor: JOSEPH HACKER
Location: Shrine 105

THTR 480A
SYLLABUS FALL 2024
PERFORMANCE FOR CAMERA
JOSEPH HACKER

SPRING SECTIONS

63182	Monday	6:00-7:50 pm	SHR105
63187	Wednesday	4:00-5:50 pm	SHR105
63191	Tuesday	2:00-3:50pm	SHR105

Office Hours: Best After Class or by appointment
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Course Description and Overview

This on-camera, exercise intensive, workshop-style class has a two-fold ambition: it explores the dynamics and techniques of screen acting in contrast to acting for the stage; and, as its format, applies these techniques within the context of professional on-camera auditions. In addition, because we live in an increasingly digital world, the issue of “virtual auditioning” (self-taping) is a major focus of this class.

Objectives and Methods

Classes consist of discussions, on-camera exercises and mock “virtual” auditions. Class work is supplemented by a required reading list. Students are required to keep a class-by-class journal, reflecting in specific detail one or more designated aspects of that day’s class experience. A compilation of these class notes to be submitted at semester’s end.

This course assumes that participants are advanced level and have a solid working knowledge of acting theory and technique. The emphasis, therefore, is on identifying the specific adjustments working actors make when they engage in the audition process. The goal is to provide students with the perspective, knowledge, experience and techniques necessary to compete successfully for roles in the “real world.”

Limited preparation time, strange surroundings, scant knowledge of scripted material, and poorly versed scene partners are just some of the realities a professional commonly encounters while auditioning...not to mention the demands of the videotape cameras during readings and/or the technicalities of competing for roles via internet submissions.

Controlled exposure to on-camera performance dynamics prompts students to define strategies and techniques for dealing with these parameters, and to incorporate them into the fundamental process of actualizing a worthy virtual audition performance.

Students Are Required: to purchase one new 32GB or 64GB digital ‘SD Card’ Class 10 with a speed of 94/95 (approx. \$40). No substitutes. We will use it every week including the first. Students will bring this SD card to each class meeting, including the first.