**THE 310 Actors Studio**

**Class Location**: KIMMEL STAGE

**Class Times: Monday-Friday 12:15-3pm**

**COURSE OVERVIEW:**

**This course is an acting-based laboratory and lecture class that will focus on intensive scene study utilizing contemporary text. It will also focus on the business of acting and on-camera acting technique.**

**COURSE GOALS**

* **Memorize and perform scenes from *Criminal Hearts* by Jane Martin and *The Nether* by Jennifer Haley**
* **Explore the business of being a working actor and the business of acting**
* **Practice auditioning for the camera and how to submit auditions**
* **Present a research project: Planning your Next Step**

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

* **How to develop, understand, and critique contemporary text using action words and analysis**
* **To be more aware of the full physicality of the body as an expressive means of communication using his text**
* **Awareness of breath control & capacity found in specific punctuation.**
* **Diction & Clarity & Specificity in Text Work**
* **Breath/Thought Connection in scene work**
* **How to find the character in the punctuation**
* **Awareness of the business of acting and the work needed to be successful in the craft and career of performance.**

**COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES*: Knowledge, Inquiry, Communication***

* **Speak and write more clearly, listen and read more actively, imagine more intentionally, breathe more deeply, and engage and collaborate more fully with others in creative expression, ensemble activities, and theatrical performance**
* **Connect with diverse ideas and with people, characters, and entities whose experiences may differ from their own and who may be separated from them by time, space, culture, or circumstances**

**COURSE SUMMARY STATEMENT**

**This course supports the Educational Priorities and Outcomes of Cornell College with emphases on communication, intercultural literacy, citizenship, and well-being. (**[**http://www.cornellcollege.edu/about-cornell/mission/index.shtml**](http://www.cornellcollege.edu/about-cornell/mission/index.shtml)**).**

**This Course also supports the Mission Statement and Learning Outcomes of the Department of Theatre with emphases on knowledge & application, collaboration, and well-being (**[**http://www.cornellcollege.edu/theatre/mission-outcomes/index.shtml**](http://www.cornellcollege.edu/theatre/mission-outcomes/index.shtml)**).**

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

**A. Attendance and Tardiness**

* **Because much of the work for this course is completed in class you can only learn from critical discussion of your and your classmates’ work, attendance is mandatory and will be taken each class period by the instructor. If you arrive once class has begun you will be marked as late.**
* **It is the nature of this class that latecomers disrupt the concentration of the working ensemble often to the degree that an entire session may be lost. Therefore, two episodes of lateness will be counted as an absence.**
* **Each absence will result in a loss of one-half letter grade for the course. If you have an excused absence, contact the instructor before the absence if possible, or immediately after missing class in an emergency. Excused absences include serious illness (with valid doctor's excuse), school-sanctioned activities (athletic team travel, theatre production matinee), death in the family, etc. Final approval of absence rests with instructor. NOTE: Prolonged absences from class, excused or otherwise, will have a detrimental effect on your grade.**
* **The student is responsible for any work that is missed due to an absence or lateness. The student will be expected to get the notes, find out about assignments, and hand in all assignments on the date they are due. No extra credit opportunities (to make up missed work) or extensions will be given.**
* **Absences also affect your participation grade and include not showing up for a rehearsal with your scene partner(s) both inside and outside of class. Because this class is participation-oriented, attendance and commitment are expected.**
* **YOU HAVE ONE CLASS. I EXPECT YOU TO PRIORITIZE IT.**
* **Please remember the College policy states that students can be dropped from a course if they are not present at the beginning of the first meeting.  If you do not think you can comply with any of these policies, you should not take the class.**

**B. REQUIRED TEXTS and MATERIALS**

* ***Criminal Hearts* by Jane Martin**
* ***The Nether* by Jennifer Haley**
* ***10 Steps to Breaking into Acting* by Matt Newton**
* ***Self-Management for Actors*(Fourth Edition) by Bonnie Gilespie**
* ***Actions: The Actor’s Thesaurus* by Mariana Caldarone**

**C. SCENES *Communication, Inquiry***

* **You and a partner will choose a scene from each play. You will be expected to memorize, analyze, score, and perform this piece. You will have two opportunities to perform and will be graded each time.**
* **Please be aware that meeting with your scene partner will be part of your grade.**

**D. AUDITIONS SUBMISSIONS *Communication, Inquiry***

* **You will be given a commercial script. You will memorize, record, and submit this audition piece.**

**F. RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS *Knowledge, Communication, Inquiry***

**Details TBD**

**E-mailed papers will not be accepted.**

**G. FIELD TRIP!!! Tuesday April 2nd we will be going to The Peak Agency, Iowa’s premiere talent agency, in Des Moines, IA. We will depart at 7:30am and should be back on campus by 3pm.**

**GRADING**

**Grading will be out of a total of 1000 points:**

**Nether Scenes Round One 100**

**Criminal Heart Scenes Round One 100**

**Final Scenes 200**

**On-Camera Audition 100**

**Research Presentation 200**

**Attendance & Participation 300**

**Performance/Presentation grades will be determined by the following criteria:**

**Commitment to the text – Memorization & Exploration**

**Commitment to the partner(s) – Rehearsal and Connection**

**Commitment to the concepts discussed in class – Participation and being Present**

**Commitment to the process – Growth and Improvement**

**CLOTHING**

**Actors must wear comfortable, loose-fitting clothing that is durable and allows for the complete freedom of movement. Jeans, skirts, and belts are not appropriate as they are too restrictive. All classes will start with a physical and vocal warm-up. Hats, earrings, studs, watches, and other jewelry and accessories can be restrictive and dangerous and should be removed upon arrival. Shoes must be taken off before stepping on the theatre floor, and students should be aware that much of the class will be conducted barefoot. Phones must be turned off. Also, the classroom temperature is often a bit cool, so consider bringing an extra sweatshirt for warmth.**

**Any student arriving to class in clothing deemed inappropriate will be asked to leave and change before returning to class. You will be marked down as late or potentially absent.**

**CELL PHONE POLICY**

**Put them away.**

**POLICY ON ACADEMIC HONESTY** **Cornell College expects all members of the Cornell community to act with academic integrity. An important aspect of academic integrity is respecting the work of others. A student is expected to explicitly acknowledge ideas, claims, observations, or data of others, unless generally known. When a piece of work is submitted for credit, a student is asserting that the submission is her or his work unless there is a citation of a specific source. If there is no appropriate acknowledgment of sources, whether intended or not, this may constitute a violation of the College's requirement for honesty in academic work and may be treated as a case of academic dishonesty. The procedures regarding how the College deals with cases of academic dishonesty appear in** [**The Compass**](http://www.cornellcollege.edu/student-affairs/compass/index.shtml)**, our student handbook, under the heading "Academic Policies – Honesty in Academic Work."**

**POLICY ON HUMAN RIGHTS**

**This class looks to bring together, in common pursuit of its educational goals, persons of many nations, races, and creeds. In no aspect of this course shall there be differences in the treatment of persons because of race, creed, color, national origin, age, sex, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or any other classification that deprives the person of consideration as an individual, and that equal opportunity and access to facilities shall be available to all.**

**ACCOMODATIONS FOR DISABILITIES**

**Cornell College is committed to providing equal opportunities to all students. Students who need accommodations for learning disabilities must provide documentation from a professional qualified to diagnose learning disabilities. For more information see** [**cornellcollege.edu/disabilities/documentation/index.shtml**](http://www.cornellcollege.edu/disabilities/documentation/index.shtml) **. Students requesting services may schedule a meeting with the**[**disabilities services coordinator**](http://www.cornellcollege.edu/disabilities/contact/index.shtml)**as early as possible to discuss their needs and develop an individualized accommodation plan. Ideally, this meeting would take place well before the start of classes. At the beginning of each course, the student must notify the instructor within the first three days of the term of any accommodations needed for the duration of the course.**

**DROP POLICY**

**http://www.cornellcollege.edu/registrar/registration-information/adding-and-dropping-classes.shtml**

**THINGS TO BRING TO EVERY CLASS**

**All Assignments on the Date they are Due (this includes both paper and presentation assignments)**

**A readiness to participate, a willingness to share, and a support for the work of others**

**SOME IMPORTANT ASSIGNMENT DATES \*\*\*\***

**Friday March 22nd NETHER ROUND SCENES DUE**

**Friday April 5th CRIMINAL HEARTS SCENE DUE**

**Tuesday April 9th FINAL SCENES PRESENTATIONS AT 1PM**

**Wednesday April 10th RESEARCH PRESENTATINS & AUDITION SUBMISSIONS DUE**