

**FIYS 194 - Playwrights & Performers: Considering Voice**  
*Fall 2008*

Instructor: **D. Ohlandt**  
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**TR 2:30pm - 3:50pm**  
**Buchanan 200**

office hours: Tuesdays 1-2pm  
Wednesdays 10:30-11:30am  
*and by appointment*

**Schedule of Events & Assignments for UNIT #1**  
*this schedule is subject to change*

- 8/24 Sun @ 10am: your voices – examining the summer assignment  
– prepare for Tuesday's field trip  
– *hand out*: syllabus; schedule for unit #1
- 8/26 T FIELD TRIP to Chicago History Museum and Lincoln Park Zoo  
meet in Commons at 7:40am to pick up your lunch and walk to the train  
*get breakfast before we leave!*  
wear comfortable shoes and sunscreen; bring a notebook and a water bottle

**UNIT #1: Anton Chekov & Konstantin Stanislavsky**

- 8/28 Th SEMINAR: introduction to Chekov/Stanslavsky  
– *in-class writing* (on summer assignment)  
– *quiz*: syllabus  
– *reading*: The Seagull  
– *reading*: Ch. #1-#2 from An Actor Prepares (posted online in Moodle)  
– *hand out*: unit assignments; field trip schedule for semester
- 9/2 T STUDIO: A/B scenes, given circumstances practice  
– *reading*: Ch. #3 from An Actor Prepares (posted online in Moodle)

Tuesday 9/2 4-6pm @ Buchanan Hall open house  
Tuesday 9/2 6pm @ Hixon Theater dept pizza party

- 9/4 Th SEMINAR: thesis sentence practice, lead sentence practice  
– *reading*: Pocket Style Manual sections #9, #10, #11, #12, #13, and #28  
– *quiz*: appropriate voice, grammar, and thesis statements  
– *in-class writing* (on Chicago History Museum audio tours)  
– *prep assignment*: choose 3 examples of one character in one scene from *The Seagull*; for each of your examples, try to define that individual's circumstances in the scene in one sentence

Sun 9/7 7:30pm

ACE/Interact Series @ McCormick Auditorium  
"Valuable Study Tips / The Writing Center"

- 9/9 T DUE – PERFORMANCE: A/B scenes with given circumstances
- 9/11 Th DUE – WRITING: full-sentence outline (2-3 pages) with thesis statement  
SPECIAL EVENT: Moliere workshop / discussion in class with guest speaker  
– *prep assignment*: TBA (depending on what the guest speaker plans to do)  
– *hand out*: schedule for unit #2

Thursday 9/11 evening (time and location TBA)

SPECIAL PERFORMANCE by guest artist on life and work of the playwright  
Moliere

Sun 9/14 7:30pm

ACE/Interact Series @ McCormick Auditorium  
"Read Faster and Retain More / Non-Verbal Communication"

## **UNIT #2: Arthur Miller & Elia Kazan/Lee Strasberg**

- 9/16 T SEMINAR: introduction to Miller/Kazan/Strasberg  
– *reading*: All My Sons  
– *hand out*: unit assignments

**UNIT #2: Arthur Miller & Elia Kazan/Lee Strasberg**

9/16 T SEMINAR introduction to Miller/Kazan/Strasberg  
unit assignments  
*reading: All My Sons*

9/18 Th STUDIO animal physicalities  
*reading: excerpts from Strasberg, Strasberg lesson*

Sun 9/21 7:30pm

ACE/Interact Series @ McCormick Auditorium  
"Exam Preparation and Time Management"

9/23 T SEMINAR Miller and Kazan in HUAC  
library session #1: research

9/25 Th SEMINAR revisit All My Sons (knowing what we now know about HUAC)  
library session #2: academic honesty  
*prep assignment: full sentence outlines for both position papers*

FRI 9/26 *special office hours! Professor Ohlandt is available by appointment to work on papers or performances with you today*

Sun 9/28 7:30pm

ACE/Interact Series @ McCormick Auditorium  
"How to Be Successful at LFC: Academics &

More"

9/30 T DUE - both 3 page position papers with examples from play and from biographies of Miller and Kazan  
DUE - strongest point from paper (approx 1 paragraph), memorized and delivered with two contrasting animal physicalities

**UNIT #3: Bertolt Brecht AND Jean Giraudoux & Louis Jouvet**

10/2 Th SEMINAR introduction to Bertolt Brecht  
unit assignments  
*reading: Threepenny Opera*  
*field trip to Threepenny?*

10/7 T STUDIO soapbox acting

*reading:* "The Street Scene"

- 10/9 Th SEMINAR Threepenny Opera in performance  
*reading:* supplementary materials to Threepenny

Sun 10/12 7:30pm

ACE/Interact Series @ McCormick Auditorium  
Alumni Panel: "Things I Wish Someone Had  
Told Me in My First Year"

- 10/14 T SEMINAR introduction to Giraudoux/Jouvet  
*reading:* The Madwoman of Chaillot and excerpt from Jouvet?  
*prep assignment:* thesis statement comparing and contrasting Giraudoux's  
and Brecht's attitudes toward socioeconomic class
- 10/16 Th DUE - soapbox speech retelling something that actually happened to you, or  
something you actually saw happen  
*prep assignment:* list of evidence to support your thesis claim (may be in  
outline form, MUST include citations in proper format)
- 10/21 T **FALL BREAK - no class**
- 10/23 Th SEMINAR peer revision workshop  
*prep assignment:* complete draft of critical analysis comparing and  
contrasting the ways that Brecht and Giraudoux responded to  
socioeconomic class and gave voice to those responses through their  
characters (6-8 pp.)

field trip to *The Voysey Inheritance*?

#### UNIT #4: David Mamet & William H. Macy

- 10/28 T SEMINAR introduction to Mamet/Macy  
unit assignments  
*reading:* The Voysey Inheritance  
DUE - critical analysis comparing and contrasting the ways that Brecht and  
Giraudoux responded to socioeconomic class and gave voice to those  
responses through their characters (6-8 pp.), original first draft, and  
summary of your peers' recommendations for revision and how you  
addressed them

- 10/30 Th STUDIO playing an action / the number game  
*reading:* A Practical Handbook for the Actor ch. #???
- 11/4 T SEMINAR continue The Voysey Inheritance / Mamet's style  
*reading:* Glengarry Glen Ross  
*prep assignment:* choose 3-4 minute scene and scene groups from Glengarry Glen Ross (cross-gender casting is OK)
- 11/6 Th **no class**
- 11/11 T SEMINAR continue Glengarry Glen Ross  
*prep assignment:* full-sentence outline for research paper
- 11/13 Th STUDIO scene practice (try to be "off book")  
*prep assignment:* have written down an action for you to play as your character; make sure it meets requirements laid out in the Practical Handbook  
*reading:* A Practical Handbook for the Actor ch. #???
- 11/18 T STUDIO scene practice continued (must be "off book")  
*reading:* A Practical Handbook for the Actor ch. #???
- 11/20 Th DUE - 3-4 minute memorized scene from Glengarry Glen Ross with each actor playing a clear action  
DUE - research paper comparing and contrasting the life and careers of David Mamet and William H. Macy OR the life and careers of their wives (5 pp.)

**UNIT #5: Charles L. Mee & Anne Bogart**

- 11/25 T SEMINAR introduction to Mee/Bogart  
*reading:* bobrauschenbergamerica (available online)
- 11/27 Th **THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY - no class**
- 12/2 T STUDIO Viewpoints workshop  
*reading:* from The Viewpoints Book Ch. #???
- 12/4 Th SEMINAR open discussion of play, techniques, or assignment  
*reading:* from The Viewpoints Book Ch. #???  
*prep assignment:* thesis statement for final paper

12/9 T DUE - 15 minute Viewpoints lesson and presentation, in groups

final exam date:

DUE - analysis of Mee's choices in "giving voice" to Rauschenberg's work as an artists by dramatizing it, supported by research on both Mee's oeuvre and Rauschenberg's oeuvre (10-12 pp.)