FIYS 194 - Playwrights & Performers: Considering Voice
Fall 2008

Instructor: D. Ohlandt
Office: Buchanan 211
Phone: x6112
e-mail: <ohlandt@lakeforest.edu>

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/Stanislavsky
– 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

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.)