THTR 222: Comedy Techniques
Spring 2007-08

Instructor: D. Ohlandt
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Spring 2007 - 08

MWF 1 - 2:20pm
Buchanan 200

office hours: M 2:30-4
Th 11-12:30

Co-instructor: Jennifer Lowe
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Schedule of Readings & Assignments

W 1/16 overview
radio interview with the Trocks

Th 1/17 FIELD TRIP - Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo @ Harris Theater 7:30pm

F 1/18 discussion – Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo
reading:

Unit #1: Comedy of Manners

M 1/21 discussion
reading: The Importance of Being Earnest by Oscar Wilde

W 1/23 exercises

F 1/25 scene lab - in-class work on scene from Earnest

M 1/28 discussion – continue Wilde
reading: comedy of manners TBA

W 1/30 exercises

F 2/1 scene work - second run and feedback on scene from Earnest
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M 2/4 discussion
reading: comedy of manners TBA

W 2/6 exercises

F 2/8 FINAL scene presentation from The Importance of Being Earnest

F 2/8 FIELD TRIP - The Little Dog Laughed @ About Face (Center on Halsted) - 7:30pm
M 2/11 discussion – *The Little Dog Laughed*

**Unit #2: Shakespearean Comedy**

W 2/13 exercises – master class in Shakespearean comedy with Richard Digby Day

F 2/15 NO CLASS

M 2/18 discussion
reading: *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* by William Shakespeare

W 2/20 exercises

F 2/22 scene lab - in-class work on scene from *Midsummer*

F 2/22 FIELD TRIP - *Twelfth Night* @ City Lit Theater - 8:00pm

Sun 2/24 optional FIELD TRIP - *Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind* @ Neofuturists

M 2/25 discussion of *Twelfth Night*
continue discussion of *Midsummer*

W 2/27 exercises

F 2/29 scene work - second run and feedback on scene from *Midsummer*

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M 3/3 discussion - finish *Midsummer*
reading: Shakespearean comedy TBA

W 3/5 exercises

F 3/7 FINAL scene presentation from *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*

M 3/10 - F 3/14 NO CLASS - SPRING BREAK!

**Unit #3: Improvisational Comedy**

*field trip to Second City TBA*

M 3/17 discussion

W 3/19 exercises

F 3/21 NO CLASS
M 3/24 discussion
W 3/26 exercises
F 3/28 practice improvisation for feedback
M 3/31 discussion
W 4/2 exercises
F 4/4 Improv Olympics for FINAL GRADE

**Unit #4: Contemporary Comedy**

M 4/7 discussion
reading: ‘identity Crisis by Christopher Durang
reading: The Real Inspector Hound by Tom Stoppard

W 4/9 exercises

F 4/11 scene lab - in-class work on scene

F 4/11 FIELD TRIP - Better Late @ Northlight 8:00pm

M 4/14 discussion of Better Late – and continue with Durang and Stoppard

W 4/16 exercises

F 4/18 scene work - second run and feedback on scene
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M 4/21 discussion - continue with plays
reading: Durang TBA
reading: Stoppard TBA

W 4/23 exercises

F 4/25 FINAL scene presentation from either play

M 4/28 final exam review