

THTR 222: Comedy Techniques

Spring 2007-08

Instructor: **D. Ohlandt**

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office hours: M 2:30-4

Th 11-12:30

MWF 1 - 2:20pm

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Co-instructor: **Jennifer Lowe**

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office hours: MWF 12noon - 1pm

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*
DRAMATURGY PACKETS DUE
- 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*
DRAMATURGY PACKETS DUE

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: *'dentity 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
DRAMATURGY PACKETS DUE
- 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