



Audition Techniques THEA 3316

*Who you Bring in the Room
Is More Important Than
What You Bring into the Room*

Instructor: Jay Stratton (He, Him)
Class: T, TR 12:00-1:20
Fox M404 (Music Side)

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Office Hours: Thursday 11:00am to Noon, or anytime by appointment

Course Objectives

By the end of this course, you should:

1. Feel more comfortable and work more effectively in an audition environment.
2. Have a ready-to-use Resume (and Headshot if possible).
3. Have an understanding of Actors Access and/or Backstage.
4. Have a broader understanding of the acting profession.
5. Be ready to audition with sides at various levels of preparation.
6. Be able to create and submit an effective 'video' audition via youtube.
7. Have a full package of audition materials appropriate to audition for internships, apprenticeships, and conservatory training programs.

Grading

Audition Responses (18%, 3 responses at 6% each)

You are required to track down at least three auditions over the course of the semester. Auditions for UTEP productions or the UTEP Dinner Theatre are absolutely acceptable, but you will also need to look beyond the school. You will then fill out a brief response questionnaire about this audition. You should write your response within one week of the audition.

Resume (5% of grade)

You will hand in a finalized hard copy version of your actor's resume (and headshot if available).

Actors Access Profile (5% of grade)

You will create a free profile on Actors Access if you do not already have one and submit yourself for at least one project.

Live Contemporary Monologue (10%)

You will prepare a new contemporary monologue and perform it to try as an audition piece in front of the class.

Syllabus may change with reasonable notice

Contemporary Monologue Analysis (5%)

You will write and turn in an analysis of your new contemporary monologue. Guidelines will be posted to blackboard. This analysis should be sent to me as a word doc attached to an email. Please let me know if you are unable to submit this way.

Contemporary Monologue Online Submission (5%)

You will record and submit a contemporary monologue (either your new one or another) via an online link.

Sides Audition Video Submission (10% of grade)

You will self-tape a sides audition for a play with a reader and submit as an online link.

Sides Audition Live Callback (10% of grade)

You will perform prepared sides callback live in a simulated audition environment.

Final Conservatory Style Audition (20% of grade)

You will prepare and deliver a 'conservatory style' audition as your final exam. This will either include two contrasting monologues or a monologue and a song with accompaniment.

Please note, I will invite local industry professionals to attend these auditions!

Participation and attendance (12% of grade)

You will be graded on your focus, willing participation, supportive attitude, and individual progress in daily class work. Respect and enthusiasm for the lessons and the work of your fellow actors is a crucial part of this class work.

Grading Scale

You will be assigned a letter grade on each of the above assignments. Your final class grade is based on a weighted average of these grades (before any modification for attendance) according to the following scale.

A	=	3.50+
B	=	2.51 - 3.49
C	=	1.51 - 2.5
D	=	0.51 - 1.50
F	=	Less than .51

Extra Credit: There are four ways to earn extra credit in this class:

1. Have perfect attendance.
2. Audition responses beyond the required three are worth extra credit.
3. If you attend El Paso Media Fest and go to both a showing and a symposium and write a response paper on the experience, this will replace one of your mandatory audition responses.
4. Finally, you will be awarded extra credit if you either attend or participate in live performances and write a response paper. Department and UDT shows are your best options, but other live productions above the high school level also qualify. Examples include Heroes and Saints (department), The Prom (UDT), The Motherfucker with the Hat (Teatro Neplanta), but there are plenty more!

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