

## THEA 231 INTERMEDIATE UNARMED STAGE COMBAT

(3 CREDITS | M/W 2:30pm – 5:00pm)

INSTRUCTOR: Kathryn “Kat” Lee

OFFICE: Manaleo 104

OFFICE HOURS: You can contact me via email or phone if I can be of service

TELEPHONE: 808-294-1323

EMAIL: [leekm@hawaii.edu](mailto:leekm@hawaii.edu)

EFFECTIVE DATE: Spring 2023

### WINDWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE MISSION STATEMENT

Windward Community College offers innovative programs in the arts and sciences and opportunities to gain knowledge and understanding of Hawai‘i and its unique heritage. With a special commitment to support the access and educational needs of Native Hawaiians, we provide O‘ahu’s Ko‘olau region and beyond with liberal arts, career and lifelong learning in a supportive and challenging environment — inspiring students to excellence.

### CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Intermediate theatrical unarmed stage combat. May be repeated up to 9 credits.

*Required Activities:* Students must see two plays.

### STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

*Students will:*

- Correctly define stage combat specialized terminology and concepts.
- Execute theatrical fight techniques
- Choreograph and perform staged fights

### COURSE CONTENT

*Concepts or Topics*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Safety Precautions in Staged Combat  | 6. Contact Techniques                  |
| 2. Verisimilitude vs. Realism in Combat | 7. Non-Contact Techniques              |
| 3. Partnering Skills                    | 8. Choreographic Principles            |
| 4. Kinesthetic Control of Body          | 9. Dramatic Playing of Combat/Conflict |
| 5. Falls on Stage                       | 10. Selling The Fight                  |

*Skills or Competencies—Students will:*

1. Apply Out of Distance Safety Measures.
2. Apply Off-Line Safety Measures.
3. Skillfully Employ Eye Contact in Fights.
4. Execute Falls Safely on Stage.
5. Execute Pushes Safely on Stage.
6. Execute Slaps, Punches, Grapples and Kicks Safely on Stage.
7. Compare Verisimilitudinous Choreography with “Realistic” Dangerous Techniques.
8. Sell Pain and Body Disintegration Throughout a Fight.
9. Understand Principles of Effective Choreography.
10. Perform Phrases of Fight Choreography Smoothly and Effectively.
11. Imbue Audience with Sense of Drama During Fight Choreography

## COURSE TASKS

1. PARTICIPATE actively and positively in exercises and training in class.
2. ATTEND/VIEW 2 theatrical performances as a concentrated audience member.
3. PERFORM 1 or more Instructor-choreographed fight(s) with a partner.
4. CHOREOGRAPH 1 or more fight(s) with a partner.
5. PERFORM choreographed fight(s) with partner.

### *Points Available*

• Participation	30
• Attend/View 2 Productions (Instructor assigns)	20
• Perform Instructor-Choreographed Fights	30
• Devised Choreography	10
• <u>Perform Self-Choreographed Fights</u>	<u>10</u>
TOTAL POINTS	100

### *Grades Available*

A = 90 or above | B = 80-89 | C = 70-79 | D = 60-69 | F = 59 or below

*CR/NC Option:* You must have the official CR/NC form signed by the instructor. You must receive a C or higher to receive credit for the course.

## LEARNING RESOURCES

*No Required Text:* Handouts made available by Instructor

*Course Web:* laulima.hawaii.edu (log in using your UH username and password)

## COURSE POLICIES

### *In General:*

This class is an introduction to stage combat technique as it applies to the stage, according to the principles of Dueling Arts International’s industry-esteemed guidelines. Your work will be very “hands on,” with few take home assignments. The focus of this class is on work in the classroom, and active participation in exercises and performances will be the largest basis of evaluation of each student’s grade.

*Nick’s Incredibly Draconian and Downright Cruel Attendance/Punctuality Policy:*

As my mentor, Nick, has often said: there is only one way you can do badly in this class – fail to show up. If you don't come to class, you aren't just letting yourself down; you are letting your classmates down too. If you miss even one class session, you may be excluded from further training as you are now a safety liability.

You will be allowed THREE “free” absences if you are sick or overwhelmed by the tide of life. **No additional absences will be excused for ANY REASON (except COVID-related ones, but I will require some sort of evidence of exposure/positive-testing).** Every further absence after your THREE “free” absences will deduct 10 points from your final grade (effectively dropping you an entire letter grade from A to B, or B to C).

You get one free tardy as long as you arrive in the first ten minutes of class – if you are later than 10 minutes you are officially absent. **The next time you are late (even if it is just 1 minute late) you will be marked absent.** Plan to be at class a few minutes early so you can warm up and get your mind ready to think and create.

#### The Show Must Go On – PERFORMANCE DISCIPLINE:

In the professional theatre world, there is only one excuse for missing a performance – death, and even then you must give two weeks notice. **IF YOU MISS A PERFORMANCE/TEST DAY YOU WILL NOT BE GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE IT UP.** Learning to show up for things in life is one of the most important life skills you shall acquire at college.

#### Helpful Resources:

I encourage you to ask me questions about the class and to ask for clarification at any time. Please ask for help even though you are not sure you need it.

One of the best resources on campus is the **TRiO Student Support Services (SSS)** office, which provides tutoring and a range of other opportunities to eligible students. The contact number for TRiO SSS is 235-7487.

#### Studio Etiquette:

Our studio space is sacred. To that end, you must leave your other worries and life preoccupations at the door. Do not bring them in this place where we will work carefully to create fights for the stage.

- Smartphones and the constant invasion of the virtual world upon all aspects of our life are my nemesis and most hated foe. Our class will be a cellphone-free zone – **you will turn off your phones and put them with your belongings in a cubby hole as you arrive and touch them again only when class is concluded.** Fear not. I promise your texts and Facebook notifications will be waiting for you one hour and fifteen minutes later.
- Respect one another at all times. Any disrespect of your classmates will not be tolerated and result in your ejection from class for the day (which will then count as an absence, effecting your grade). The work we do is collaborative; if any of us feel uncomfortable, none of us can achieve excellence.
- Wear comfortable clothing allowing you to run, jump and lie down without restricting or embarrassing yourself. Failure to wear appropriate clothing results in an absence.
- If you'll want to wear a mask in class, please bring extras – your masks may get sweaty and you'll want to swap them at breaks for comfort and for better protection.
- Be aware of your body's limitations. Sometimes I will ask you to do strenuous physical

activity. If you suffer from palpitations, consumption, or tennis elbow, I need to know.

### *Emails:*

Communicating with students is my top priority. If I have not responded to your message in twenty-four hours, please email me again.

Please email me from one address only. This will help me to sort and manage my emails effectively.

Please check your hawaii.edu account on a regular basis. I will send email announcements to that account only. Instructions on forwarding your hawaii.edu account are here:  
[http://windward.hawaii.edu/technology/Forwarding\\_UH\\_GMail.pdf](http://windward.hawaii.edu/technology/Forwarding_UH_GMail.pdf).

Please write grammatically correct emails, using complete words and full sentences (no shorthand, such as “where r u now”). Start with a greeting (Aloha Bob, Dear Mr. Smith, or Hi Lance), and end with a signature (Thank you, Sincerely, or just your name). Get in the habit of writing professionally. This will benefit you greatly in life.

If you have any problems or last minute emergencies, email me or leave a voicemail on my phone.

### **DISABILITIES ACCOMMODATIONS**

If you have a physical, sensory, health, cognitive, or mental health disability that could limit your ability to fully participate in this class, you are encouraged to contact the Disability Specialist Counselor to discuss reasonable accommodations that will help you succeed in this class. Roy Inouye can be reached at 235-7480 [royinouy@hawaii.edu](mailto:royinouy@hawaii.edu), or you may stop by TRIO for more information.

### **TITLE IX**

Title IX prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities that receive federal financial assistance. Specifically, Title IX prohibits sex discrimination; sexual harassment and gender-based harassment, including harassment based on actual or perceived sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression; sexual assault; sexual exploitation; domestic violence; dating violence; and stalking. For more information regarding your rights under Title IX, please visit: [https://windward.hawaii.edu/Title\\_IX/](https://windward.hawaii.edu/Title_IX/).

Windward Community College is committed to the pursuit of equal education. If you or someone you know has experienced sex discrimination or gender-based violence, Windward CC has resources to support you. To speak with someone confidentially, contact Karla Silva-Park, Mental Health Counselor, at 808-235- 7468 or [karlas@hawaii.edu](mailto:karlas@hawaii.edu) or Kaahu Alo, Designated Confidential Advocate for Students, at 808-235- 7354 or [kaahualo@hawaii.edu](mailto:kaahualo@hawaii.edu). To make a formal report, contact the Title IX Coordinator at 808-235-7393 or [wcctix@hawaii.edu](mailto:wcctix@hawaii.edu).

### **ALTERNATE CONTACT INFORMATION**

If you are unable to contact the instructor, have questions that your instructor cannot answer, or for any other issues, please contact the Academic Affairs Office:

Location: Alakai 121  
Phone: 808-235-7422  
Email: [wccaa@hawaii.edu](mailto:wccaa@hawaii.edu)

## COURSE POLICIES CONTRACT

I have read through and reviewed the above Course Policies and the entire THEA 131 syllabus. By signing this document, I acknowledge not only that I understand the policies and requirements of this course, but also that I understand the consequences of not following these policies.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (date)

## QUESTIONNAIRE

Preferred Name \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Phone \_\_\_\_\_

1. What do you hope this course will teach you? What are your goals in this class?

2. How can I help you meet these goals?

3. What do you intend to do to meet them?

4. What grade would you be satisfied with in this course? Why?

5. What else would you like me to know about you?

PLEASE WRITE SOMETHING YOU LEARNED TODAY BELOW.