



UNIVERSITY of HAWAII®
WINDWARD
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

THEA 222, ACTING II
3 credits (CRN 64237)

INSTRUCTOR: Taurie Kinoshita

OFFICE: Palanakila 224 or 225 (I'm always in 225 or 224, just knock!)

(Do not go to Palanakila 138, its too small to rehearse in!)

OFFICE HOURS (times students may drop in for help):

Mondays and Wednesdays 5:00pm – 7:00pm or by appointment

TELEPHONE: (808) 779 – 3456

Please text ANYtime! Don't be shy, I'm here to help!

Texts receive the fastest response! Emails and phone calls are ok too, but may take up to 48 hours for a response.

EMAIL: taurie@hawaii.edu

EFFECTIVE DATE: Fall 2024

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 the Ko'olau region of O'ahu and beyond with liberal arts, career and lifelong learning in a supportive and challenging environment — inspiring students to excellence.

CATALOG DESCRIPTION

Acting II: Performance course concentrating on exploration of character creation; continued work on voice, relaxation, and self-realization. May be repeated up to 6 credits.

Pre-Requisite(s): Grade of "C" or better in THEA 221. WCC: DA, OC

Activities Required at Scheduled Times Other Than Class Times:

Students must see two plays, analyze the acting. *You cannot miss the assigned school plays for any reason—there is no making it up. Missing even one will result in a complete 20-point loss.

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

As a result of taking this course, students can expect to attain the following outcomes:

1. Devise and execute character-driven improvisations with the goal of understanding dramatic structure.

2. Learn to understand dramatic choices and techniques which will aid in oral communication and performance.
3. Explore dramatic scenes and performance methodologies (specifically MPA).
4. Identify, analyze and objectively evaluate the technique and believability of dramatic performances.

COURSE CONTENT

Skills or Competencies—Students will:

1. Increase understanding of human interaction and learn important ensemble discipline.
2. Develop prodigious powers of concentration.
3. Develop skills in storytelling and performance.
4. Unshackle and free imagination.
5. Utilize body language and actions to affect an audience.
6. Harness the power of voice to convey emotional content and ideas.
7. Learn to adapt with confidence to changing circumstances.
8. Step into the skin of other characters to gain empathic understanding.
9. Apply in-class exercises to conflict resolution in real life as well as dramatic situations on stage.
10. Integrate harmoniously and work effectively with others through exercises, improvisations and dialogue scenes.
11. Learn to think about art objectively and critically.

COURSE TASKS

1. PARTICIPATE actively and positively in games, exercises and explorations daily in class.
2. ATTEND 2 theatrical performances as a concentrated audience member.
3. ANALYZE the theatrical performances you attended.
4. PERFORM 1 monologue for you classmates after analyzing the character and text.
5. PERFORM 1 scene for your classmates after analyzing the character and text.

ASSESSMENT TASKS AND GRADING

Points Available

- | | |
|--------------------------|----|
| • Daily Participation | 40 |
| • Monologue and analysis | 15 |
| • Scene and analysis | 25 |
| • Performance Analyses | 20 |

TOTAL POINTS	100
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Grades Available

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

Windward Community College is an equal opportunity, affirmative action institution.

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
A simple, small notebook and pen or pencil will be occasionally required.
Possible course costs: up to \$15 for tickets for assigned performances

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

In General:

This class is an introduction to acting technique as it applies to the stage. 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 games, exercises, and performances will be the largest basis of evaluation of each student’s grade.

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

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.

You will be allowed ONE “free” absence if you are sick or overwhelmed by the tide of life. **No additional absences will be excused for ANY REASON.** Every further absence after your ONE “free” absence will deduct 10 points from your final grade (effectively dropping you an entire letter grade from A to B, or B to C). **SO DON’T WASTE YOUR ONE FREE ABSENCE – YOU MIGHT NEED IT.** If you do miss a class it is your responsibility to find out what was covered on the day you missed.

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, though the instructor may allow you to take part in class if they life (up to the instructor – they may ask you to leave). **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 YOU WILL NOT BE GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE IT UP.** Showing up for things is one of the most important life skills we practice!

Participation is crucial:

If you miss a class, there is no textbook to make up the information. This is why attendance is so important. (A grade basically says, “you’ve learned this much___.” If you are not here to do the learning, the grade needs to reflect this.)

Since almost half of your grade is based on “participation”, being physically present in class is not enough. You need to participate!

Participation means following the instructions, working on the exercise or activity, being courteous of other classmates.

Of course, everyone has “off” days. If you need a couple passes (because you feel ill, or for whatever reason), quietly and politely let me know, and you can sit in the back and watch (about two classes at the most.)

Allowing a pass is completely up to me. (Obviously, if someone is rude, or just stops participating without politely explaining why, or demands a pass, I will ask you to leave the classroom and you will be marked absent. Remember 1 absence = B, 2 absences = C and so forth.) Please consider texting me—otherwise, you may lose participation points. (I cannot help if I do not know what’s happening!)

Finally, remember, since this is an acting class, you will need to memorize pages of text word for word.

Non-Censorship warning

Life is not all happiness, sunshine and rainbows. Theatre reflects life. Therefore, sometimes in this class, we will discuss or explore R-rated topics. Since this is college, and not high school, this is normal: education often involves learning about unfamiliar concepts or ideas you are personally opposed to. If anything comes up that you personally dislike, look at it as an opportunity to practice putting aside your own emotions and work on objective critical thinking—another crucial life skill = theatre skill! Actors must seek to understand the character they are playing without judging the character. Historically, censorship is fundamental to oppression. Censorship inhibits education, and destroys tolerance and democracy because it stops people from speaking freely. Our country protects freedom of speech and artists for very good reasons. **If you cannot handle R-rated subjects (war, crime, adult language and situations), then this is not the class for you.** (These subjects are typical for college!)

HOWEVER, if there is something that will cause a PTSD effect in you, please let me know ASAP. < I need to know so we can avoid whatever it is! < This is a class and not something you auditioned for and knew the script and situations ahead of time...

****NO LGBTQ+ impersonations or characterizations are allowed (unless you identify as LGBTQ+.) We must be free to explore; however, since this is, ultimately, a class, we must ensure that everyone feels safe! We are free with all other topics, but this one is off limits for people outside of the group.

Studio Etiquette:

Our studio space is sacred. We will create and bring about wonders here. To that end, you must leave your other worries and life preoccupations at the door. Do not bring them in this place of play, freedom and creation. 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 cellphones and put them with your belongings in a cubby hole as you arrive and take them only when class is concluded.** Fear not. I promise your texts and social media notifications will be waiting for you one hour and fifteen minutes later.
- No food can be consumed in the studio (without prior consent.)
- Respect one another at all times. Any disrespect of your classmates will *not* be tolerated and will 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 whatever is comfortable clothing for you (allowing you to run, jump and lie down without restricting or embarrassing yourself.)
- Please use the restroom before or after class starts! (Taking a bathroom break every single class adds up to a lot of missed class time. If you need to occasionally, it's no problem—just ask first and keep it to a minimum! Your class partners will appreciate it!)
- 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.
- Great Actors are always, 100% of the time, Great Audience members. This is because great actors must focus and concentrate entirely on what they are doing, listen to the people onstage with them in scenes and react, and be emotionally available. Great audience members also listen and concentrate, and react freely and emotionally to what they are experiencing. When any of your classmates are performing, show them respect and give them your full attention. This will help with your acting skills and is good for the class as a whole.

The Superhuman Powers of Theatre (Theatre Skills = Life Skills)

Theatre is a paradox. Actors rehearse, but they need to act as if they are experiencing something for the first time. Actors care about the audience liking the show—but when they are onstage, they have to not care and just go for it.

In Theatre and life and this class:

- Be honest, yet be civilized and polite. (Theatre is a Social Art Form, communication is crucial—but communicating with respect and professionalism is equally crucial.)
- Play creatively and have fun with the exercises, yet follow instructions precisely.
- Be proactive and try and solve problems imaginatively, but please ask questions!
- If you don't understand a different viewpoint or idea, try and find a similarity in your own life. (Understanding other perspectives is vital for theatre—and life.)
- Always adapt! Adapt to each new circumstance, exercise, goal, requirement or group of people, and you will become flexible and invincible!
- Cover! In theatre, “covering” means “covering up a mistake.” The audience won't know you made a mistake, unless you let them know you did. Pretend to be confident—no matter what we're doing, and you eventually *will* feel confident for *real*!

- Since most great acting involves performing with confident commitment, part of the practice and skill building for acting involves performing each exercise—no matter how silly—with confident commitment. Even if you do not completely understand the exercise, part of the practice for acting is trying the exercise anyway!
- If you play sports, you focus on the ball. The exact same thing is true of acting: acting is ‘doing’: taking action. So, if you focus on what you’re doing and the game we’re playing, then this will help you achieve concentration and commitment onstage (possibly the most crucial aspect of acting!)
- Performance is biological, physical. Like a marathon runner who runs every day, actors are athletes of the heart. If you practice your hardest every class, you will get better. (Just like the marathon runner who practices: even if she doesn’t finish the race with her best time, because she has worked so hard, she cannot run badly—she will run a good time. If you practice, your body will not let you perform badly—it becomes ingrained. “As ye rehearse, so shall ye perform.”)
- The only difference between people who are good at what they do, and people who aren’t, is *the people who are good at what they do keep getting better and keep improving*. There’s always more to learn—keep learning and never feel bad about not knowing something. *A mistake is an opportunity to learn!* You’re here in college to make wonderful mistakes and learn from them and improve continuously. (The philosopher Socrates was considered the wisest man in Athens because he was the only man who admitted he knew nothing!)

FINAL CAVEAT EMPTOR:

If at any time during the semester you have any questions, criticisms or suggestions, it is your responsibility to inform the instructor so that your suggestion can be evaluated and acted upon. I am here to help, so let me know if there is a problem in-class that is affecting your ability to work. Also, in life, those of us who show up and express ourselves often find the world is fairly easy to shape to our will, and our destinies are ours to command.

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.

KA PIKO

[Ka Piko Services](#) provides FREE academic and technical support to all WCC students. Our services are available both in-person and virtually (via Zoom). Our goals are to help students succeed academically and to become independent lifelong learners. We are staffed by friendly and knowledgeable peers who are ready to assist you!

- **Ka Piko Math Lab** provides assistance for all math courses offered at WCC, helping to improve students’ understanding of important concepts and problem solving processes.
- **Ka Piko Writing Lab** provides assistance with any and all aspects of the writing process, including: brainstorming, research, MLA formatting and citations, drafting, and revising.

- **Ka Piko Student Tech. Support** can assist students with Google@UH, Laulima, MyUH, UH accounts, and can provide best-effort support for problems or questions with personal computers and other smart devices.
- **Success Connection Workshops**, weekly student success workshops, are also available.

Visit the Ka Piko webpage at go.hawaii.edu/A42 for more information about our services, to learn how to connect with our tutors and tech assistants, or to RSVP for a Success Connection Workshop. Contact the Ka Piko Coordinator, Scott Sutherland, at scottjks@hawaii.edu if you have any questions.

Texting and communication:

Communicating with students is my top priority. To that end, please text if you need to reach me urgently. Texting is the best way to reach me and my preferred method of communication. If you text me, it will take me up to two hours to respond—usually, though, I can respond instantly. Emails and calls are great too! However, due to working non-stop on theatre 7 days a week, emails and calls can take up to 36 hours for a response. If you do email, please try and use your school account!

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.

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.

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. Contact Jodi A.-K. Asato, Counselor, Disability Student Services Office at (808) 235-7472 or wccdsso@hawaii.edu for more information.

TITLE IX

Windward Community College is committed to providing a learning, working, and living environment that promotes personal integrity, civility, and mutual respect and is free of all forms of sex discrimination and gender-based violence, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, gender-based harassment, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. If you or someone you know is experiencing any of these, WCC has staff and resources to support and assist you. To report an incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence, as well as receive information and support, please contact one of the following:

Jojo Miller, Confidential Advocate

Phone: (808) 348-0663
 Email: advocate@hawaii.edu
 Office: Hale Kāko‘o 110

Desrae Kahale, Mental Health Counselor & Confidential Resource
 Phone: (808) 235-7393
 Email: dkahale3@hawaii.edu
 Office: Hale Kāko‘o 101

As a member of the University faculty, I am required to immediately report any incident of sex discrimination or gender-based violence to the campus Title IX Coordinator. Although the Title IX Coordinator and I cannot guarantee confidentiality, you will still have options about how your case will be handled. My goal is to make sure you are aware of the range of options available to you and have access to the resources and support you need.

For more information regarding sex discrimination and gender-based violence, the University’s Title IX resources and the University’s Policy, Interim EP 1.204, go to manoa.hawaii.edu/titleix/

“Movies will make you famous; Television will make you rich; But theatre will make you good.”
 -- Terrence Mann

“It is how we face all of the things that seem to be negative in our lives that determines the kind of person we become.” --Archbishop Desmond Tutu

“Hard work beats talent when talent doesn't work hard.”
 – Tim Notke (and Sydney Ishikawa)

(Art must) “Axe the frozen sea within us” -Kafka

“If you are not going forwards, you are going backwards”
 -Stanislavsky

“There is no maxim, wisdom, joy, tragedy not found in theatre” “Theatre should instruct, inspire, entertain” “Abbinya – ‘to carry/performance’- performance is carrying meaning to the audience” –Natyasastra 11:16 and 30:31

“Evil is done without effort, naturally; good is always the product of an art”
 -Charles Baudelaire

“Theatre is a form of knowledge; it should and can also be a means of transforming society. Theatre can help us build our future, rather than just waiting for it.”
 - Augusto Boal

Instructor Bio

Taurie Kinoshita (director, writer, drag queen wannabe) was raised in Honolulu, but spent four years in England, teaching at E 15 Acting School, University of Essex, considered one of the top three acting conservatories in the UK. Taurie has directed over 120 critically acclaimed productions in NYC, London and Honolulu. She holds a BA in Theatre and a Master of Fine Arts in directing Western Theatre. Taurie was awarded the Lucie Bentley Award for Excellence in Acting, the Inouye Award for Excellence in Playwriting, honored with five Po'okelas for directing by the Hawaii State Theatre Council and Best New London, Camden Company in 2010. Taurie is chair of the Play Development Committee at Kumu Kahua Theatre, Education Director for Hawaii Shakespeare Festival and received the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival Award for Excellence in Theatre Education, the Francis Davis Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, the Meritorious Lecturer Award, and the Kennedy Center Gold Medallion (perhaps the highest educational theatre award in the nation.). She is most proud of the fact that many of her students are now wildly successful.

Summary:

Since this is a lot of information, here are the most important basics:

- 1.) Don't miss class and participate with a professional attitude!
- 2.) Be courteous, stay focused on the activity, adapt, and when you feel uncertain act confident!
- 3.) Do not miss the assigned performances (the dates will be announced soon!)
- 4.) Always ask questions and communicate with me, contact me anytime—I am here to help! (Texting is best and fastest!)
- 5.) You will need to memorize pages of text word for word in a limited amount of time (this is one of the universal requirements of a performer!)

If you do these things, you will have fun, enjoy great success and learn a ton!

1. COURSE POLICIES CONTRACT

I have read through and reviewed the above Course Policies and the entire THEA 222 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.

I will behave professionally and regularly attend class.
I will see the two assigned plays.

Signed: _____ (date)

2. QUESTIONNAIRE

Preferred Name _____

Preferred Phone _____