Theatre 425-fall 2013
The Actor’s Process II

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Goals
This course is designed to build upon the foundation of your previous performance courses and seeks to help you develop your own process. It is the goal of this course for you to understand that every form of drama has its own “truth”. It is also the goal that you, the actor, will learn to realize and trust your own unique gifts and insights in the creation of the characters in these plays. We will spend considerable time on “the inner game of acting”.

Grades
Points: THET 425 is an upper level class and will be graded accordingly. It is also an ensemble class and participation and attendance is essential to the success of the ensemble. You have the potential to earn 300 points for this class. The class is divided into three five-week sections, each worth 100 points. 50 of those five-week points will be allocated towards your actual performance work, the other 50 points will go towards participation. You are allowed ONE unexcused absence. ANY beyond that will result in your participation grade being lowered by five points. You must be on time. Every late arrival will lower participation your grade by five points. Arrivals to class ten minutes after its start will be counted as an absence. No performance will be excused due to lack of preparation.

UMD Grading System (from the UMD web sight)
The university uses the following grading system: A, B, C, D, F, XF, I, P, S, and W. These marks remain as part of the student’s permanent record and may be changed only by the original instructor on certification, approved by the department chair and the dean, that an actual mistake was made in determining or recording the grade.

• **A+, A, A-** denotes excellent mastery of the subject and outstanding scholarship. In computations of grade point averages, these grades are assigned 4 quality points per credit hour.
• **B+, B, B-** denotes good mastery of the subject and good scholarship. Marks of B+, B, B- are assigned 3 quality points per credit hour.
• **C+, C, C-** denotes acceptable mastery of the subject and the usual achievement expected. These grades are assigned 2 quality points per credit hour.
• **D+, D, D-** denotes borderline understanding of the subject. These grades denote marginal performance, and they do not represent satisfactory progress toward a degree. These grades are assigned a value of 1 quality point per credit hour.
• F denotes failure to understand the subject and unsatisfactory performance. F grades are assigned 0 quality points per credit hour.

425 Grading System
100-93/excellent, 92-85/good, 84-77/acceptable, 76-69/borderline understanding, 68 and below/failure to understand.

Your final grade is broken down as follows:
300-297: A+
296-293: A
292-289: A-
288-285: B+
284-281: B
280-277: B-
276-273: C+
272-269: C
268-265: C-
264-261: D
260 and below: F.

CALENDAR
Week 1 introduction/scene 2 assignments
Week 2 review/status
Week 3 masks/open scene
Week 4 Walker scenes
Week 5 Walker scenes /grade
Week 6 Walker scenes/Conferences
Week 7 China
Week 8 China
Week 9 Walker Scenes
Week 10 Walker Scenes/Conference/ grade
Week 11 scene 2
Week 12  scene 2
Week 13  scene 2
Week 14  scene 2
Week 15  scene 2
Week 16  grade/conferences

The contents of this syllabus are subject to change depending on the progress of the class. It is your responsibility to keep up with changes in the class. If you miss a class, it is also your responsibility to get the information that you missed that day.

Class text: George Walker’s *Suburban Motel*

*Attendance Policy of the Department of Theatre.*

Regular attendance and in-class participation are integral components of all theatre classes and seminars. Although instructors are responsible for informing each class of the nature of in-class participation and the effect of absences on the evaluation of a student’s work, the Department’s general attendance policy on excused absences is consistent with the University’s policy, which allows students to be excused for the following causes:

1. Illness of the student or illness of a dependent as defined by the Board of Regents policy on family medical leave
2. Religious observance (where the nature of the observance prevents the student from being present during the class period)
3. Participation in University activities at the request of University authorities
4. Compelling circumstances beyond the student’s control

Students claiming an excused absence must apply in writing and furnish documentary evidence for their assertion that the absence resulted from one of these causes.
(Undergraduate Catalog, pages 36 & 37)

Whenever possible, instructors will make a reasonable effort to re-schedule in-class presentations for students with an authorized excused absence. Students should check the specific requirements of their courses carefully, however, as such re-scheduling is not always possible.

**RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE POLICY**

The University’s policy "Assignments and Attendance on Dates of Religious Observance" provides that students should not be penalized because of observances of their religious beliefs; students shall be given an opportunity, whenever feasible, to make up within a reasonable time any academic assignment that is missed because of individual
participation in religious observances. Students are responsible for obtaining material missed during their absences. Furthermore, students have the responsibility to inform the instructor of any intended absences for religious observances in advance. The student should provide written notification to the professor within the first two weeks of the semester. The notification must identify the religious holiday(s) and the date(s). The student should avoid the use of email or mailbox delivery of the notification to avoid problems.

For more information: [http://www.president.umd.edu/policies/iii510a.html](http://www.president.umd.edu/policies/iii510a.html)

**ACCOMMODATING INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE DISABILITIES**

The University is committed to making reasonable accommodations for individuals with disabilities that have been documented by Disability Support Services (4th Floor Susquehanna Hall, 301-314-7682). A disability should be verified and discussed with Disability Support Services before the student contacts the professor or TA. If you wish to discuss academic accommodations for this class, please contact the professor or TA no later than the end of the schedule adjustment period.

For more information: [http://www.counseling.umd.edu/DSS/](http://www.counseling.umd.edu/DSS/)

**HONOR CODE**

The University has a nationally recognized Honor Code, administered by the Student Honor Council. The Student Honor Council proposed and the University Senate approved an Honor Pledge. The University of Maryland Honor Pledge reads:

"I pledge on my honor that I have not given or received any unauthorized assistance on this assignment/examination."

Unless you are specifically advised to the contrary, the Pledge statement should be handwritten and signed on the front cover of all exams, papers, projects, or other academic assignments submitted for evaluation in this course. Students who fail to write and sign the Pledge will be asked to confer with the instructor. Please recognize that all students are subject to the requirements of the University’s Code of Academic Integrity whether or not they write and sign the Honor Pledge.

For more information: [www.umd.edu/honorpledge](http://www.umd.edu/honorpledge) and [http://www.shc.umd.edu/code.html](http://www.shc.umd.edu/code.html)

**SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY**

The University is committed to maintaining an academic work environment free of sexual harassment for all faculty, staff and students. Sexual harassment diminishes individual dignity and impedes equal educational and employment opportunities. Sexual harassment will not be tolerated at the University; it is a violation of law and University policy. Individuals who engage in sexual harassment will be subject to disciplinary action. Please be advised that the University has procedures in place to report sexual harassment and correct it when it occurs. Students who have questions about sexual harassment or the University policy and procedures may call the Campus Compliance
Officer (301-405-2838), or the Legal Office (301-405-4945). To read the entire Policy see "Appendix B: Campus Policy and Procedures on Sexual Harassment" in the Undergraduate Catalogue (http://www.umd.edu/catalog/0405/chapter10.pdf). For more information: http://www.president.umd.edu/legal/policies/sh.html

Code of Academic Integrity
The University of Maryland is an academic community. Its fundamental purpose is the pursuit of knowledge. Like all other communities, the University can function properly only if its members adhere to clearly established goals and values. Essential to the fundamental purpose of the University is the commitment to the principles of truth and academic honesty. Accordingly, the Code of Academic Integrity is designed to ensure that the principle of academic honesty is upheld. While all members of the University share this responsibility, the Code of Academic Integrity is designed so that special responsibilities for upholding the principle of academic honesty lie with the students.

At the University of Maryland any of the following acts, when committed by a student, shall constitute a violation of The Code, resulting in an act of academic dishonesty:

CHEATING: intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise.

- Students completing any examination or assignment should assume that external assistance (e.g., books, notes, calculators, cell phones, conversation with others) is prohibited unless specifically authorized by the instructor
- Substantial portions of the same academic work may not be submitted for credit or honors in more than one course/class without authorization from the instructor

FABRICATION: intentional and unauthorized falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise.

- “Invented” information may not be used in any laboratory experiment or other academic exercise without notice and authorization from the instructor
- One should acknowledge reliance upon the actual source from which cited information was obtained

FACILITATING ACADEMIC DISHONESTY: intentionally or knowingly helping or attempting to help another to violate any provision of this Code.

- Students should not give another student their homework, old papers or tests, nor should they provide assistance on assignments if the instructor has not expressly stated that receiving help is allowed

PLAGIARISM: intentionally or knowingly representing the words or ideas of another as one’s own in any academic exercise.
Quotation marks, appropriate indentation and proper citation required in-text and in the reference page for all borrowed words and ideas (e.g., information/knowledge from books, articles, internet, friends)

Acknowledgment is required for any and all paraphrased information; Paraphrasing is not simply re-ordering words in a sentence

Code of Student Conduct
INTEGRITY & PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY
University of Maryland expects students to conduct themselves with integrity and personal responsibility.
University of Maryland students are given authority and responsibility for management of the campus disciplinary process. Judicial boards, made up of fellow students, hear cases that may result in suspension or expulsion. The Office of Student Conduct staff work with students to resolve less serious cases through conferences. The University provides students with procedural protections, including an opportunity for a hearing and an appeal.
PROHIBITED CONDUCT
The following actions are subject to disciplinary action:

JOIN the University Student Judiciary!
(USJ) is one of Maryland’s premier student governance organizations, whose members help the campus community by educating students and holding them accountable to University of Maryland policies. The members of USJ are also responsible for promoting integrity, character, and ethics within the campus community.
To learn more about USJ visit: www.studentconduct.umd.edu

- Use, possession, or storage of any weapon; Causing physical harm or apprehension of harm;
- Initiating a false report, warning or threat of fire, explosion or other emergency;
- A criminal offense committed off-campus; -Rioting on- or off-campus resulting in harm or posing a threat to the stability of campus;
- Violating the terms of any disciplinary sanction;
- Misusing or damaging fire safety equipment;
- Distribution or possession for purposes of distribution of any illegal drug;
- Use or possession of any illegal or controlled substances;
- Furnishing false information to the University;
- Making, possessing, or using any forged, altered, or falsified instrument of identification;
- Interfering with the freedom of expression of others;
- Theft of property or of services; possession of stolen property;
- Destroying or damaging the property of others;
- Engaging in disorderly or disruptive conduct;
- Failure to comply with the directions of University officials;
- Use or possession of fireworks on University premises;
- Use or possession of any alcoholic beverage under the age of 21 or providing alcoholic beverages to a person known to be under the age of 21;
- Violation of published University regulations or policies including the hazing policy, sexual assault policy, residence hall contract, and parking regulations.

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