

THEA 80B-Theory and Technique of Advanced Acting for the Camera  
Spring 2024  
De Anza College

Instructor: Liz Stimson  
Email: [stimsonelizabeth@fhda.edu](mailto:stimsonelizabeth@fhda.edu)  
Telephone: 650-949-7899 x3158  
Class Meets: Mondays and Wednesdays 9:30-12:15 in MLC 226  
Office Hours: Mondays and Wednesdays 12:15-12:45 in MLC 226 & by appointment

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course is a continuation of the study of on camera acting. This course will provide students with a working knowledge and experience of playing in front of the camera and auditioning in front of the camera. The student will gain a more advanced level of understanding of on camera acting and a deepening of the actor's art and craft.

Recommended Text: THE CAMERA SMART ACTOR by Richard Brestoff  
*(Available in De Anza library reserves)*

Optional: USB Flash Drive

**STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

1. Recognize the process by which actors are interviewed, auditioned, and cast for all forms of media production.
2. Practice and distinguish effective body movement and voice modulation as it pertains to camera acting styles, camera angle and shot size and continuity of takes.
3. Demonstrate advanced skills in the practice and performance of scripted work for the camera and the subsequent critiquing of the work including self evaluation.

**COURSE OBJECTIVE:**

1. Demonstrate advanced knowledge of the camera media from an actor's perspective.
2. Analyze, prepare, rehearse and perform advanced scripted material both on camera and voiceover.
3. Identify and articulate advanced problems in character development within the context of a shooting schedule.
4. Demonstrate a working vocabulary of equipment used in multi-media, film, and television entertainment industries.

## **POLICIES:**

### **Attendance:**

- **If you will be missing class, please send me an email to let me know.**
- First two absences=no points taken off from participation;
- 5 points off per missed class after this.
- Each tardy counts as ½ of an absence.
- You will not pass the class if you miss more than 6 class meetings (**for ANY reason**).

**Late Work:** Assignments are due on the date listed in the syllabus. It is the student's responsibility to reach out to the instructor (email or office hours) **prior to the due date**, if an extension is needed.

**Dropping:** It is the student's responsibility to add or drop the class. Please see [De Anza College Academic Calendar Spring 2024](#) for specific dates.

**Disabilities:** Students with disabilities, including invisible ones, are encouraged to communicate with the instructor their needs and appropriate accommodations. [De Anza Disability Support Services](#)

**Participation:** Please wear clothing which does not restrict movement. Expect to be physically active.

### **HELPFUL SERVICES:**

**De Anza College Library Website:** [De Anza College Library](#)

**Online tutoring and workshops available at:** [De Anza Student Success Center](#)

**Your Guide to the Quarter:** [Student Support Services](#)

### **IMPORTANT DATES:**

**MAY 25-27**

Memorial Day Weekend - no classes, offices closed

**JUNE 19**

Juneteenth Holiday - no classes, offices closed

[Final exams](#)

**JUNE 29**

[Graduation](#)

**ASSIGNMENTS:**

Recording #1 (voice-over)	50 points
Recording #2 (teleprompter)	50 points
Recording #3 (final scene)	100 points
Character Analyses	50 points total (2 @ 25 points each)
Film Review	50 points
Participation	100 points
<b>Total Points</b>	<b>400 points</b>

**GRADING:**

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Numerical Equivalent</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>400-372</b>
<b>A-</b>	<b>371-360</b>
<b>B+</b>	<b>359-348</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>347-332</b>
<b>B-</b>	<b>331-320</b>
<b>C+</b>	<b>319-299</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>298-280</b>
<b>D+</b>	<b>279-268</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>267-252</b>
<b>D-</b>	<b>251-240</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>239-0</b>

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY**

Students who present the work of others without giving proper credit (citation), will receive an “F” grade for that assignment which cannot be made up. If you feel that you are having trouble with an assignment and require assistance please meet with me during my office hours or schedule an additional time to meet.

[Academic Integrity De Anza College](#)

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE: THEA 80B--Spring 2024

In Class	Assignments (available in Canvas)
<b>Week 1 (4/8, 10)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Welcome, syllabus review, etc</li><li>• Warm-ups and improv</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Choose TWO voice-over scripts &amp; submit 2 hard copies of each script (script links available in Canvas)</b> (due 4/15)</li><li>• Read Articles in Canvas</li></ul>
<b>Week 2 (4/15, 17)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Warm-ups and improv</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Voice-over cold readings</li><li>• <b>Voice-over Character Analysis</b>—will do in class 4/15</li><li>• Read Articles in Canvas</li></ul>
<b>Week 3 (4/22, 24)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Voice-over Rehearsals</li><li>• Phasic Relaxation</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rehearse voice-overs</li></ul>
<b>Week 4 (4/29, 5/1)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Recording #1:</b> Voice-over</li><li>• Warm-ups &amp; Improv</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Record voice-overs</li><li>• Read Articles in Canvas</li></ul>
<b>Week 5 (5/6, 8)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Warm-ups &amp; Improv</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Final Scene Selection</b> Hard copies (3) (due 5/20)</li></ul>
<b>Week 6 (5/13, 15)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Auditions (voice-over)</li><li>• <b>Recording #2:</b> Teleprompter</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Teleprompter Work</b></li><li>• <b>Final Scene Selection</b> Hard copies (3) (due 5/20)</li></ul>

**Week 7 (5/20, 22)**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Cold Reading Scenes</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Assignment: Film Review</b> (due 6/10)</li><li>● <b>Character Analysis--Scene</b> (in class 5/22)--no analysis = no rehearsal</li></ul>
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**Week 8 (5 29 only)--No Class on Monday 5/27**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Review Hitting your mark, eyeline</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Chroma Key Image</b></li></ul>
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**Week 9 (6/3, 5)**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Blocking, Business/Activities</li><li>● Rehearsals</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Read Articles in Canvas</li></ul>
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**Week 10 (6/10, 12)**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Rehearsals</li><li>● Off book</li><li>● <b>Recording #3: Final Scene</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Recording of final scene</li><li>● Read Articles in Canvas</li></ul>
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**Week 11 (6/17, 19)--No Class on Wednesday 6/19**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Recording #3: Final Scene</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Recording of final scene</li></ul>
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**Week 12 (6/24)**

<b>Final: Monday June 24th: 9:15-11:15</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Viewing of final scenes</li></ul>
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