Acting for the Camera
THEA-4345

Meeting Times
Tue/Thu 9:35AM-10:55AM

Contact Information
Professor Joel Grothe
Office: TAR Room 216
Office Phone: 409-880-7244
Text 434-284-3667
E-Mail: jfgrothe@lamar.edu
Office Hours: Tue/Thu 12:30-2:30PM or by appointment

Catalog Description
A course focused on the fundamental techniques necessary for performing in film, television, commercials, industrials, corporate training videos and voiceovers.

Objectives
1. To increase the students’ knowledge of and experience in film acting.

2. To help the student develop routine, discipline, and work ethic

3. To improve the students’ organizational, communication, and leadership skills. Included in this is teamwork, and personal & social responsibility.

4. To develop the students’ academic skills.

5. To give the students a basic sense of how to interpret and actively work an on camera scene.

Outcomes
Upon Successful Completion of the Course, the student will have:
1. Increased knowledge of and experience in film acting.

2. Developed routine, discipline, and work ethic

3. Improved their organizational, communication, and leadership skills. Included in this is teamwork, and personal & social responsibility.

4. Developed their academic skills.

5. A basic sense of how to interpret and actively work an on camera scene.

Course Materials

There are no textbooks for the course. Readings and other materials will be distributed or assigned throughout the course.

Course Policies

Students are expected to attend Departmental Productions of *Luna Gale* and *Permanent Collection* this semester.

LATE WORK IS NOT ACCEPTED FOR ANY PERCENTAGE OF THE ORIGINAL VALUE

EXTRA CREDIT ASSIGNMENTS ARE NOT AVAILABLE AT ANY TIME IN THE SEMESTER

PARTICIPATION/ ATTENDANCE

- Each student is expected to provide constructive, detailed feedback to their classmates on their work.

- All scenes/ scripts must be prepared by the day they are assigned. Failure to do so will result in the lowering of the students’ participation grade/ getting an ‘F’ on the assignment.

- ATTENDANCE in class is mandatory. You should NEVER miss class unless it is an emergency.

- More than 2 absences will result in an automatic lowering of the students’ letter grade by one grade level.

- 4 or more absences will result in removal from the course or failing of the course, depending on the time in the semester. This includes extended absence as a result of illness etc…

- To be on time is to be late. Students should arrive AT LEAST five minutes before the starting class time and be prepared to start their work immediately at the start of class. It is at the Professor’s discretion whether or not to let you in after the class has started. Should the professor choose not to, that will be counted as an absence. You are advised to contact the professor if you are running a few minutes late to class

COURSE EVALUATIONS:

Because I value your feedback and want to be sure the class best meets your expectations, I encourage you to take advantage of online end-of-semester course evaluations. Please feel free to discuss the course with me throughout the semester
DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR POLICY: ***All cell phones must be turned OFF at the beginning of class. Laptop computers may be used to take notes. If you use any electronic devices for purposes not pertaining to class (e.g. text messaging, Facebook, etc), you will be given a warning. A second instance will result in dismissal from the class.

There is no food or drink allowed in the classroom, except for water in a capped bottle.

Different students are likely to have different issues that interest them, different understandings of class materials, and different opinions on a wide range of topics. It is important to the environment of this class that we are able to speak honestly and to disagree openly. It is essential, however, that we do so from a position of respect for each other. Any student who is disrespectful to the instructor, fellow students, or guests will be given a warning. A second instance will result in dismissal from the class.

"Disruptive Behavior" generally means conduct that materially and substantially interferes with or obstructs the teaching or learning process in the context of the classroom. Besides the above, disruptive behavior also includes conduct that distracts others in a manner that interferes with instructional activities or fails to adhere to an instructor’s classroom rules, such as: excessive lates, cell phones ringing in class, talking during lectures, sleeping, and reading materials other than those covered in class that day.

✔ Evaluation

ASSIGNMENTS:

1- Film and Television Unit
2- Commercial Unit
3- Industrial Unit
4- Callback scene/ final exam

GRADING BREAKDOWN:

Film/ TV Unit: 50%
Commercial Unit: 20%
Industrial Unit: 20%
Final Callback scene: 10%

Failure to complete ANY of the above will result in an F in the class.

Grades are assessed on the following scale:

A    90-100
B    80- 89
C    70-79
D    60- 69
F    59 or lower
Academic Honesty Policy

Lamar University expects all students to engage in academic pursuits in a manner that is above reproach. Students are expected to maintain complete honesty and integrity in their academic experiences both in and out of the classroom. Any student found guilty of dishonesty in any phase of academic work will be subject to disciplinary action.

The University and its official representatives may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty including, but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work which is to be submitted, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials.

All persons involved in academic dishonesty will be disciplined in accordance with University regulations and procedures. Discipline may include failure of the assignment and/or course up to suspension or expulsion from the university. The penalty may vary by instructor.

Additional information is available on the Academic Policy website (https://students.lamar.edu/academic-support/academic-policies.html).

Course Drop Policy

Students may drop a course and receive a grade of "Q" during the penalty-free period of the semester or session. For drops after this penalty-free period, grades are recorded as "Q" or "F," indicating the student was passing or failing at the time of the drop. A grade of "Q" may not be assigned unless an official drop has been processed through the Records Office. Students may drop a course online up to the census day by logging into Self-Service Banner. After the census day, courses must be dropped through the Records Office. For additional help, contact the academic advisor or the Records Office at registration@lamar.edu. Students may not drop a course during the last 20 percent of the term. Students should check the academic calendar at https://www.lamar.edu/academic-calendar for specific dates.

Students with Disability Policy

Lamar University is committed to providing equitable access to learning opportunities for all students. The Disability Resource Center (DRC) is located in the Communication building, room 105. Office staff collaborate with students who have disabilities to provide and/or arrange reasonable accommodations.

If you have, or think you may have, a disability (e.g. mental health, attentional, learning, chronic health, sensory, or physical), please contact the DRC at 409-880-8347 or drc@lamar.edu to arrange a confidential appointment with the Director of the DRC to explore possible options regarding equitable access and reasonable accommodations.

If you are registered with the DRC and have a current letter requesting reasonable accommodations, we encourage you to contact your instructor early in the semester to review how the accommodations will be applied in the course.

Additional information is available at the DRC website (http://www.lamar.edu/disability-resource-center/).

Academic Support

Academic Support can be located at http://students.lamar.edu/academic-support/index.html.

There are many areas (i.e. Advising, Writing Center, etc.) of academic support. Each area provides their own specific contact information and days and hours of operation.

Student Services

Lamar University recognizes that students may experience challenges that hinder success in their academics and/or college experience. We believe in giving all students access to resources that allow them to overcome these challenges. If you are struggling with stress, procrastination, anger management, depression, anxiety, substance abuse and/or eating disorders, please reach out to our counseling professionals at the Student Health Center at 880-8466 to call for an appointment or visit our website https://www.lamar.edu/students/student-engagement/student-health-center/index.html for more information about our services.
Students who face challenges securing food or housing, tuition and/or books and believes this may affect their performance in the course are urged to contact the LU Strong program. The program is located in the Setzer Student Center, Room 230 at 409-880-8458 or at lustrong@lamar.edu. Furthermore, please notify your professor if you are comfortable in doing so. This will enable them to provide any additional resources they may possess.

Your information and situation will be treated with the utmost privacy and is protected by Texas law. These services are available to all currently enrolled students at Lamar University and Lamar Institute of Technology.

Information on Student Services can be located at http://students.lamar.edu/index.html. There are many resources (i.e., Course schedules, important phone numbers, etc.) available. Each area provides their own specific contact information and days and hours of operation.

**Academic Continuity Policy**

In the event of an announced campus closure in excess of four days due to hurricane or other disaster, students are expected to check Lamar University's website and login to LU Connect for instructions about continuing courses remotely.

**Emergency Procedures**

Many types of emergencies can occur on campus; instructions for severe weather or violence/active shooter, fire, or chemical release can be found at the Office of Environmental Health/Safety and Risk Management (https://www.lamar.edu/about-lu/administration/risk-management/index.html) webpage.

**Severe Weather**

Follow the directions of the instructor or emergency personnel.

Seek shelter in an interior room or hallway on the lowest floor, putting as many walls as possible between you and the outside.

If you are in a multi-story building and you cannot get to the ground floor, pick a hallway in the center of the building.

Stay in the center of the room, away from exterior walls, windows, and doors.

**Violence/Active Shooter**

CALL - 7777 from a campus phone (Text 409-241-8002 from a cell phone). Note: Calling 911 from either a campus or cell phone will contact the City of Beaumont dispatch rather than the LU police.

AVOID - If possible, self-evacuate to a safe area outside the building. Follow directions of police officers.

DENY - Barricade the door with desks, chairs, bookcases or any other items. Move to a place inside the room where you are not visible. Turn off the lights and remain quiet. Remain there until told by police it is safe.

DEFEND - Use chairs, desks, cell phones or whatever is immediately available to distract and/or defend yourself and others from attack.

**Copyright Policy Statement**

Copyright is defined as the ownership and control of the intellectual property in original works of authorship which are subject to copyright law. As an institution of higher learning that values intellectual integrity, Lamar University prohibits the distribution of published materials (print or electronic) in violation of copyright law.

**LU Connect Portal**

Students are asked to obtain a Lamar Electronic Account username and password so they can log onto the LU CONNECT website.
Students may get information on how to get into the LU CONNECT website from the University’s homepage (http://www.lamar.edu) by clicking on the LU CONNECT link on the left top corner of the screen. Follow the steps to secure your LU CONNECT username and password.

**LU Learn/Blackboard Learning Management System (LMS)**

Students will utilize the Lamar University’s Learning Management System (LMS), Blackboard, for online courses.

For Blackboard technical support go to https://blackboardsupport.lamar.edu.

Phone: 866-585-1738

Phone and chat are available 24/7/365

**Network Use**

**ACCEPTABLE USE**

Students must respect the integrity and security of Lamar University computer systems and network, and the privacy and preferences of other users. Responsibility for learning about and complying with Lamar University Acceptable Use Policy ultimately rests with the individual. The network may be used to download, copy, or store any software, shareware, digital media files or freeware, as long as the use complies with copyright law licensing agreements, and campus policies, such as storage space limitations and network bandwidth restrictions. The network may not be used for any activity, or to transmit any material, that violates United States or local laws.

**UNACCEPTABLE USE**

The network may not be used for commercial purposes. Advertising and sponsorships on Lamar University websites is restricted. In addition, students may not permit other persons to use their usernames, passwords, accounts or disk space, or disclose their usernames, passwords or account information to any third party. Students may not log on to someone else’s account, internet address, or other network codes, or attempt to access another user’s files. Students may not create false or dummy accounts to impersonate someone else. Students may not try to gain unauthorized access (“hacking”) to the files or computer systems of any other person or organization. Students may not impersonate another person by forging e-mail, web pages or other electronic media. Students who maliciously access, alter, delete, damage or destroy any computer system, computer network, computer program, or data will be subject to disciplinary action by Lamar University, and criminal prosecution as well. Students may not disrupt or attempt to disrupt network traffic, and they may not attempt to monitor or capture network traffic in any way. Finally, students may not intentionally create, store, display, print or transmit information that violates the university’s Sexual Harassment Policy.

**Netiquette (Online Etiquette) Statement**

Please adhere to the same standards of behavior and professional respect online that you would follow in face-to-face communication with others, but most particularly when writing email and when taking part in collaborative and discussion board activities. Lamar provides access to network resources, including the Internet, in order to support learning and to prepare students for the 21st century world. Students, however, are expected to adhere to the Lamar University Acceptable Use Policies when Using Networks. More comprehensive student code of conduct can be found at https://students.lamar.edu/academic-support/code-of-conduct.html.

**GENERAL GUIDELINES TO RESPECT ALL PARTICIPANTS**

- Respect the right of each person to disagree with others.
- Treat people the same as you would face-to-face.
- Respect the time of others.

**GUIDELINES WHEN COMMUNICATING WITH OTHERS (EMAIL, DISCUSSIONS, BLOGGING, AND ETC.)**

- Always sign your name to any contribution you choose to make.
- Be constructive in your responses to others in the class.
- Do not use all caps (Doing so may be interpreted as shouting).
- Re-read your postings before sending them.
- Always think before you write.
- Respond respectfully.
- Use appropriate grammar and structure.
• Spell-check your postings.
• Use short paragraphs focused on one idea.
• Use appropriate business language at all times.

Technical Support

Technical Support can be located at http://students.lamar.edu/it-services-and-support/index.html.

Phone: 409-880-2222
Email: servicedesk@lamar.edu

Hours of Operation (CST):
Monday - Thursday 7:30 a.m.-12:00 a.m.
Friday 7:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Sunday 3:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m.

Attendance Verification

Students must complete an Attendance Verification Quiz for ALL COURSES - both on-campus and online - in which they are enrolled each term by the third class day to comply with U.S. Department of Education attendance requirements. Failure to complete this quiz by the deadline may result in loss of course enrollment and/or financial aid. The quiz is located in EVERY COURSE through LULearn (Blackboard) even if the course meets on campus.

Course Subject Outline

COURSE CALENDAR (subject to change with notice)

AUGUST

Tue 27- Introduction. Syllabus. Basic habits on camera etc...

Thu 29– Preparing a scene. The Working Actors’ Studio method.

SEPTEMBER

Tue 3- Recording Scene 1

Thu 5- Re-recording Scene 1 with notes

Tue 10- Recording Scene 2

Thu 12- Re-recording scene 2 with notes

Tue 17- Recording scene 3
Thu 19- Re-recording scene 3 with notes

Tue 24- Recording scene 4

Thu 26- Re-recording scene 4 with notes

OCTOBER

Tue 1- TBD

Thu 3- TBD

Tue 8- Recording scene 5

Thu 10- Re-recording scene 5 with notes

Tue 15- Individual coaching sessions with Joel

Thu 17- Individual coaching continued

Tue 22- TBD

Thu 24- Commercials and the complaints about YOU!

Tue 29- Commercials continued

Thu 31- Commercials continued

NOVEMBER

Tue 5- Commercials continued
Thu 7- Commercials continued

Tue 12- Industrials

Thu 14- Industrials

Tue 19- Industrials

Thu 21- Industrials

Tue 26- Industrials

Thu 28- THANKSGIVING. NO CLASS. The Final callback auditions will be filmed on Tuesday December 10th starting at 8:00AM

Additional Items