

**Fall 2020**

**SUNY CORTLAND**

**THT 120.601**

**Acting I**

**Professor Kevin T Halpin**  
Office **216 DOWD**

**Phone 753-2812**  
**email:halpink@cortland.edu**

## **Office Hours**

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
<b>10:00-12:30</b>	<b>11:00-12:30</b>	<b>9:30-10:30,11:30-2:00</b>	<b>11:30-12:30</b>	<b>By appointment</b>

This is a studio and study course designed to introduce the basic elements of Acting technique and begin to develop each individual's acting instrument. This course provides a strong foundation for a student who wishes to develop a professional acting ability and will bolster confidence, effectiveness in social situations, perceptions of human interaction and physical expression

Through various exercises, assignments and scene work we will identify the essential tools for an actor. Relaxation, concentration, trust, courage, focus and imagination will all be challenged and expanded or refined.

Since an actor's instrument is their body, we will be getting very physical in class. We will be adhering to social distancing guidelines and wearing masks in studio for all in person class meetings.

**ATTIRE:** Since physical activity is essential to working in this class students should dress in clothes that do not restrict movement. Footwear should be either sneakers or dance shoes-- no heels, platforms or open sandals. As the weather gets colder, it is recommended that students dress in layers for health and comfort. **NO JEWELRY.** Small post style earrings in pierced ears are acceptable.

### **Performance Video assignment**

You will be given videos to watch online about acting and actors approach to the work. You will also be assigned a recording of a full performance to watch. A three to five-page paper will be required, addressing the ideas of character, objective, obstacle, tactics and how the specific actors express those in their work.

**GRADING:** Final grades will be determined in the following manner:

Silent Scene 1	10%*
Silent Scene 2	10%*
Transformation	10%
Class exercises/improv	20%
Observation Project	15%
Participation /effort	10%
Video assignment	10%*
Final	15%*

Each scene assignment also requires a particular written assignment to be turned in\*

### **ATTENDANCE:**

Attendance is mandatory. Students are allowed 2 absences for the semester. Missing class on a scheduled presentation will significantly lower the grade for that assignment. An assignment may not be "made up" after a second missed presentation.

### **PHYSICALTY:**

Strict adherence to the social distancing guidelines will be practiced. We will be doing a great deal of movement both solo and as a group. Working physically while wearing a mask will require getting used to. If any student feels the need to get a break and step outside to get "fresh air", that is certainly acceptable.

The current situation with the safety restrictions in place has challenged all of us to discover new ways to approach our work, I am looking forward to exploring this with you, I hope you are as well,

**Following COVID related Guidelines and procedures;**

All students are expected to adhere to all protocols and regulations relating to safeguards against spreading the COVID 19 virus. You are expected to behave responsibly both on and off-campus.

**Academic Integrity :**All students are expected to uphold academic integrity standards. Plagiarism is defined as taking the ideas of others and using them as one's own without due credit. Students who cheat in examinations, course assignments, or plagiarize in this course may be disciplined in accordance with university rules and regulations. (College Handbook, Chapter 340)

**Disability:** As part of SUNY Cortland's commitment to a diverse, equitable, and inclusive environment, we strive to provide students with equal access to all courses. If you believe you will require accommodations in this course, please place a request with the Disability Resources Office at [disability.resources@cortland.edu](mailto:disability.resources@cortland.edu) or call 607-753-2967. Please note that accommodations are generally not provided retroactively so timely contact with the Disability Resources Office is important. All students should consider meeting with their course instructor who may be helpful in other ways.(College Handbook, Chapter 745)

**Diversity :**SUNY Cortland is dedicated to the premise that every individual is important in a unique way and contributes to the overall quality of the institution. We define diversity broadly to include all aspects of human difference. The College is committed to inclusion, equity, and access and thus committed to creating and sustaining a climate that is equitable, respectful and free from prejudice for students, faculty and staff. We value diversity in the learning environment and know that it enhances our ability to inspire students to learn, lead and serve in a changing world. We are committed to promoting a diverse and inclusive campus through the recruitment and retention of faculty, staff and students. As a community, we hold important the democracy of ideas, tempered by a commitment to free speech and the standards of inquiry and debate. To this end, we are dedicated to developing and sustaining a learning environment where it is safe to explore our differences and celebrate the richness inherent in our pluralistic society.(College Handbook, Chapter 130)

**Inclusive Learning :**SUNY Cortland is committed to a diverse, equitable and inclusive environment. The course instructor honors this commitment and respects and values differences. All students enrolled in this course are expected to be considerate of others, promote a collaborative and supportive educational environment, and demonstrate respect for individuals with regard to ability or disability, age, ethnicity, gender, gender identity/expression, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, socio-economic status or other aspects of identity. In an environment that fosters inclusion, students have the opportunity to bring their various identities into conversation as they find helpful, but are not expected to represent or speak for an entire group of people who share aspects of an identity. If you have any questions or concerns about this statement, contact the Institutional Equity and Inclusion Office at 607-753-2263.(IEIO<http://www2.cortland.edu/about/diversity/>)

**Title IX Statement:** TITLE IX, when combined with New York Human Rights Law and the New York Education Law 129-B, prohibits discrimination, harassment and violence based on sex, gender, gender identity/expression, and/or sexual orientation in the education setting. The federal Clery Act and NY Education Law 129-B provide certain rights and responsibilities after an incident of sexual or interpersonal violence. When a violation occurs, victims and survivors are eligible for campus and community resources. Where the College has jurisdiction, it may investigate and take action in accordance with College policy. If you or someone you know wishes to report discrimination based in sex, gender, gender identity/expression, and/or sexual orientation, or wishes to report sexual harassment, sexual violence, stalking or relationship violence, please contact the Title IX Coordinator at 607-753-4550, or visit [cortland.edu/titleix](http://cortland.edu/titleix) to learn about all reporting options and resources. (Updated by SUNY Legal Feb. 1, 2018)." (Title IX <http://www2.cortland.edu/titleix>)

I have read and understand the requirements and expectations set forth in the Syllabus preceding.

Student\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_

## COURSE CALANDER Acting 1 FALL 2020

T, Th

- 9/1. Introductions, expectations, review SYL, exercises
- 9/3 Warm up, exercises: Improv work, objective, obstacle, tactics, silent scene assigned
- 9/8 Warm up, 1<sup>st</sup> presentation of silent scene, critiques
- 9/15 Warm up, 2<sup>nd</sup> Presentation of Silent scene, assign partners for 2<sup>nd</sup> silent scene
- 9/17 Warm up, 1<sup>st</sup> Presentation of 2<sup>nd</sup> silent scene, status exercises
- 9/22 Warm up, 2<sup>nd</sup> Presentation of 2<sup>nd</sup> silent scene, coach
- 9/24 Warm up, Final presentation of silent scene
- 9/29 Warm up, Improv exercises, assign Transformation
- 9/29 Warm up, 1<sup>st</sup> presentation of Transformation
- 10/01 Warm up, final presentation of Transformation.
- 10/6 Warm up, exercises, begin Observation project
- 10/13 Warm up, 1<sup>st</sup> presentation of Observation project, critique
- 10/15 Warm up, 2<sup>nd</sup> presentation of Observation project, set up next step
- 10/20 Warm up, 3<sup>rd</sup> presentation of Observation project, critique
- 10/22 Warm up, Final presentation of Observation project.
- 10/27 Warm up, improv exercises (if needed final Observation)
- 10/29 Warm up, basic “Stanislavsky” work, assign “open” Monologue
- 11/3 **ELECTION DAY!!!!GO OUT AND VOTE** Warm Up, 1<sup>st</sup> Presentation “Open” Monologue, critique/coach
- 11/05 Warm up, 2<sup>nd</sup> Presentation of open Monologue, assign “Open Scene”
- 11/10 Warm up, 1<sup>st</sup> Presentation of open scenes, coach
- 11/12 Warm up 2<sup>nd</sup> presentation of Open Scenes
- 11/17 Warm up, Final presentation of Open scenes,
- 11/19. Last on campus class, IMPERSONATION & SECRET PILGRIM, Discuss final project
- 11/21-11/28 THANKSGIVING BREAK
- 12/01 Watch assigned videos
- 12/03 Submit Final project for critique
- 12/08 Class discussion of projects
- 12/10 Discuss videos, paper Due
- 12/15. FINAL 8:30 -10:30? ( we will talk about this )