

## COURSE SYLLABUS

<b>COURSE TITLE:</b>	Theater and Improvisation for Business	<b>COURSE CODE:</b>	COMM230
<b>PREREQUISITES:</b>	COMM 130		
<b>INSTRUCTOR:</b>	Mr Rukavina	<b>CREDITS:</b>	3
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### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

The information and knowledge economy places an ever-increasing demand on individuals in business to master a wide variety of communication tools and techniques in order to function successfully in diverse professional settings. Drawing heavily on the techniques used in acting, students will learn how to craft compelling messages in a variety of more specific and complex situations in public speaking.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

Students will be guided through a number of tools and techniques used by actors to gain knowledge about themselves & their communication styles and, also, how to read and understand the communication style of their interlocutors. Students will extend their confidence, competence and critical awareness as communicators.

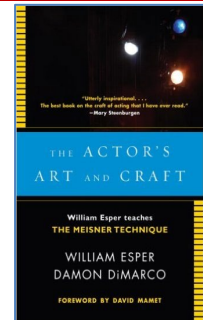
### **EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- Create compelling messages that have impact on their audience
- Analyse effectively the challenges inherent in diverse business situations (e.g. negotiations, briefings, and proposals) and come up with solutions
- Focus on the big picture as well as the details
- Draw on their creativity to solve problems
- Perfect their verbal and nonverbal communication
- Think on their feet
- Strengthen their confidence
- Work effectively in teams

### MANDATORY TEXTBOOKS:

The Actor's Art and Craft, William Esper Teaches the Meisner Technique, Esper and DiMarco. Anchor Publishing. ISBN- 9780307279262



### EVALUATIONS:

The final grade will be based on:

- |                                |     |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| • Team work                    | 15% |
| • Vocal delivery               | 15% |
| • Nonverbal communication      | 15% |
| • Improvisation/team role play | 15% |
| • Speeches/Scene Performance   | 20% |
| • Participation                | 20% |

**Presence in class is mandatory. More than 2 absences will lead to a failing grade.**

### GRADING CRITERIA:

**Grades will be based on the standard ABS Grading Rubrics available on become.**

### COURSE SCHEDULE:

Dates	Reading/Homework	Session Content
Session 1	- Training your talent	Introduction: syllabus and required reading. Understanding the importance of technique
Session 2	- Physical action - Preparing a pitch	Discovering effective physical actions Committing yourself to action Incorporating improvisational technique
Session 3	- Developing powers of observation - Master the art of story telling	Observing people and playing a condition, and adapting observations through imagination Breaking down the walls with story The power in pathos
Session 4	- Exploring circles of attention	<i>Assessment: Team Work, Part 1</i> Channelling your energy and communing with your audience
Session 5	- Approaching the creative state - Think Billboards	<i>Assessment: Team Work, Part 2</i> Recalling sense and emotional memory Image, typography and symbols
Session 6	- Keith Johnstone: Improvisation and status	Improvisation, purpose and teamwork
Session 7	- Creating a character	Role plays: taking a character and identifying the motivating force

	- Teach me something new	Presenting information
Session 8	- Interpreting lines - Statistics that stick	<i>Assessment: Vocal Delivery</i> Exploring subtexts, finding the verbal action Presenting data, number by pictures, rounding up for clarity
Session 9	- Communicating subtext - Q&A	Understanding the power of words, handling sentences and building a progression Fielding questions
Session 10	- Handling undirected scene work	<i>Assessment: Non Verbal Communication</i>
	<b>No Class</b>	<b>Business Games</b>
Session 11	- Polishing for performance	<i>Assessment: Team Role Plays/Improvisations</i> Playing the part, verbal and nonverbal communication revisited
Session 12	- Transforming into character	<i>Assessment: Performance/Speeches</i>