

Fall 2016
ZOO 4926 & ZOO6927
Science Communication
University of Florida

Wednesday 327 MAEA (Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering A)
Period -7-8 (1:55-3:50 pm)

Taught by:

James C. Liao, Associate Professor of Biology

Biology Department

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Office Tel: 904-461-4011

Office: Whitney Lab for Marine Biosciences, St. Augustine FL

Office Hours: By appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This is an experimental course that integrates theatre techniques to improve scientific communication. The seminar (1 credit hour) will involve exploring how we can introduce concepts, processes, and knowledge from the theatre arts and apply them to the effective communication of science. The seminar will require students to immerse themselves in the principles of Method acting and improvisation techniques. Each student will be asked to fully participate in each acting exercise and critique fellow students. Participation of every class is MANDATORY as no makeup classes will be offered.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- To develop unique techniques to more effectively communicate scientific ideas and principles to non-specialists.
- To develop new methodologies, lines of inquiry or strategies to inform, build upon or challenge your own creative, scientific expression.
- To become aware of how the performing arts can be integrated into the scientific world.

ASSIGNMENTS:

Full attendance and participation in class exercises.

Graded performances will be given by each student over the course of the semester (presentation dates TBD)

Required Readings: There will be required readings from the assigned text.

Course outline and calendar will be posted online on the Liao Lab website: Liaolab.com. The schedule is subject to change.

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Attendance is required at all classes, no exceptions. If you anticipate missing a class, do not sign up for this course.

GRADING:

Attendance at ALL seminar classes is required (60%).

Performance projects are worth 40%.

Link to UF grading policies: <http://www.registrar.ufl.edu/catalog/policies/regulationgrades.html>

TEXTS:

Required text is *Sanford Meisner on Acting* by Sanford Meisner and Dennis Longwell.

UNIVERSITY RESOURCES AND POLICIES:

GENERAL UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND SERVICES: <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/>

ACCOMMODATIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Disability Office— <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>

UNIVERSITY COUNSELING SERVICES:

352-392-1575 <http://www.counsel.ufl.edu/>

The UF Counseling Center offers counseling and therapy to help students confront personal, academic, and career concerns.

STUDENT HEALTHCARE CENTER:

<http://shcc.ufl.edu/>

For medical emergencies call 911.

352-392-1161 for urgent after-hours care.

352-392-1171 for after-hours mental health assistance.

SAFETY AND SECURITY:

In an emergency call 911.

University Police Department — <http://police.ufl.edu/> 352-392-1111.

**Please enter this important info into your phone!

STUDENT NIGHTTIME AUXILIARY PATROL (SNAP):

SNAP provides nightly escorts anywhere on campus to persons on request. The service is staffed by students, equipped and supervised by the university police department. Escorts are routed on foot and driven trips. A person requesting an escort may contact SNAP via telephone at 392-SNAP (92-7627). The requester provides their first name, location of pick-up and destination to the dispatcher who determines the best method of meeting the requester's need. A walking or driving escort is dispatched, to their location.