

# COURSE SYLLABUS



COURSE TITLE: Foundations of Stage Presence

CLASS SECTION: MUSC-146-001

TERM: FALL 2021

COURSE CREDITS: 3

DELIVERY METHOD(S): ONLINE

Camosun College campuses are located on the traditional territories of the Ləkʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ peoples. We acknowledge their welcome and graciousness to the students who seek knowledge here.

Learn more about Camosun's [Territorial Acknowledgement](#).

For COVID-19 information please visit <https://legacy.camosun.ca/covid19/index.html>.

---

*Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable explanation in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student.*

## INSTRUCTOR DETAILS

---

NAME: David Yates

EMAIL: [dryates@gmail.com](mailto:dryates@gmail.com)

OFFICE: By Appointment

HOURS: NA

*As your course instructor, I endeavour to provide an inclusive learning environment. However, if you experience barriers to learning in this course, do not hesitate to discuss them with me. Camosun College is committed to identifying and removing institutional and social barriers that prevent access and impede success.*

## CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

---

Students will be introduced to an array of specific skillsets and strategies that contribute to building confidence and successfully communicating their musical performances and public presentations that include music and spoken word. Students will explore approaches to performance that include stage speaking, physical deportment, oratorical techniques, story-telling, affected versus authentic presence, stage posture and conduct, and self-confidence. Students will be expected to apply their acquired learning through practical application.

### PREREQUISITE(S):

One of:

- C in [English 11](#)
- C in [Camosun Alternative](#)
- C in [ENGL 050](#) (if taken prior to September 2020)
- C in [ELD 072](#) and [ELD 074](#)

CO-REQUISITE(S): NONE

EXCLUSION(S): NONE

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES / OBJECTIVES

---

1. Demonstrate an understanding of specific techniques and strategies that support the achievement of successfully communicated music and other public performances.
2. Identify personal and unique qualities as related to confident stage presence.
3. Create and deliver a performance/presentation project that demonstrates newly-acquired stage skills.
4. Investigate and demonstrate attributes of a particular professional exemplar of successful musical performance.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of self-limiting performance traits or behaviors, while recognizing the influence of cultural frames of reference and individual differences, and develop authentically grounded approaches to overcoming these traits in performance.

REQUIRED MATERIALS & RECOMMENDED PREPARATION / INFORMATION

---

“Effortless Mastery” by Kenny Werner

COURSE SCHEDULE, TOPICS, AND ASSOCIATED PREPARATION / ACTIVITY / EVALUATION

---

The following schedule and course components are subject to change with reasonable advance notice, as deemed appropriate by the instructor.

WEEK or DATE RANGE	ACTIVITY or TOPIC	OTHER NOTES
Week 1	Orientation	
Week 2	Our Stories	
Week 3	The Nervous System Lens	
Week 4	Intersectionality	
Week 5	Some History	
Week 6	The “Matrix”	
Week 7	Flex Session	One-on-one flex sessions will replace at least one group class
Week 8	Near-Midterm Performances	
Week 9	Empathy and Vulnerability	
Week 10	Impulse & Play	
Week 11	The Space	
Week 12	Set the Stage	

Week 13	Dress Rehearsal	
Week 14	Final Performance	

### Week 1 - Orientation & Logistics

- Land acknowledgement & gratitude
- Every class begins with mindfulness practice
- Introductions & orientation
  - names
  - pronouns
  - area(s) of performance
- Logistics
  - schedule during each class
    - breaks
    - start/end protocol
    - snacks/tea/coffee
    - get up for breaks as needed, but let me know what's up via private chat
  - keeping track of things
    - journal
    - video clips
  - term schedule
    - course objectives
    - the three "chapters"
      - understanding oneself
      - understanding performance & stage
      - understanding outward connection
    - a performance during every class
    - assignments
    - reading
    - exemplar project
    - midterm
    - final performance
  - online setup
    - laptop/desktop computer is preferred
    - hard wired connection if possible
    - cameras on unless otherwise communicated
    - muted while not talking
    - adjust audio settings to "enable original sound" for performing
- Relationship to stage
  - Everyone performs for 1 min
  - Journaling
- Training: breath
  - first, the mechanics
  - second, practice

## **Week 2 - Our Stories**

- Land acknowledgement
- Mindfulness practice
- Embodiment practice
- Tell a story
- Performances
- Journaling

## **Week 3 - The Nervous System Lens**

- Land acknowledgement
- Mindfulness practice
- Embodiment practice
- Understanding trauma & triggers
- A simple grounding process
- Performances
- Journaling
- 

## **Week 4 - Intersectionality**

- Land acknowledgement
- Mindfulness practice
- Embodiment practice
- What is intersectionality?
- What is privilege?
- “Unpacking the Invisible Knapsack”
- Performances
- Journaling

## **Week 5 - Some History**

- Land acknowledgement
- Mindfulness practice
- Embodiment practice
- A brief history of stage
- Some historical viewpoints of performance
- Journaling
- Who set(s) the tone/expectations for your particular instrument? (brainstorm)
- Introduce Exemplar Project
- Performances
- Journaling

## **Week 6 - The Matrix**

- Land acknowledgement
- Mindfulness practice
- Embodiment practice
- The Code (brainstorm)
- Journaling

- A New Code
- Performances
- Journaling

### **Week 7 - Flex - One-on-One Session**

The flex session is meant to replace a course group class and is dependent on scheduling. This could happen at week 7, or earlier, depending on timing. We will go over student progress, challenges, questions, and individualized goals, practices, and coursework. Roughly 1 hr per student.

### **Week 8 - Near-Midterm Performances**

- Land acknowledgement
- Mindfulness practice
- Embodiment practice
- Prepare
- Perform
- Feedback
- Journaling

### **Week 9 - Empathy and Vulnerability**

- Land acknowledgement
- Mindfulness practice
- Embodiment practice
- Empathy and vulnerability
- The role of witness/audience
- Performance is relational
- Allow oneself to be seen
- Round of “performances” with witnessing
- Journaling
- Performances

### **Week 10 - Impulse and Play**

- Land acknowledgement
- Mindfulness practice
- Embodiment practice
- Diaphragm/breathing/laughter release
- One-on-one word & sound association
- Grief & praise
- Journaling
- Internal vs. external
- Performances

### **Week 11 - The Space**

- Land acknowledgement
- Mindfulness Practice

- Embodiment Practice
- Discussion: Effortless Mastery
- Journaling
- Practice entering the space
- Practice playing “the next note”
- Performances

### **Week 12 - Set the Stage**

- Land acknowledgement
- Mindfulness practice
- Embodiment practice
- A meditation on spaces
- Journaling
- Tech
- Costume
- Performances

### **Week 13 - Dress Rehearsal**

- Land acknowledgement
- Mindfulness practice
- Embodiment practice
- Soundchecks
- Introduce yourself
- Introduce the piece
- Performances
- Journaling

### **Week 14 - Final Performance**

- Land acknowledgement
- Mindfulness practice
- Embodiment practice
- Prepare
- Perform
- Feedback
- Journaling

Students registered with the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) who complete quizzes, tests, and exams with academic accommodations have booking procedures and deadlines with CAL where advanced notice is required. Deadlines can be reviewed on the [CAL exams page](http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html). <http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/exams.html>

---

## EVALUATION OF LEARNING

DESCRIPTION	WEIGHTING
Attendance and Participation	55
Self assessment	15
Midterm Performance	10
Final Performance	20
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100%</b>

If you have a concern about a grade you have received for an evaluation, please come and see me as soon as possible. Refer to the [Grade Review and Appeals](http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf) policy for more information.  
<http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf>

### COURSE GUIDELINES & EXPECTATIONS

---

- Please join online sessions on time, prepared for class. (We will take breaks as needed.) This means being ready to participate as well as being ready to perform for every class.
- Communicate known absences in advance, and make arrangements to account for missed class time.
- The same goes for class work: submit assignments on time, or make alternate arrangements when late.
- Keep an ongoing journal to assess progress and track course concepts.
- Record video clips of performances and organize in a labelled folder.

### SCHOOL OR DEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION

---

**SCHOOL:** Camosun Arts and Science

**DEPARTMENT:** Music (Victoria Conservatory of Music)

*Through its partnership with the Victoria Conservatory of Music, Camosun offers three music programs in classical and contemporary disciplines, with courses at the foundational level, in music technologies, and in music performance.*

All Music Program students are registered Camosun College students entitled to receive all services – including but not limited to academic and personal support – as provided by both Camosun College and the Victoria Conservatory of Music. Music Program students are bound by all policies – including but not limited to academic, administrative, and personal conduct policies – of both Camosun College and the Victoria Conservatory of Music.

### STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY

---

Enrolment at Camosun assumes that the student will become a responsible member of the College community. As such, each student will display a positive work ethic, assist in the preservation of College

property, and assume responsibility for their education by researching academic requirements and policies; demonstrating courtesy and respect toward others; and respecting expectations concerning attendance, assignments, deadlines, and appointments.

## SUPPORTS AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

---

Camosun College offers a number of services to help you succeed in and out of the classroom. For a detailed overview of the supports and services visit <http://camosun.ca/students/>.

Support Service	Website
Academic Advising	<a href="http://camosun.ca/advising">http://camosun.ca/advising</a>
Accessible Learning	<a href="http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning">http://camosun.ca/accessible-learning</a>
Counselling	<a href="http://camosun.ca/counselling">http://camosun.ca/counselling</a>
Career Services	<a href="http://camosun.ca/coop">http://camosun.ca/coop</a>
Financial Aid and Awards	<a href="http://camosun.ca/financialaid">http://camosun.ca/financialaid</a>
Help Centres (Math/English/Science)	<a href="http://camosun.ca/help-centres">http://camosun.ca/help-centres</a>
Indigenous Student Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/indigenous">http://camosun.ca/indigenous</a>
International Student Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/international/">http://camosun.ca/international/</a>
Learning Skills	<a href="http://camosun.ca/learningskills">http://camosun.ca/learningskills</a>
Library	<a href="http://camosun.ca/services/library/">http://camosun.ca/services/library/</a>
Office of Student Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/oss">http://camosun.ca/oss</a>
Ombudsperson	<a href="http://camosun.ca/ombuds">http://camosun.ca/ombuds</a>
Registration	<a href="http://camosun.ca/registration">http://camosun.ca/registration</a>
Technology Support	<a href="http://camosun.ca/its">http://camosun.ca/its</a>
Writing Centre	<a href="http://camosun.ca/writing-centre">http://camosun.ca/writing-centre</a>

**If you have a mental health concern**, please contact Counselling to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. Counselling sessions are available at both campuses during business hours. If you need urgent support after-hours, please contact the Vancouver Island Crisis Line at 1-888-494-3888 or call 911.

## COLLEGE-WIDE POLICIES, PROCEDURES, REQUIREMENTS, AND STANDARDS

---

### Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The College is committed to providing appropriate and reasonable academic accommodations to students with disabilities (i.e. physical, depression, learning, etc). If you have a disability, the [Centre for Accessible Learning](#) (CAL) can help you document your needs, and where disability-related barriers to access in your



courses exist, create an accommodation plan. By making a plan through CAL, you can ensure you have the appropriate academic accommodations you need without disclosing your diagnosis or condition to course instructors. Please visit the CAL website for contacts and to learn how to get started:

<http://camosun.ca/services/accessible-learning/>

### Academic Integrity

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.13.pdf> for policy regarding academic expectations and details for addressing and resolving matters of academic misconduct.

### Academic Progress

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.1.pdf> for further details on how Camosun College monitors students' academic progress and what steps can be taken if a student is at risk of not meeting the College's academic progress standards.

### Course Withdrawals Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.2.pdf> for further details about course withdrawals. For deadline for fees, course drop dates, and tuition refund, please visit <http://camosun.ca/learn/fees/#deadlines>.

### Grading Policy

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf> for further details about grading.

### Grade Review and Appeals

Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.14.pdf> for policy relating to requests for review and appeal of grades.

### Mandatory Attendance for First Class Meeting of Each Course

Camosun College requires mandatory attendance for the first class meeting of each course. If you do not attend, and do not provide your instructor with a reasonable reason in advance, you will be removed from the course and the space offered to the next waitlisted student. For more information, please see the "Attendance" section under "Registration Policies and Procedures"

(<http://camosun.ca/learn/calendar/current/procedures.html>) and the Grading Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-1-programming-and-instruction/e-1.5.pdf>.

### Medical / Compassionate Withdrawals

Students who are incapacitated and unable to complete or succeed in their studies by virtue of serious and demonstrated exceptional circumstances may be eligible for a medical/compassionate withdrawal. Please visit <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.8.pdf> to learn more about the process involved in a medical/compassionate withdrawal.

### Sexual Violence and Misconduct

Camosun is committed to creating a campus culture of safety, respect, and consent. Camosun's Office of Student Support is responsible for offering support to students impacted by sexual violence. Regardless of

when or where the sexual violence or misconduct occurred, students can access support at Camosun. The Office of Student Support will make sure students have a safe and private place to talk and will help them understand what supports are available and their options for next steps. The Office of Student Support respects a student's right to choose what is right for them. For more information see Camosun's Sexualized Violence and Misconduct Policy: <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.9.pdf> and [camosun.ca/sexual-violence](http://camosun.ca/sexual-violence). To contact the Office of Student Support: [oss@camosun.ca](mailto:oss@camosun.ca) or by phone: 250-370-3046 or 250-3703841

### **Student Misconduct (Non-Academic)**

Camosun College is committed to building the academic competency of all students, seeks to empower students to become agents of their own learning, and promotes academic belonging for everyone. Camosun also expects that all students to conduct themselves in a manner that contributes to a positive, supportive, and safe learning environment. Please review Camosun College's Student Misconduct Policy at <http://camosun.ca/about/policies/education-academic/e-2-student-services-and-support/e-2.5.pdf> to understand the College's expectations of academic integrity and student behavioural conduct.

**Changes to this Syllabus:** Every effort has been made to ensure that information in this syllabus is accurate at the time of publication. The College reserves the right to change courses if it becomes necessary so that course content remains relevant. In such cases, the instructor will give the students clear and timely notice of the changes.