TEXAS STATE VITA
(with Fine Arts components)

I. ACADEMIC/PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

A. Nicholas Lawson (a.k.a. Nick Lawson)
nsl9@txstate.edu
Lecturer

B. Educational Background:

MFA 2008 University of Alabama Acting
- Residency at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival

BFA 2004 Chapman University Theatre Performance
- Departmental Honors

C. University Experience:

Lecturer	Texas State University	2015-Present
Adjunct Faculty	Texas State University	2012-2014
Adjunct Faculty	Montclair State University	2010-2012

D. Relevant Professional Experience:

Acting Instructor	ZACH Theatre	2015-Present
• College Bound Conservatory		
• Pre-Professional Company		
Acting & Stage Combat Instructor	KidsActing Studio	2014-Present
Assistant Stage Combat Instructor	Austin Shakespeare	2014-2015
Acting & Stage Combat Instructor	Camp Shakespeare Extreme	2008
Educational Outreach Teacher	Alabama Shakespeare Festival	2007-2008
Theatre Teacher	Dana Point Theatre Co.	2005

E: Other Professional Credentials:
Membership In Academic/Professional Organizations:

Actors' Equity Association (AEA)	2008- Present
Society of American Fight Directors (SAFD)	2008-2010

II. TEACHING

B. Courses Taught:

At Texas State (2012 – Present)

TH 1364 – Beginning Acting (Undergraduate)
- Introduce students to relaxation of the body through Alexander and Laban techniques.
- Begin building voice strength with Linklater exercises.
- Built a gradual curriculum of text and analysis, starting with monologues and working to scenes.

TH 1365 – Intermediate Acting (Undergraduate)
- Continue building theatrical language with scene study and analysis, along with the introduction of Meisner technique.
- Introduction to Classical techniques and styles.

TH 3342 – Television/Film Performance (Undergraduate)

- Explore the differences between stage and screen performance, and learn the ways of applying acting training for the stage to acting on screen.
- Develop and understanding of the special requirements for working on TV and film sets and for navigating a career in the industry.
- Learn the terminology, procedures, and protocol for a career in the film and television industry.

TH 4330 – Improvisation For The Actor (Undergraduate)

- Designed to develop instincts in the moment so that students can make acting choices that best serve their craft.
- A continued development of vocal and physical expressiveness on stage.
- Sharpening of listening skills, characterization, and variety in student's work.

TH 4360 – P&P Shakespeare Ensemble (Undergraduate)

- Using an abridged version of a Shakespeare, students rehearse and perform for local schools and libraries.
- Students learn to scan and analyze classical text, as well as adaptiving perfomance to new spaces and environments.

TH 4390 – Advanced Acting (Undergraduate)

- Using classical texts, students are given one role to work on for the entire semester.
- Using exercises and personal experience, the student will work on an entire acting process from first-read to sustainability for a significant amount of time.

At Zach Theatre (2015- Present)

College Bound Conservatory – Year Three: Monologue Study

- Building off previous classes to use for Classical monologues for auditions and performance.
- Text Analysis, and Pitch, Rhythm, and Volume to tell stories through monologues

College Bound Conservatory – Year Two: Scene Study

- Use existing acting skills to apply to text analysis, scene study for both Contemporary and Classical text.
- Improve listening and imagination skills.
- Introduce the main concepts of the 'father of modern acting' Stanislavski.

Pre-Professional Company – Acting

- Introduce relaxation techniques for both Body and Voice.
- Introduce concepts of objectives, tactics, and Improvisation work to improve listening and imagination skills.
- Apply all learned skills to monologues and scenes.

Acting For Camera

- Introduce techniques subtleties for acting on screen, which differentiate from stage.
- Develop language and atmosphere of being on a set.

kidsActing Studios (2014)

Acting and Stage Combat Instructor

- Taught basic acting principles (Objectives, Tactics, Given Circumstances) through games exercises.
- All lessons are put on display with final presentations.

At Montclair State University (2009 – 2012)

THTR 115 – Acting I (Undergraduate)

- Taught basic principles of Alexander, Laban and Bogart acting techniques for contemporary theatre.
- Created curriculum to support individual student growth in regards to drama.

THTR 116 – Acting II (Undergraduate)

- Continued building acting vocabulary with introduction to Meisner technique.
- Introduced students to basic scene analysis and scene study.

THTR 315 – Acting V/ Advanced Scene Study (Undergraduate)

- Developed skills needed to prepare for a classical role through text analysis, research, and performance of Chekhov, Stanislavski techniques, and Realism acting.

THTR 316 – Acting VI/ Advanced Scene Study (Undergraduate)

- Continued to build classical theatrical techniques with the plays of Shakespeare.
- Developed classical analysis skills through scansion, paraphrasing, operative work and an exploration of poetic devices using monologues and scenes.

Camp Shakespeare Extreme (2008)

Acting & Stage Combat Instructor

- Produced warm-up plans, and scene studies.
- Created daily stage combat lessons and choreography in Unarmed and Rapier for final scenes.

Dana Point Theatre Co. (2005)

Acting Teacher

- Created lessons in acting, improv, and stage combat for after school programs.
- Developed end-of-semester shows, written by the students, using the principles of Commedia Dell'Arte.

I. Lectures and Workshops:

" Audition Workshop" – Advice, tips, and exercises to use for the audition process, including cold readings, and callbacks. *Texas State University - February 2016*

"Basics of Stage Combat" – Basic footwork, defense, and strikes of armed and unarmed stage combat in combination to be used in scene work. *Creative Action – October 2013*

"Pitch, Rhythm, and Volume" – With four lines of verse, explore the endless tactics actors can use with their voice by using pitch, rhythm and volume. *Montclair State University, THTR 315 – September 2011*

"Commedia Dell'Arte" – Theatrical history and introduction to stock characters, with mask demonstrations. *Camp Shakespeare Extreme – August 2008*

III. SCHOLARLY/CREATIVE

B. Works Not in Print

5. Theatrical Productions (Highlights)

AS DIRECTOR/CHOREOGRAPHER

New York/Regional:

West Side Story	Fight Choreographer	Connecticut Rep. Theatre	2016
Stardust	Fight Choreographer	kidsActing Studios	2016
Peter Pan	Fight Choreographer	kidsActing Studios	2015
Twelfth Night	Music/Fight Director	Bama Theatre Company	2014
Little Mother	Fight Choreographer	Twin Alchemy Collective	2014
Macbeth	Fight Choreographer	The City Theatre	2013
Nominated for a B. Iden Payne Award for Best Fights			
Hamlet	Fight Choreographer	Bama Theatre Company	2013
As You Like It	Music Director	Bama Theatre Company	2011
Titanic: A Commedia Show	Writer/Director	Bawdy Bard Productions	2005

University:

Kiss Me, Kate	Asst. Dir./Fight Choreo.	Texas State University	2015
Winner of Austin Critics Table Award "Best Musical"			

AS PERFORMER

New York/Regional:

Miss Bennett: Christmas at Pemberly	Mr. Darcy	Classic Theatre	2018
The Merry Wives Of Windsor	Ford	Austin Shakespeare	2018
A Doll's House	Torvald Helmer	Classic Theatre	2017
A Few Good Men	Lt. Daniel Kaffee	TexArts Professional Series	2016
West Side Story	Officer Krupke	Connecticut Reportory Theatre	2016
15 Minute Hamlet	MC/ Ensemble	Austin Shakespeare	2016
Born Yesterday	Paul Verrall	Classic Theatre	2016
Stage Kiss	The Director	The Playhouse San Antonio	2016
Merchant Of Venice	Bassanio	Classic Theatre	2015
A Chorus Line	Zach	Connecticut Repertory Theatre	2014
Twelfth Night	Feste	Bama Theatre Company	2014
The Music Man	Conductor/Ensemble	Connecticut Repertory Theatre	2013
The Winter's Tale	Autolycus	Austin Shakespeare	2013
Hamlet	Laertes/Rosencrantz	Bama Theatre Company	2013
Richard III	Lord Stanley	Texas State University	2013
As You Like It	Jaques	Bama Theatre Company	2011
Midsummer Night's Dream	Lysander/ Flute	Bama Theatre Company	2011
Macbeth	Donalbain/ 2nd Murderer	Roust Theatre Company	2011
The Beaux Stratagem	Archer	Alabama Shakespeare Festival	2008
Count of Monte Cristo	Maximillian	Alabama Shakespeare Festival	2008
Romeo and Juliet	Peter	Alabama Shakespeare Festival	2008
Doctor Faustus	Benvolio/Envy	Alabama Shakespeare Festival	2007

Henry VI Part A	Basset (	Alabama Shakespeare Festival	2007
Henry VI Part B	Michael	Alabama Shakespeare Festival	2007
Richard III	2nd Murderer	Alabama Shakespeare Festival	2007
Romeo and Juliet	Paris	Shakespeare Orange County	2007
Macbeth	Macbeth	Globe of America	2006
Romeo and Juliet	Romeo	Bawdy Bard Productions	2005
Julius Caesar	Marc Antony	Bawdy Bard Productions	2005
Merchant of Venice	Gratiano	Bawdy Bard Productions	2005
As You Like It	Touchstone	Dana Point Theatre Company	2006
Much Ado About Nothing	Don John	Dana Point Theatre Company	2005
Comedy of Errors	Angelo	Dana Point Theatre Company	2004
Measure for Measure	Claudio	Guerilla Shakespeare Ensemble	2004
Twelfth Night	Sir Andrew Aguecheek	Guerilla Shakespeare Ensemble	2003

6. Films:

The Bar (8 Episodes)	Sky (Lead)	OB Productions	2012
Laid To Rest	Jack (Lead)	San Diego State	2010
Still Water Runs Deep	Eric (Lead)	theBEcompany	2010
Watermelon	Mark (Lead)	KADM Films	2010
As The World Turns	James (Graffiti Artist)	CBS Productions	2009
Boogeyman	Michael (Lead)	Chapman University	2004

Commercials:

HGTV: Tempurpedic: Home Giveaway	Man with Stroller	HGTV Studios	2015
Taco Cabana	Host	Taco Cabana, Inc.	2014
Rent-A-Center Layaway	Man on Couch	Rent-A-Center, Inc.	2013

12. Workshops:

Nexus Musical Theatre Pre-College Summer Intensive – Texas State University – San Marcos 2017-18
"Mock Auditons" – Zach Theatre – Austin, TX, *December 18, 2018*
"Audition Workshop" – Texas State University – San Marcos, TX, *Feb. 28, 2016*
"Rapier Demonstration" – Ballet Austin – Austin, TX, *September 23, 2015*
"Sword Fighting Demonstration" – The Long Center, Austin, TX, *August 23, 2015*
Shakespeare Monologues – Austin Shakespeare – Austin, TX, *June 2 and 9, 2014*
Shakes Alive Workshops - Classic Theatre, San Antonio, TX, *May 2,8,9,15, 2014*
"Villa Finale Napoleon Gala" – Villa Finale Museum- San Antonio, TX *March 27, 2014*

13. Other Works Not in Print
c. Other works not in print
Theatre:

Some Time Ago	Writer	Full Length Play
Hangman's Tale	Writer	Full Length Play
Reading at Texas State *September 14, 2014*		
House Of York	Adaptor	Full Length Play
What You Can't Have	Writer	Full Length Play
Boy King	Writer	Full Length Play

Record Store Banter	Writer	One Act Play
Spearcarriers	Writer	10 Minute Play

Film:

Time Out	Writer	Short Film
Hamlet; Prince of an Actor's Ego	Co-Writer	Short Film
Black Bart	Co-Writer/Creator	Television Pilot

IV. SERVICE

A. Institutional

3. Department/School:

Video Recording for Musical Theatre Dance Videos, *Fall 2015 - Present*
Audition preparations and monologue coaching, *Fall, 2015*
Audition preparations and monologue coaching, *Spring 2015*

B. Professional:

With Bama Theatre Company

Conducted Q&A discussions and text demonstrations, *Spring 2011-2014*

At the Alabama Shakespeare Festival

Educational Outreach to rural area schools, *Spring 2008*