

UNCLE VINNIE'S COMEDY CLASS SYLLABUS

SPRING 2008

COURSE INFORMATION

Title: Welcome to Standup Comedy!

Location: Uncle Vinnie's Comedy Club

518 Arnold Avenue, Point Pleasant Beach, New Jersey 08742

Tel: 732-899-3900

Website: www.unclevinniescomedyclub.com

Schedule: Spring 2008 Monday Evenings 7:30 to 9:00 pm

Commencing April 21, April 28, May 5, May 12, May 19 and June 2.

Instructor: Dr. Thomas F. Cermack JD Tel: 732-300-7656

Email: Tcermack@hotmail.com

~Winner Q104 New comedian contest at Caroline's NYC, Regular performer at Uncle Vinnie's Comedy Club, Co-creator sitcom pilot, "Got Ya Last!", former trial lawyer etc... yawn...

Textbook: Carter, Judy, *Standup Comedy: The Book*, c. 1989. ISBN:10-0440502438. Available on Amazon.com..

Course Materials: You will need: a. sense of humor b. audio recording device c. textbook d. balls.

Course Description: This course is designed for the fledgling comedian but is appropriate for anyone interested in honing their skills before an audience. ie trial lawyers, salespeople etc... The class consists of six one and one-half hour classes (nine hours) that will feature the socratic method of instruction. Guest lecturers are planned but will be subject to availability. Topics to be covered will range from comedy industry overview-bookings, stage presence, crowd work, hecklers-to comedy writing and fear reduction.

Tuition: \$400.00 per student payable to Uncle Vinnie's Comedy Club before or at the commencement of the first class. Tuition can be Cash, Visa or MC.

Exam: None. Are you high? You are out of school no. However the class will have the opportunity to perform as a class at a special show at Uncle Vinnie's Comedy Club so that's an exam of sorts..A DVD of your performance at the showcase will be made available to you for a modest fee, probably \$ 30- 50.00

Attendance: I don't care if you attend so long as you have paid!

Class Size: Limited to 15 attendees. Reserve early!!!!

Grades: Pass/fail, grade yourself, what am I your mother...

Academic Dishonesty Policy: Cheat all you want but do not steal material from another comic or you will be shot!

Bibliography:

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Carter, Judy, *The Comedy Bible*, C. 2001 ISBN: 10-0743201256.

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Halpern, Charna, Close, Del, Johnson, Kim, *Truth in Comedy*,

c. 1994 ISBN: 13-9781566080033.

Helitzer, Melvin, *Comedy Writing Secrets*, c. 1992. ISBN: 13- 9780898795103.

Martin, Steve, *Born Standing Up*, c. 2007 ISBN: 10-1416553649.

Miller, Larry, *Spoiled Rotten America, Outrages of Everyday Life*, Harper Entertainment, c. 2006, ISBN: 13-9780060819088.

Norton, Jim, *Happy Endings, The Tales of a Meaty-Breasted Zilch*, Simon & Schuster, c. 2007, ISBN: 14-16950222.

Rickles, Don and Ritz, David, *Rickle's Book*, c. 2007, ISBN: 13-978074329051.

Sykes, Wanda, *Yeah, I said it*, Atria Books, c. 2004, ISBN: 13-9780743482291.

Zoglin, Richard, *Zen and the Art of Standup Comedy*, Theatre Arts, c. 1998.

Zoglin, Richard, *Comedy at the Edge*, c. 208, ISBN: 13-9781582346243.