# UTA Hagen- 4th Wall

Warm-up Question: What does the 4th wall mean to you? When is appropriate to break it?

*As a class, read Uta Hagen’s Respect for Acting, pages 106-111. This can be found on the class webpage.*

Directions: Create a telephone conversation between the two people (page 110), deciding the:

1. Time
2. Place
3. Circumstances
4. Objects
5. Objectives

Once you have determined the situation, sufficiently rehearse a resulting dialogue so you do not need to improvise the conversation.

As soon as the conversation has been solidified work on interacting with the “secondary fourth wall” (i.e. as they are talking on the phone, they need to be aware that there is a fourth wall; however, the moment you directly acknowledge an imaginary object on/against their fourth wall, it has become a primary fourth wall—which you want to avoid)

Scenes will be performed for a participation grade.

Notes:

* **Primary objects** means you see the (eg. smoke) or when you reference it. This way, both actors must both be using the fourth wall technique and looking at the same spot. Another example is if you use a clock as your object, and then observe what time the clock says. It turns into a primary object.
* **Secondary** means that you can use your own fourth wall and the other actor has no idea.

Reflection:

How does thinking about something on the fourth wall help you prepare a scene? Reflect on your scene performance as well.