

Acting I: Fundamentals of Acting

(sample syllabus)

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COURSE INFORMATION

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course introduces the acting fundamentals of physical/vocal awareness, concentration and imagination, playing objectives, and script analysis in preparation for a role. Group exercises and improvisations are used to develop ease, movement, voice, concentration, imagination, and creative expression. Basic script, scene, and character techniques are practiced through written work, rehearsal strategies, and class performance.

Fundamentals of Acting is an introductory course. *Perfect attendance, an openness to creative exploration, and a desire to cultivate self-expression are more important than prior acting experience.*

COURSE PREREQUISITES: None

COURSE OBJECTIVES: Upon completion of the course students will be able to –

- Engage in the creative process with heightened awareness of self and others
- Demonstrate increased freedom and choice in physical and vocal expression
- Apply basic acting concepts and techniques for characterization
- Utilize critical approaches to script analysis
- Explore the diversity and vibrancy of our local theatre community

REQUIRED MATERIALS: No textbook is required; out-of-class performance attendance/admission is required.

ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT WORK:

10%	Attendance / Active Participation in discussion and in-class exercises
10%	Performance Observations (2)
20%	Response Papers (5)
30%	Performances (exercise performances (x), Scenes (2))
30%	Final Project (Monologue performance, Script and Character Analyses, Reflection paper)
100%	Total

MISSED CLASS DISCUSSIONS and LATE ASSIGNMENTS:

- In-Class work CANNOT be made up. Notes will *not* be provided for missed class material. Active participation includes being prepared for class by doing any reading and/or homework assignments, engaging in class discussions in a thoughtful manner, and fully participating in class activities. Using your mobile device in-class constitutes inactive/non-participation and may be recorded as an absence.
- Written assignments are due at the beginning of assigned class session and will not be accepted late.

GRADING SCALE:

A	100 - 91%
B	90 - 81%
C	80 - 71%
D	70 - 61%
F	60% and below

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SCHEDULE OF ASSIGNMENTS: NOTE: Dates in BOLD are due dates.

Week	Topic	Notes	Assignment
1	Introduction / Concentration	Ensemble building	
2	Awareness	Feldenkrais Method	Response #1
3	Movement	Viewpoints	
4	Movement, cont.	Silent story	Performance Observation #1
5	Breath & Voice	Imagery exercise	Response #2
6	Imagination	Open Scenes	Scene selection due
7	Objective/Obstacle Tactics/Beats	Scoring	Lines due
8	Scene exploration/ Rehearsal approaches	Improvisations Exercises	Response #3
9	Scenes I	Scene 1 st Draft	
10	Rehearsal Workshop	Observed Coaching	Response #4
11	Scenes II	Scene final Performances	Monologue/Script selection due
12	Script Analysis	Missing details ex.	Response #5
13	Character Analysis II	Physical Life	Performance Observation #2
14	Rehearsal Workshop	Observed Coaching	
15	Final Monologues		Final Project due

NOTICE: This syllabus sets forth a tentative schedule of class topics, learning activities, and expected learning outcomes. The instructor reserves the right to modify this schedule to enhance learning for students while conforming to the policies and guidelines of the College.

Performance Observations: Students are responsible for attending two theatre performances works for analysis based on class instructions. All arrangements for attending (including personal schedule, reservations, admission, and transportation) must be made by students in a timely manner.

Classroom Expectations: No food or drink allowed. Water is recommended. Wear comfortable clothing and safe, flexible footwear that offer you a full range of motion. Scripted work should be memorized *prior* to beginning rehearsals. Mutually agreed upon rehearsal time outside of class with scene partner(s) will be necessary. Video and audio recording allowed only with instructor approval.