

# ACTING I

FALL 2017

## **Instructor**

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## **Class Information**

DRM 1351

TUES: ON LINE

THURS: 4:00-6:00pm

PAC Backstage Theatre

Office Hours-TBD

Rehearsal hours-TBD

## **Course Content**

This class is a *participation-based* course. All students will be expected to attend and participate each class. The course will utilize many techniques for both Stage and Screen including the Meisner Approach to Acting. The class will build competency in the use of the body and voice, improvisation, external and internal characterization, audition monologues, and scene study and performance.

## **Texts and Materials**

1. *Acting is Believing*, Charles McGaw and Larry D. Clark
2. Scripts and Photocopies of scenes.
3. Email, PC, Internet, smart phone, scanner.
4. Comfortable, appropriate clothing and sneakers for class.
5. Tickets to local productions such as films, live theatre and TV access as appropriate.
6. Costumes, Props Make Up and Hair Design and Set pieces as needed
7. Notebook/Folder, paper pencils

## **Class Policies and Grading Policies**

Participation Policy: Active participation is required for this course. Students are expected to attend each live class, be on time, prepared, and ready to perform. Students will work a minimum of two hours outside of class each Tues in preparation for classroom work on Thursday and as required for other assignments. Assignments may include preparing play reports, assigned readings, exercises, rehearsal etc.

Attendance Policy - Acting I is a participation-based class. Attendance is required. This includes all Thursday classes, scene previews, and rehearsals. After three misses the student may be ineligible to continue with the class. Three late arrivals equal one absence. If an absence is unavoidable, the student is expected to contact the instructor prior to the missed class.

Performance Policy - Performances will be completed on the assigned date. *Insufficient preparation is never an excuse to delay or miss a performance!*

Grading Policy - All assignments are due on the assigned due date. Assignments completed after the assigned due date will be docked one letter grade for each day late. After the fifth day, a zero is earned. Please refer to the DUE DATES handout for the assignment schedule or the reminder notices in the classroom.

## **Semester Grade Calculation**

1. Performance= 30% of semester average

- a. Letter Exercise
- b. Scene 1 (5-7 minute ensemble)
- c. Scene 2 (5-7 minute duet)
- d. Monologue Audition (1 min classical)
2. Written Work= 30% of semester average
  - a. 2 Production Report
  - b. Script Analysis for Scene 1
  - c. Script Analysis for Scene 2
  - d. Character Analysis for Scene 1
  - e. Character Analysis for Scene 2
3. Instructor's Grade= 20% of semester average based on the following
  - a. class/rehearsal attendance
  - b. participation/attitude
  - c. general progress of individual student
4. Final=20% of semester average. Monologue or Scene will be performed as the Final.

### **Mastery of Course Objectives**

Mastery of the concepts and skills of this course are expected. Students will be encouraged to repeat exercises and course assignments until they are at the level of a professional performance. Therefore grade revisions for all previously completed work, *except the final*, are encouraged.

### **Course Objectives for Acting I**

1. Students will demonstrate confidence and composure onstage.
2. Students will demonstrate knowledge of the technical terms used in performance and theatre terminology.
3. Students will demonstrate and utilize a variety of warm up and performance games prior to performance.
4. Students will demonstrate improvisation skills.
5. Students will read and analyze 4 plays and watch and discuss 2-3 recommended professional productions including: teleplays, films, or musicals.
6. Students will create and perform an original performance that demonstrates mastery of physical action and non verbal communication.
7. Students will discover and utilize a rehearsal and performance process based on the techniques of Stanislavski and/or Meisner.
8. Students will create and perform believable complex characters in 3 scene studies.
9. Students will rehearse and perform the prologue to *Romeo and Juliet*.
10. Students will collaborate and demonstrate positive constructive evaluations of their own work and the work of others.
11. Students will prepare and perform a professional 1 minute modern, 1 minute classical audition package.
12. Students will view and discuss professional examples of excellent performance work.