

THEATRE 1351:001 Acting I
Course Syllabus
Fall Semester, 2015

Instructor: Dona Roman
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Office Hours: TR 11:00-12:00
TR 3:30-5:00 or by appointment
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DESCRIPTION:

An introduction and study of acting including basic sensory exercises, character research and scene study.

TEXT:

Respect for Acting. Uta Hagen (1973). Hungry Minds, Inc.

GOALS:

1. Understand basic principles of sensory exercises
2. Gain knowledge and understanding of listening and connecting
3. Learn how to analyze a script for character, objective and actions.
4. Develop strong team building relationships by working with partners and within groups.
5. Develop strong interpersonal skills and critical analysis of process and scripts through classroom discussion and exercises.

CLASS MEETINGS:

Attendance is required. Course is strictly graded on performance. Any unexplained* absence of any class will lower overall grade 7 pts., and each subsequent absence will lower grade an additional 7 pts. Six (6) absences, of any kind, will result in a WF. Assignments not completed will not be accepted after one week. Students are responsible for unattended classes.

*Students must contact instructor prior to class and receive permission to miss class in order to be considered as an explained absence.

Qualified students with disabilities needing academic or other accommodations to ensure full participation in our programs, services and activities should contact the Disabilities Services Coordinator, Counseling and Prevention Services, (432) 837-8203.

UNIVERSITY RULES/REGULATIONS:

Rules and regulations regarding plagiarism, dishonesty, and other issues concerning classroom participation can be found in the University Rules and Regulations and Student Handbook.

ExCET GOALS:

743--001, 743--002, 743--003, 743--004, 743--008, 743--011, 743--013

EVALUATION:

Grades will be based on performance of the following criteria: classroom participation, performance and analysis of individual projects, completion of scene work with partners, and written evaluation of reading assignments. All written assignments must be typed.

Solo projects = 15%

Scene work = 40%

The commitment to sharing work with a partner or group is essential in successful completion of this portion of the work, and the overall performance grade will be seriously impacted if significant rehearsal with partner(s) is not completed. Your partner(s) rely on you, and you need each other to successfully complete the work, both inside and outside of class.

Written work = 25% of overall grade

All work on stage must accompany a fully realized character analysis following the criteria of self-examination, given circumstances dictated by the script, and development of goals, objective, obstacles and actions.

Final Scene = 20% of overall grade

EXTRA CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES:

Auditioning for fall productions*

Crewing fall productions

*Students auditioning for a fall production must be willing to accept any role in which they are cast.

GRADES:

A=100%-90%

B=89%-80%

C=79%-70%

D=69%-60%

F=below 60%

THEATRE PROGRAM LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

This course is designed to meet one or more of the program learning outcomes applied to all Theatre majors. The graduating theatre student will demonstrate:

1. Students will develop the ability to express themselves creatively through appropriate theatrical performance and/or design.
2. The student will develop the ability to employ analytical and critical thinking skills through directing, playwriting, theatre history and script analysis so that they will work creatively and concretely with actors and technicians in mounting laboratory theatrical productions.
3. The student will demonstrate the ability to apply standard industry requirements to all aspects of technical production.

Course Outline

- Week 1 Introduction and self-awareness assignment
Listening Exercises
- Week 2 Sensory Exercises
Sensory Work; working in teams
- Week 3 Object Exercises; working in teams
Object Exercises; includes fully realized character analysis
- Week 4 Object Work; working in teams
Object Work; includes fully realized character analysis
- Week 5 A/B Scenes; working with a partner; developing trust and connection
A/B Scenes; includes fully realized character analysis
- Week 6 A/B Scenes; includes fully realized character analysis
- Week 7 Monologue Preparation
Monologue Work; critical analysis of script for character development
- Week 8 **Midterm Monologues Performed; includes fully realized character analysis**
- Week 9 Dramatic Scene Preparation; working in groups of 2-3
Dramatic Scene Work; development of given circumstances through script analysis
- Week 10 Dramatic Scene Work; critical analysis of script for character development
- Week 11 Action/Object Exercises working in groups of 2-3
- Week 12 Dramatic Scenes Performed; includes fully realized character analysis
- Week 13 First Readings final scene working in groups of 2-3
Prepare for Final: development of given circumstances through script analysis
critical analysis of script for character development
- Week 14 Prepare for Final
Action/Object Exercises working in groups of 2-3
THANKSGIVING BREAK
- Week 15 Prepare for Final
Action/Object Exercises working in groups of 2-3

Final Scene due: Wednesday, December 9 @ 10:15 a.m.