Class Description

This course is an introduction to fundamental acting techniques. This course will emphasize developing the actor’s instrument, introducing the student to the fundamentals of acting and making the student a more informed observer of the acting experience. Through exercises, improvisation, monologue, and scene work students develop the important skills of concentration, listening, physicalization, and spontaneity.

Course Objectives

- engage in relaxation exercises to eradicate “stage fright”
- learn body control and vocal projection techniques
- participate in improvisation exercises
- learn theatre vocabulary
- read and analyze scenes, monologues, and plays
- practice line memorization
- rehearse with scene partners outside of class
- receive and give constructive criticisms
- attain self-awareness and confidence

Class Conduct

Proper clothing for working on in class exercises is essential. On days when movement is scheduled clothing that allows for flexibility and proper participation in the exercises must be worn. This includes proper footwear.

Class must begin promptly! Due too the participatory nature of this class continual tardiness will result in the lowering of your grade. It is always a good idea to arrive at least 5 minutes early to prepare for class.

Cell phones will be silenced prior to entering class!

No food, gum, drinks will be allowed in class. Bottled water in a closed container is allowed.

Participation and collaboration are expected, and will factor in the final grade for the course. Participation means that you are prepared to play and have fun with games, exercises and improvisation each class meeting. Your participation also includes asking and responding to questions related to class work, and taking initiative in your work progress. Collaboration means that you will work with your assigned groups by being generous with ideas, skills and talents. You will respect the time and effort of others in your group by being prompt and prepared for rehearsals scheduled outside of class.
**Attendance Policy**

Only 2 unexcused absences are allowed during this course. Additional unexcused absences beyond 2 will result in the lowering of your grade one half letter.

Attendance at scheduled out of class rehearsals will also factor into your grade for this course. In other words: Don’t blow off your scene partner!!! I will hear about it!

**Response Papers**

Students will be required to attend all three of the productions listed at the bottom of this syllabus, and write a response paper for each of the productions. Papers are to be typed, 2 pages in length, and will be due the next class period following closing night. You may also email me your paper, (I prefer this method) same rules apply to emailed papers. I will reply that I have received your submission. Your paper is to focus on the acting of the production, not the sets, lights or costumes. If your paper has obviously altered font size or margins you will be asked to rewrite!

**Grading**

Movement and Voice exercises = 100 points each  
2 scenes = 100 points each  
1 monologue = 100 points  
Final performance = 100 points  
Response papers = 50 points each

**Fall Semester Theatre Productions**

Hedda Gabler: September 30, October 1,7 & 8 at 7:30pm and October 2 and 9 at 2pm  
Love’s Labour’s Lost: November 4,5,11,12 at 7:30pm and November 6, 13 at 2pm  
A Christmas Carol: December 2,3,9,10 at 7:30pm and December 4,11 at 2pm
August
M22 Intro and Syllabus
W24 Intro to acting exercises
F26 Intro to acting exercises
M29 Movement
W31 Movement

September
F2 Movement
M5 No Classes Labor Day
W7 In class rehearsal of Rock Star
F9 Rock Star
M12 Voice
W14 Voice
F16 Voice
M19 Staging/Characterization and
Rehearsal techniques/ Finding a Scene
W21Finding a scene
F23 rehearsal Scene 1
M26 rehearsal Scene 1
W28 rehearsal Scene 1
F30 rehearsal scene1

October
M3 rehearsal scene 1
W5 dry run scene 1
F7dry run scene 1
M10 performance scene 1
W12 Performance scene1
F14Finding Monologues
M17 rehearse monologue
W19 rehearse monologue
F21 rehearse monologue
M24 rehearse monologue
W26Monologue Performance
F28. Monologue Performance
M31 Scene 2 rehearsal

November
W2 Scene 2 rehearsal
F4 Scene 2 rehearsal
M7 Scene 2 rehearsal
W9 Dry Run Scene 2
M11 Dry Run Scene 2
M14 Performance Scene 2
W16 Performance Scene 2
F18 rehearsal of final scene
M21-F 25 Thanksgiving Break
M28 rehearsal of final scene
W30rehearsal of final scene

December
F2 rehearsal of final scene
M5 rehearsal of final scene
W7 Dry Run of final scene
F9 Dry Run of final scene

Final Exam:
Section D (MWF class) Monday
December 12 9:45AM
Section C (TR class) Thursday
December 15 at 9:45