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

**Spring Semester Theatre Productions**

The Miracle Worker: February 25 & 26 and March 4 & 5 at 7:30pm  
Feb 27 and Mar 6 at 2pm  
Six Characters: February 24, 25, 26 at 7:30pm  
Feb 27 at 2pm  
Kiss Me Kate: April 8, 9, 15, 16 at 7:30pm  
April 10 and 17 at 2pm
January
M10 Intro and Syllabus
W12 Intro to acting exercises
F14 Intro to acting exercises
M17 King Holiday No Classes
W 19 ACTF No Classes
F 21 ACTF No Classes
M24 Movement
W26 Movement
F28 Rock Star!
M31 Voice

February
W2 Voice
F4 Voice
M7 Staging/Characterization and
Rehearsal techniques
W9 Finding a scene
F11 rehearsal Scene 1
M14 rehearsal Scene 1
W16 rehearsal Scene 1
F18 dry run Scene 1
M21 dry run Scene1
W23 performance Scene 1
F25 performance Scene1
M28 rehearsal scene 2

March
W2 Rehearsal scene 2
F4 Rehearsal scene2
M7 Miracle Worker Discussion/Dry Run
W9 Scene 2 Dry Run
F11Scene 2 Dry Run
M14- F18 Spring Break
M21 Scene 2 rehearsal
W23 Scene 2 Performance
F25. Scene 2 Performance
M28 Six Characters Discussion/
Monologue must be chosen
W30 Monologue Rehearsal

April
M4 Monologue rehearsal
W6 Dry run of monologues
F8 Dry Run of monologues
M11 Performance of Monologues
W13 Performance of Monologues
F15 Final Scene Choice & Rehearsal
M18 Kiss Me Kate Discussion/rehearsal
W20 rehearsal of final scene
F22 rehearsal of final scene
M25 rehearsal of final scene
W27 Dry Run of final scene
F29 Dry Run of final scene

Final Exam:
Section C (10:00 class):
   Tuesday, May 3 9:45-11:45
Section A (11:00 class)
   Thursday, May 5 9:45-11:45