

Montgomery County Community College
THA 105
Acting I
3-2-2

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This entry-level course in acting is an exploration of the individual's body, voice, imagination, and tools for communication. Using theatre games, exercises, and various acting methods, students will develop their tools while exploring improvisation and scripted works. These tools will be applied to the presentation of monologues and scenes. Students will be required to view live and/or streamed theatre performances.

REQUISITES:

Previous Course Requirements

- REA 017 Vocabulary & Reading Comprehension Development II or REA 011 Fundamentals of College Read.
- ENG 010A Basic Writing or ESL 011 ESL Basic Writing II or ENG 011 Basic Writing II

Concurrent Course Requirements

None

LEARNING OUTCOMES Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
1. Apply specific use of body, voice and imagination to communicate and physicalize with freedom of expression.	Rehearsal of Monologues, Scenes, and/or devised work Warm-ups Exercises Lecture/Demonstration Improvisation	Class Participation Oral Presentation
2. Create a public performance of a theatrical work using proper physical and vocal skills, theatrical etiquette and professionalism.	Acting Exercises Rehearsal of Monologues, Scenes, and/or devised work, and Improvisation	Presentation of Monologues, Scenes, and/or devised work, and Improvisation

LEARNING OUTCOMES	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
3. Apply appropriate research tools to create an original performance of a theatrical work or a related topic.	Rehearsal of Monologues, Scenes, Improvisation, and/or devised work. Class Discussion Library and On-line Research	Presentation of Monologues, Scenes, Improvisation, and/or devised work.
4. Analyze a written text to determine artistic and aesthetic choices used to interpret and communicate the writer/creator's vision.	Assigned Readings Class Discussion	Research Presentation Response Papers Research Paper Journaling
5. Apply skills of observation, aesthetic value and analysis to the creation of an informed critique of a theatrical work.	Critique and Discussion of work done by Theatre Professionals and Students Engaging with Live Theatre Performance(s) Lecture/Discussion	Critique Paper Journaling Production Response Project
6. Apply appropriate research techniques to contextualize theatrical pieces; exploring relevancy and intention through art, to explore empathy and cultural expression.	Library and On-line Research AV/Multimedia Materials Class Discussions	Research Presentation Research Paper
7. Engage with live theatre and theatre artists to experience and understand theatre arts in practice.	Engaging with Live Theatre Performance(s) and/or Seminars, Talk Backs with Theatre Professionals	Class Discussion or Response Paper

At the conclusion of each semester/session, assessment of the learning outcomes will be completed by course faculty using the listed evaluation method(s). Aggregated results will be submitted to the Director of Educational Effectiveness. The benchmark for each learning outcome is that *70% of students will meet or exceed outcome criteria*.

SEQUENCE OF TOPICS:

All classes will include warm-up exercises for body, voice, and imagination. Each class will emphasize a particular concept or skill.

1. Course Introduction
2. Improvisation: "Yes...and", Trusting Instincts, and Commitment
3. Identifying Beats, Objective, Obstacle, Conflict, Tactics, and Given Circumstances
4. Active Listening and Communication

5. Presenting and Sharing Work
6. Monologues
7. Acting Guideposts
8. Preparing for Scene Work
9. Rehearsals
10. Peer Review
 - a. Observation
 - b. Aesthetic value
 - c. Analysis
11. Demonstrations thru Specific Stage, Film, and/or Television Examples

LEARNING MATERIALS:

Audition. Shurtleff, Michael. (2002). Routledge.

or

How to Stop Acting: A Renowned Acting Coach Shares His Revolutionary Approach to Landing Roles, Developing Them and Keeping them Alive
 Paperback – June 25, 2003- by Harold Guskin ISBN-13: 978-0571199990

or

Alternate texts as appropriate to the course.

Other learning materials may be required and made available directly to the student and/or via the College's Libraries and/or course management system.

COURSE APPROVAL:

Prepared by: Michael Whistler Date: 10/24/2008

VPAA/Provost Compliance Verification: John C. Flynn, Jr., Ph.D. Date: 2/25/2009

Revised by: Michael Whistler Date: 2/10/2013

VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification:
 Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D. Date: 2/15/2013

Revised by: Michael Whistler Date: 2/10/2015

VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification:
 Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D. Date: 4/2015

Revised by: Timothy Gallagher Date: 12/15/2017

VPAA/Provost or designee Compliance Verification:
 Victoria L. Bastecki-Perez, Ed.D. Date: 1/30/2018

Revised by: Timothy Gallagher
VPAA or designee Compliance Verification:

Date: 4/18/2024
Date: 11/19/2024

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Timothy Gallagher", is written over a faint, rectangular grid background.

This course is consistent with Montgomery County Community College's mission. It was developed, approved, and will be delivered in full compliance with the policies and procedures established by the College.