

Montgomery County Community College
THA 105
Introduction to Acting I: Improvisation and Fundamentals
3-2-2

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This entry-level course in acting is an exploration of the individual's body, voice and imagination and tools for communication. Through theatre games and exercises, students will explore improvisation and acting as a continuum of dynamic action, of listening and responding to stimuli and action with both the body and the emotional self. These tools will be applied to the presentation of monologues and scenes in class. Students will be required to attend live theatre performances. This course is subject to a course fee. Refer to <http://mc3.edu/adm-fin-aid/paying/tuition/course-fees> for current rates.

REQUISITES:*Previous Course Requirements*

- REA 017 Vocabulary & Reading Comprehension Development II or REA 011 Fundamentals of College Read.
- 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. Identify the specific use of body and voice to communicate; applying skills to move and create voice with freedom and expression.	In Class Rehearsal of Monologues & Scenes Warm Ups Exercises Lecture/Demonstration Improvisation	In Class Participation Oral Exam
2. Apply skills to the creation of a public performance or presentation of theatrical work (monologue, scene, play or theatre piece), using proper theatrical etiquette and professionalism.	In Class Acting Exercises In Class Rehearsal of Scenes Improvisation	Presentation of Monologues and Scenes

LEARNING OUTCOMES	LEARNING ACTIVITIES	EVALUATION METHODS
3. Apply appropriate research techniques to create an original performance of a theatrical work or a related topic.	Presentation of Monologues, Scenes In Class Discussion Library and On-line Research	In Class Research Presentation
4. Analyze a written text to determine artistic and aesthetic choices used to interpret and communicate the writer/creator's vision.	Assigned Readings In Class Discussion	In Class 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.	In Class Critique and Discussion of Student Work Attending Live Theatre Performance(s) Lecture/Discussion	Critique Paper Journaling
6. Apply appropriate research techniques to contextualize theatre against the culture and historical period which created it; exploring the history and evolution of theatre, and other cultural expression.	Library and On-line Research AV/Multimedia Materials In Class Discussion	In Class Research Presentation Research Paper
7. Engage with live theatre and theatre artists to experience and understand theatre arts in practice.	Attending Live Theatre Performance(s) and/or Seminars, Talk Backs with Theatre Professionals	In 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 Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs. The benchmark for each learning outcome is that *70% of students will meet or exceed outcome criteria*.

SEQUENCE OF TOPICS:

All movement 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, Commitment and Size
3. Identifying Objective, Obstacle, Conflict and Tactics
4. Presenting and Sharing Work

5. Monologues
6. Acting "Guideposts"
7. Preparing for Scene Work
8. In-class Rehearsals
9. Viewing and Critique of Monologue and Scene Work
 - a. Observation
 - b. Aesthetic value
 - c. Analysis
10. Demonstrations thru Specific Stage, Film, and/or Television Examples

LEARNING MATERIALS:

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

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: Date: 1/30/2018



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.