



COURSE OUTLINE

Course Number	Course Title	Credits
THR207	Scene Study I	3
Hours: Lecture/Lab/Other	Co- or Pre-requisite	Implementation Semester & Year
1/2/0	None	Fall 2023

Catalog description: Combines literary and theatrical skills. Students analyze scenes from plays, screenplays, and non-dramatic literature to discover how theatre artists use character, setting, circumstance, and dialogue when transforming text into performance. The interaction of writers, actors, and directors in developing and presenting scenes in performance is also observed. The class concludes with a public performance.

General Education Category:

Not GenEd

Course coordinator:

Jody P Gazenbeek-Person, x3524,
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Required texts & Other materials:

1. *The Actor's Script: Script Analysis for Performers* by Charles Waxberg, Heinemann Drama
2. Our library and the county system contain a collection of relevant books, videos, recordings, and electronic databases to supplement the students' learning. Please consult with the Program Coordinator for further and specific reading recommendations.

Course Student Learning Outcomes (SLO):

Upon successful completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Develop an understanding of dramatic literature in order to enhance active choices. [Supports ILG # 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9,10, & 11 PLO # 2, 5, 7]
2. Strengthen their approach to the acting process through making active choices in pursuit of active objectives. [Supports ILG # 1, 7, 10, & 11 PLO # 1, 2, 3, 5]
3. Analyze scenes to heighten characterizations through conflict, situation, and circumstances. [Supports ILG # 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9,10, & 11 PLO # 1, 2, 3, 5]
4. Compare and contrast various levels of acting technique by developing a critical eye through observing live theatrical productions, their own work, and the work of their peers. [Supports ILG # 1, 7, 10, & 11 PLO # 6, 7]
5. Apply a technical process of acting to rehearsed scenes from standard theatre repertoire. [Supports ILG # 1, 7 PLO # 1-3]

Course-specific Institutional Learning Goals (ILG):

Institutional Learning Goal 1. Written and Oral Communication in English. Students will communicate effectively in both speech and writing.

Institutional Learning Goal 5. Social Science. Students will use social science theories and concepts to analyze human behavior and social and political institutions and to act as responsible citizens.

Institutional Learning Goal 6. Humanities. Students will analyze works in the fields of art, music, or theater; literature; philosophy and/or religious studies; and/or will gain competence in the use of a foreign language.

Institutional Learning Goal 7. History. Students will understand historical events and movements in World, Western, non-Western or American societies and assess their subsequent significance.

Institutional Learning Goal 8. Diversity and Global Perspective: Students will understand the importance of a global perspective and culturally diverse peoples

Institutional Learning Goal 9. Ethical Reasoning and Action. Students will understand ethical frameworks, issues, and situations.

Institutional Learning Goal 10. Information Literacy: Students will recognize when information is needed and have the knowledge and skills to locate, evaluate, and effectively use information for college level work.

Institutional Learning Goal 11. Critical Thinking: Students will use critical thinking skills understand, analyze, or apply information or solve problems.

Program Learning Outcomes for Theatre AA, Theatre AFA & Communications: Speech and TH(PLO)

1. Conduct research in preparation for performing a role;
2. Independently interpret dramatic literature for performance;
3. Use a variety of acting, movement, and vocal techniques to craft a performance;
4. Work collaboratively with artistic and production staff;

5. Create successful auditions by preparing materials and exhibiting professional conduct.

Communication: Speech and Theatre utilizes these two additional PLOs:

6. Develop communicative competencies in physical presentation, vocal variety techniques, and anxiety management skills to deliver prepared or extemporaneous speeches;

7. Develop effective interpersonal and intrapersonal communication skills.

Units of study in detail – Unit Student Learning Outcomes:

Unit I: Preparation for Acting [Supports Course SLOs # 1-5]

The student will be able to

- Develop and appreciate the physical and vocal abilities necessary to implement acting fundamentals. **(SLO: 1-5)**
- Demonstrate a creative imagination through visualization and relaxation. **(SLO: 2)**
- Distinguish between different acting approaches of the 20th century. **(SLO: 1)**
- Analyze human behavior and communication in order to recreate it on stage. **(SLO: 1)**
- Develop communication skills through positive and supportive observations of peer class work. **(SLO: 4)**

Unit II: The Actor's Approach [Supports Course SLOs # 2, 4, 5]

The student will be able to

- Develop and appreciate the physical and vocal abilities necessary to implement acting fundamentals. **(SLO: 5)**
- Demonstrate a creative imagination through visualization and relaxation. **(SLO: 5)**
- Demonstrate an understanding of contemporary acting technique. **(SLO: 2)**
- Evaluate peer application of contemporary acting technique. **(SLO: 4)**
- Develop positive communication through positive and supportive observations of peer class work. **(SLO: 4)**

Unit III: The Actor's Task [Supports Course SLOs # 1-4]

The student will be able to

- Identify specific acting terminology and dramatic structure. **(SLO: 1)**
- Analyze dramatic literature by applying criteria for text analysis. **(SLO: 1)**
- Demonstrate teamwork and interaction through rehearsal of two character scenes. **(SLO: 1-3)**
- Demonstrate contemporary acting technique. **(SLO: 1-3)**
- Develop communication skills through positive and supportive observations of peer class work. **(SLO 4:)**

Unit IV: The Actor in Performance [Supports Course SLOs # 1-5]

The student will be able to

- Demonstrate the physical and vocal abilities necessary to implement acting fundamentals. **(SLO: 5)**
- Demonstrate contemporary acting technique. **(SLO: 1-3)**
- Demonstrate problem-solving skills through completion of small group task. **(SLO: 4)**
- Compare and contrast various levels of acting technique employing acting criteria from class to observation of a live theatrical production. **(SLO: 4)**
- Discover the cultural resources available to them. **(SLO: 3)**
- Develop communication skills through positive and supportive observations of peer class work. **(SLO: 4)**

Evaluation of student learning:

1. Attendance and Participation. Through in-class exercises students learn to appreciate and build heightened physical and vocal abilities for the stage. This course relies heavily on its laboratory component as a tool for instruction. The majority of its content is available only through class attendance, participation, interaction and application of principles.
2. Improvisation Questionnaires. Following each improvisation, students must fill in neatly and completely the improvisation questionnaire, which the instructor will hand out. In the questionnaire students will analyze and assess how successful the exercise was. It is an opportunity for students to look at their work objectively and determine which choices were successful and which choices could have been stronger.
3. Reaction Papers. Students are required to see two live PROFESSIONAL performances and write a reaction paper for each that analyzes the ACTING in the show incorporating concepts discussed in class.
4. Life Observation. Students prepare a 2-3 page typed paper describing an observation of a moment in their lives when they consciously did something to get a reaction out of someone else.
5. Character Biography. Helps students identify and describe the "world" of a play and the points of views of various characters, their "wants," and the stakes in achieving or not achieving them.
6. Final Project. Students will perform the material they have worked on in class for an audience. The audience is the final element in the study of the fundamentals of acting. Through this culminating event students experience the full impact of a theatrical experience and how all the objectives of the class have prepared them for this event. Students will develop their ability to create and communicate through personal artistic/aesthetic expression and develop a fundamental understanding of teamwork, communication and ensemble as they complete this exercise.