

Common Course Outline
THTR 203
Fundamentals of Stage Directing
3 Semester Hours

The Community College of Baltimore County

Description

Fundamentals of Directing

Introduces the basic tools and techniques of stage directing; includes the selection, analysis, conceptualization, coordination, actor coaching and staging of plays.

Prerequisite: Placement in ENGL 101 or successful completion of ENGL 052 and exemption from or completion of RDNG 052

Overall Course Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Apply the principles of blocking, stage business and picturization to the staging of a scene;
2. compile an annotated production book;
3. identify the hierarchy of the theatre and the chain of command involving the relationships among the various artists and technicians of the theatre;
4. demonstrate a working knowledge of the duties of the stage manager and how most effectively to use a stage manager;
5. demonstrate critical thinking in researching, analyzing and conceptualizing a text;
6. differentiate the structure, language, text, and theme of a play;
7. apply Aristotelian analysis of plot, idea, character, language, music, and spectacle;
8. perform character analysis including the physical, social, psychological, and moral levels of characterization;
9. identify the style of a play including mood, format (comedy, farce, realism, musical, etc.), and the traditional historic approaches
10. demonstrate a working knowledge of the practical considerations of directing as a profession, such as the job market, unions and how to gain employment.

Major Topics

1. The Director's approach
2. The Stage Manager
3. Production Coordination and Administration
4. Actor Coaching
5. Blocking, Stage Business, and Picturization
6. Structure, Language and Text
7. Character
8. Theme
9. Concept
10. Style
11. Play Selection
12. The Profession

Course Requirements

Class participation (including consistent attendance and involvement in class discussions, evaluative tools at the discretion of the instructor).

Completion of a prompt book script

At least three in-class scenes with written script and character analysis

At least three written critiques of fellow classmates' scenes

At least two written exams