

Common Course Outline

THTR 145

Actor Training Seminar

1 Semester Hour

The Community College of Baltimore County

Description

Actor Training Seminar

Introduces the serious acting student to a new theatrical concept each week; developed these concepts through workshop and performance; employs diverse theories and more disparate and non-traditional approaches to supplement the more naturalistic based styles studied in Acting I and II

Overall Course Objectives

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

1. Assess a variety of theatrical styles from around the world.
2. Demonstrate proficiency on using the instrument of the performer, the self, through movement, improvisation and contact with written text.
3. Recognize awareness of the faculties of the actor and his tasks.
4. Apply the theories of disparate theatrical styles into performance.
5. Prepare (rehearse) and perform a theatrical text.
6. Analyze and critique a theatrical text, a deconstructed text, and a non-theatrical text in order to bring it to performance.
7. Assess, analyze and peer critique a theatrical performance.
8. Determine character choices, both psychologically, physically, and culturally in creating a role.
9. Recognize the application of theatrical skills in personal development and growth.
10. Identify and demonstrate various physical and emotional techniques explored in various acting styles, theories and philosophies.
11. Explore the power of ritual in performance.
12. Apply the skills necessary to animate objects/props in performance.
13. Analyze and explore the changes in character development in altering status.
14. Analyze truth in performance, both physically and psychologically.
15. Encourage relaxation, concentration, focus and confidence in performance.
16. Promote a better understanding of one's self, recognizing the student as central to the learning process.

17. Engage in art, literature and process that promotes a learning environment and embraces and values diversity.
18. Increase communicative skills.
19. Grow as an individual.

Major Topics

- I. Improvisational Techniques.
- II. Rudimentary Stage Combat.
- III. Lazzi and the Idiot Buffoon.
- IV. Poetic Interpretation and Non-Theatrical Texts.
- V. Laban, Meyerhold's Biomechanics and Delsarte (including Expressionism, Surrealism, and Dada Sensibilities).
- VI. Alexander Technique and Body Types.
- VII. Goffman's Theory of Status.
- VIII. Ritual and Pan Asian/Kabuki Movement Styles.
- IX. Kraken's Vocal Sequencing to Organic Emotional Recall.
- X. Exploring Deconstructed Text.
- XI. Object Animation Exploration.
- XII. Music and Movement in Modern, Absurdist and Post-Modern Theatre.

Course Requirements

1. Attendance and active participation in class.
2. Individual and group exercises.
3. Reading assignments.
4. Rehearsal and performance assessment.
5. At least one performance/exploration/incorporation of concept learned each class in practice.
6. One formal paper serving as a summation of concepts learned and developed throughout the semester.

Other Course Information

THTR 145, Actor Training Seminar replaces THTR 145, Games for Actors

The Community College of Baltimore County is committed to providing a high quality learning experience that results in a growth of knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to function as a transfer student to another institution, in a career, and as a citizen. This course requires a serious commitment, as it challenges both the academic rigors, but the artistic inventory of the individual. Above all, as a learning college, this course is evidence of how the student must assume ownership of the learning process, and thrive in the learning centered environment that is created in the immersion of acting styles and subsequent exploration as well as how it applies to the success and higher cognitive skills of each specific individual.

