

Acting II

Course Syllabus

Course Information

Course Title: Acting III

Semester & Year Offered: Second Year 2011/2012

Teacher's Email Address: tracie.jade@gmail.com

Essential Question: *Am I living on stage under imaginary circumstances?*

Course Description: Acting III introduces the student to the Meisner technique which is rooted in truthful human behavior. Our primary focus will be on learning the tenets of this approach which is quite different from Method Acting which students were immersed in during the second year.

Course Goals and Objectives The goal of this course is to help students develop skills in The Meisner technique and application, giving him/her access to different ways to approach acting. This method helps the actor to “get out of the head and into the emotion well”. Students respond to impulse as opposed to premeditated decisions on stage. In order to help the student reach this goal, we will explore:

- “The Repetition” Exercise
- “The Other” Exercise

Instructional Methods

These skills will be introduced through the exploration of theatre exercises, improvisation, discussion, written analysis papers, and scene work.

Texts, Readings

- **Sanford Meisner On Acting** by *Sanford Meisner and Dennis Longwell*

Attendance Policy

The Theatre Department prides itself in addressing each class as company. This idea promotes building ensembles and developing a respect for each individual contribution to the whole. That being said, students are expected to be prompt, prepared, and dependable. If student is late for class, he will not be allowed to participate for the day and will receive “0” or F. If student is late two times within a semester, he will be marked for one absence. Three unexcused absences will result in an F for the class. Exceptions for this policy are for family emergencies and serious illnesses. If student has any special needs (physical or emotional) that Theatre Staff should be made aware of, please contact Department Chair.

Professional Practices

- Student is expected to arrived appropriately dressed and start warm-up upon arrival
- No jewelry (earrings, necklaces, rings, nail polish, etc.)
- Student should be actively engaged in class
- No excessive talking or distractions during class
- **Students should not leave studio for any reason without teacher's consent**
- Student should be engaged in personal acting development at least one hour per day. Student should record these sessions in acting journal. Acting journals will be turned in at the end of each advisory.

Make-up Policy

In the event that there is a family emergency or serious illness, student or parent should contact instructor via e-mail prior to class (if possible). The student will be expected to make up the assignment/performance during next scheduled class period. Each day late after due date, a letter grade will be dropped.

Evaluation

1. Participation, preparedness, attitude.....10 points
2. Company/ensemble work ethic.....10 points
3. Life studies (person, animal, figure).....10 points
4. Journal entries.....10 points
5. Monologue/Scenes presentation.....20 points
6. Final (jury).....40 points

A= 90-100 points, exceptional work, complete, detailed, consistently dynamic and inventive

B = 80-89 points, very good work, fairly complete w/numerous details but not consistently dynamic

C = 70-79 points, average to good work, meets minimum requirements but lacks detail and specificity

D = 65-69 points, below average work; incomplete, shows lack of care for assignment

F = below 65 points, fails to meet any of the assignment goals

Plagiarism Policy

Credibility and integrity are essential traits in a professional who is guaranteed the exclusive ownership of his or her own creations and must respect the same rights of others. No credit can be given for a dishonest assignment. At the discretion of the instructor, a student caught engaging in any form of academic dishonesty may be:

- a) Given a zero for that assignment
- b) Assigned a reduced grade for the course
- c) Reported to Department Chair for further action

National and DCPS Standards for Arts Education:

HSP.1.4 Make acting choices using script analysis, character research, reflection, and revision through the rehearsal process

HSA.1.5. Create gestures, movement qualities, and physical attributes based on ones interpretation and analysis of the inner workings of character

HAS.3.3 Document observations and perceptions of production elements of a play noting, pacing, and use of space

8.3.1 Use the vocabulary of theatre to describe theatrical experiences