

COURSE OUTLINE

THET-141
Basic Acting I
3 Semester Hours
Humanities Core Course

HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Description

This course will include a brief survey of theatre concepts and terminology. The student will develop acting skills and techniques including oral communication, improvisation and stage movement. The student will participate in brief dramatic presentations. Prerequisite: Eligible to enroll in ENGL-121. (3 hours weekly)

Statement on General Education and Liberal Learning

A liberal education prepares students to lead ethical, productive, and creative lives and to understand how the pursuit of lifelong learning and critical thinking fosters good citizenship. General education courses form the core of a liberal education within the higher education curriculum and provide a coherent intellectual experience for all students by introducing the fundamental concepts and methods of inquiry in the areas of mathematics, the physical and natural sciences, the social sciences, the arts and the humanities, and composition. This course is part of the general education core experience at Howard Community College.

Overall Courses Objectives

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

1. Recall important acting terms and concepts.
2. Discuss the role of the actor as it relates to other theatre artists.
3. Analyze characters from dramatic literature for performance.
4. Memorize short cuttings from dramatic literature.
5. Perform short cuttings from dramatic literature in front of an audience with confidence.
6. Explain basic acting theories.
7. Take direction and adjust his/her performance accordingly.
8. Develop an understanding and an appreciation of the actor's art.
9. Explain the steps necessary to bring a script to the stage from the actor's point of view.
10. Critically evaluate an actor's performance.
11. Develop an awareness of theatrical excellence and an interest in experiencing theatre more fully.

Major Topics

- I. Introduction
 - A. Theatre Terminology
 - B. Theatre Personnel
 1. Artists
 2. Technical Staff

- 3. Administrative Personnel
- II. Physical Techniques
 - A. Body Awareness
 - 1. Body positions
 - 2. Stage movement
 - B. Pantomime
 - C. Vocal Awareness
- III. The Creative Process
 - A. Sensitivity
 - 1. Concentration
 - 2. Observation
 - 3. Inner World of the Actor
 - 4. Outer World of the Play
 - B. Imagination

1. Improvisation	5. Action
2. Emotional Recall	6. Imagery
3. Interpretation	7. Subtext
4. Conflict	
- IV. The Craft of Acting
 - A. Character Analysis
 - B. Script Analysis
 - C. Performance Process
- V. Critical Analysis

Course Requirements

Grading/exams: Grading Procedures will be determined by individual faculty members but will include:

The student will attend two live theatre productions at Howard Community College during the semester and submit a critique with emphasis on one dramatic performance in each of the two productions.

The student will participate in one production support activity during the semester. This activity could include theatre ushering, concession serving, box office assisting or backstage technical work

The student will do assigned readings and exercises in the required text.

Students will be graded on the quality and quantity of work done. The experience level of the individual will be taken into consideration. The instructor will be looking for improvement at any level.

There will be a midterm and final performance.

Attendance in class is required.

Other course information

This course is a Fine Arts and Humanities core course.

This course is a Fine Arts, Humanities and an Arts and Sciences elective.