

COURSE OUTLINE

**THET-281
ACTING II
3 Credits**

Arts and Humanities Core Course

HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Description

This course expands on the critical thinking and artistic skills initiated in Acting I, creating a dialogue between theory and practice through deeper character work and detailed script analysis combined with a disciplined approach to the rehearsal process. Prerequisite: THET-181. (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 Course Objectives

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

1. Practice a state of restful alertness which integrates wholeness of body, voice and mind to alleviate stage tension and anxiety.
2. Model effective partnering in scene work through mutual trust, support for objectives, preparedness, responsible attendance/punctuality and free and open communication.
3. Integrate vocal and physical impulses into the creation of character with well thought out articulation of the voice and body that can be repeated in rehearsal and performance.
4. Create multiple objectives and tactics for rehearsal exploration of beat changes in the text.
5. Integrate multiple sense memories, emotional memories and inner images during the rehearsal and performance process.
6. Incorporate, on a more advanced level, the Stanislavsky system through deeper understanding of context and methodology.
7. Create a character history through script analysis, historical research, found images and imagination.
8. Memorize and perform extended monologues and/or scenes from world stage literature appropriate to the age and gender of the student actor.
9. Successfully work in a collaborative environment while still developing one's own aesthetic sensibilities and perspectives.
10. Demonstrate critical thinking in formal written critiques of professional theatre performances and constructive feedback for peer performances.
11. Demonstrate active listening skills by objectively restating, in his/her own words, material which has been verbally transmitted.

12. Demonstrate the physical ability to speak effectively so that the receiver(s) can understand. This will include diction, pronunciation, enunciation, pace, pitch, and volume.
13. Communicate an abstract or concrete idea so that the receiver(s) clearly perceives the intended message.
14. Effectively deliver a formal oral presentation in front of a group.
15. Demonstrate the ability to communicate using appropriate language.

Major Topics

- I. Mental and Physical Preparedness
 - A. Guided meditation and relaxation
 - B. Vocal and physical warm-ups
 - C. Concentration and responsiveness exercises
- II. Script Analysis
 - A. Super-objectives, beat change objectives, opposing objectives and spine
 - B. Major/minor obstacles, external/internal obstacles
 - C. Physical actions, psycho-physical actions
 - D. Previous/present/future circumstances, key actions, key conditions
 - E. Subtext
 - F. Conflict
 - G. Atmosphere
- III. Character Analysis
 - A. Given background
 - B. Created character history
 - C. Relationships
 - D. Physical traits
 - E. Professional traits, animal traits, machine traits
 - F. Physical endowment, psychological endowment
 - G. Inner images, substitutions, sense memory, and emotional memory
 - H. Structured improvisation
 - I. Inner monologue
- IV. Criticism
 - A. Formal written critiques of professional productions
 - B. Constructive feedback for peer performances

Course Requirements

Grading procedures will be determined by the individual faculty member and will include the following:

- A. Clearly communicated performances of monologues and/or scenes
- B. Well prepared written assignments for class projects
- C. Attendance at two theatre productions
- D. Classroom attendance/punctuality and active participation
- E. Appropriate clothing and shoes that are safe and conducive to movement work

Other course information

This course is an Arts and Humanities core course and an Arts, Humanities and Arts and Sciences elective. It is also an Oral Communications course.