



ACTING/ HONORS ACTING

Instructor: Mr. Geoffrey Arndt, M.S.

Actors who have uncovered their own humor, sadness, and foibles can mirror the humor, sadness, and foibles of the society within which their particular theatre functions. To create a theater that inspires the audience to recognize that all life is precious takes inspired actors.

-Lee Worley

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Acting is an exploratory course that is designed to help the students create their own acting processes. Through performances, character studies, and activities, the students will engage in an active journey from the first day to discover the how to create and sustain theatrical truth both in themselves and onstage.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

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

- ❖ Analyze the text of a play in terms of its structure, form, style and historical background
- ❖ Play strong objectives as well as maintain active subtext when acting
- ❖ Employ Michael Chekhov's 5 Guiding Principles of acting
- ❖ Synthesize the given circumstances of a scene to portray the reality of the character
- ❖ Speak with clear diction and articulate text in an energized way

REQUIRED TEXTS AND COURSE MATERIALS

- ❖ Readings provided by instructor
- ❖ Pencils/ Pens
- ❖ One single subject notebook/ Folder for unit primers

WORK ENVIRONMENT

For each class a student needs to...

1. Be punctual and attend every class, except in sickness and emergencies.
2. Have the appropriate supplies (paper, writing tools, and other supplies).
3. Have read the assigned material and be prepared to discuss the readings.
4. Listen attentively and participate through class discussions and group lessons.
5. Respect everyone's point of views and ideas.
6. Choose to learn as much as possible and show a positive attitude about the material while in class.
7. Develop positive learning habits throughout the class.

MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS

Participation & Discipline- In this class, **silence is not golden!** This class is based solely upon student participation. In the spirit of this, participation will weigh heavily on the student's grade; this grade will also fluctuate over the course of the semester. Student's discipline within the assignments will be graded through a rubric that focuses on investment standards.

Autodrama- Like an autobiography, this will be a performance in which the student will find a metaphor for their life and create a three minute performance piece that elaborates upon that metaphor employing whatever theatrical/media their little heart desires.

Scenework/ Monologues –This assignment will consist of the students presenting scene work with a partner. The students will work on solo performance pieces.

Review- Each student will be required to see the production at Saint Patrick High School this semester and one additional production. The review will be based in the three questions: What is the artist doing? How well did they do it? Was it worth doing?

Final Assignment- The final for this course is a performance based on work throughout the course.

Quizzes- Tests will be summative at the end of each unit, as well as formative quizzes throughout the semester.



CONNECTING TO THE CLASSROOM PAGE

Make sure that by DAY TWO of class, you have saved the Classroom PAGE onto your iPad.

- Open Safari
- Go to www.stpatricktheatre.org
- Click on Theatre Classes link to left
- Click on ACTING class button
- Click on the action button
- Add this site to your homescreen

UNIT BREAKDOWN

UNIT	ACTIVITIES	ASSIGNMENT
1	SUBJECT: Ensemble Building/ Michael Chekhov Exercises	Exercises, Voice and Movement Activities: Final Nonverbal Scene
2	SUBJECT: Viewpoints and Actors on Stage	Silent Tension Space/Response/ Shape/ Rhythm/ Repeat: AUTODRAMA
3	SUBJECT: 8 Line Scenes	Analysis Partner Work Improvisation
4	SUBJECT: Monologues	Audition Techniques Connecting with a partner Size/ Scale
6	SUBJECT: Devising and Working with Scripts	Script Work Developing a Script
7	SUBJECT: FINAL EXAM	Final Project

EXTRA CREDIT POSSIBILITIES

Listed below are possible options for extra credit. **PLEASE NOTE THAT EXTRA CREDIT POINTS CAN ONLY BE RECEIVED IF ALL ASSIGNMENTS ARE UP TO DATE!**

Theatre Review- You can receive extra credit for attending and reviewing a theatrical production. Details will be given by the instructor.

Ushering for a Stahl Family Theatre Event- You can receive extra credit for each evening you usher for an event in the Stahl Family Theatre. This entails handing out programs, helping people to their seats, and a few other safety related issues that will be explained to you.