Drama (DRAM) 1535 Elementary Acting (3 Units) CSU:UC
[formerly Drama 35]

Advisory: Eligibility for English 1000 and Reading 1005 strongly recommended

Total Hours: 48 hours lecture

Course Description: This course prepares a student to apply basic acting theory to performance and develops the skills of interpretation of drama through acting. Special attention is paid to skills for performance: memorization, stage movement, vocal production, and interpretation of text. C-ID: THTR 151

Type of Class/Course: Degree Credit

Text:


Additional Required Materials: None

Course Objectives:

By the end of the course, a successful student will be able to

1. Demonstrate basic skills of acting, including physical, vocal, imaginative, analytical, and emotional elements,
2. Compose a character analysis,
3. Analyze dramatic textual components as they pertain to performance,
4. Critique a scene from an observer’s point of view, identifying the strengths and weaknesses of that presentation,
5. Utilize appropriate theatrical terminology and jargon, and
6. Use and apply a basic craft of acting in performance.

Course Scope and Content:

Unit I Movement
A. Basic Movement and technique
B. Motivation of Character

Unit II Oral Interpretations
A. Vocal Production and technique
B. Oral Reading/Readers Theatre
C. Telling Stories

Unit III Characterization and Playing the Part
A. Application of acting methods; theoretical approaches to acting
B. Creating a Character
C. Concentration, Trust, and Focus

Unit IV Performances
A. Pantomime
B. Oral Interpretation
C. Improvisation
D. Monologue
E. Two Person Scene
F. Multiple Person Scene
G. Basic acting and theatre terminology and vocabulary
H. Principles of stage movement and blocking

Unit V Critical Appraisal of Theatrical Experiences
A. Performance, evaluation processes and techniques
B. Attendance of a live performance for the purpose of evaluation
C. Opportunities to apply basic craft approaches for acting

Learning Activities Required Outside of Class:

The students in this class will spend a minimum of 6 hours per week outside of the regular class time doing the following:

1. Character analysis
2. Answering questions
3. Journal

Methods of Instruction:
1. Lecture and class discussion of assigned reading materials
2. Oral analysis of theatrical productions
3. Viewing recording of various plays
4. Presentation of plays

Methods of Evaluation:
1. Observation and analysis of student performance and in-class exercises
2. Journal, written assignments, and play evaluations
3. Quizzes and exams

Supplemental Data:

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