

ACTING FOUR

INSTRUCTOR: Kenneth Johnson

Wednesday, Friday (2:00-3:25pm)
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Required Texts

The First Six Lessons by Richard Boleslavsky

Respect for Acting by Uta Hagen

Additional play scripts as needed.

Course Description: This class will focus on the development of your rehearsal and performance process. Students will continue to learn the fundamental theories and techniques of modern acting but will apply them in rehearsals and performance. Since acting is a craft most of our work will focus on application rather than theory, you will be evaluated on your success at tackling and solving specific acting problems. Explorations may involve the entire class, large or small groups, pairs or individuals. You are expected to have a basic grasp of improvisation, sense memory, emotional recall, objectives and beats. We introduce techniques in this class for character analysis and scene analysis. These areas and others will be explored through improvisation, monologues, scene study and department productions. This is a method acting class and will use various exercises and techniques from Sanford Meisner, Lee Strasberg, Uta Hagen and Stanislavski. All departmental productions are considered a part of this class.

Key Concepts:

1st Advisory

Given Circumstances

Scene Analysis

Character Analysis

Repetition-Meisner

2nd Advisory

Senior Showcase

Sending and Receiving

Honesty and Authenticity

Emotional Preparation

3rd Advisory

Mainstage Rehearsals

Mainstage Performance

4th Advisory

Senior Project Rehearsals

Senior Project Performance

Acting Four syllabus, con't.

Class Concepts:

1. This is a laboratory course in that it cannot be accomplished without consistent class participation and feedback. It is as essential to critique the work of fellow students, as it is to perform class exercises.
2. Each student will be responsible for developing an enlivening warm-up repertory that includes vocal, physical, mental, emotional and spiritual preparation. The warm-up repertory will be utilized daily in class and should be at least 5 to 7 minutes.
3. This class will require rehearsals outside of class. You will be graded on how well you work with your classmates.
4. You will be graded for all departmental productions as they are an extension of this class.
5. Two monologues must be presented in the first advisory: one contemporary and one classical monologue.
6. Students will participate in the Senior Showcase during the second advisory.
7. Each student must keep a journal and a portfolio. Journal entries should be made following each class i.e. notes on lectures, performances and observations. Notebooks should include handouts. Students are expected to take notes in class.
8. You are required to see a play each advisory and submit a one page review of the production.

Grading:

This is a performance class and the majority of your grade will come from performance projects. However acting is a craft and you will be graded on how you execute each phase of the rehearsal process. Therefore keep your journals updated and hand in your rehearsal logs.

Journal and Portfolio (notes, rehearsal logs)	15%
Homework	15%
Classroom Participation/In- Class Performance	30%
Final Projects	40%

Final Projects or Departmental Juries

You will have four acting juries during the course of the year. These juries will provide an opportunity for faculty to evaluate your overall progress in areas of technique i.e. acting, speech, movement and analysis.

1 st Advisory	Monologue Jury
2 nd Advisory	Senior Showcase
3 rd Advisory	Mainstage Production
4 th Advisory	Senior Projects

All final projects must include a character analysis, synopsis of play and scene analysis.

Syllabus is subject to change.