



El Camino College
COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD – Official

Subject:	THEA
Course Number:	115
Descriptive Title:	On-Camera Performance for Actors
Division:	Fine Arts
Department:	Theatre
Course Disciplines:	Theatre
Catalog Description:	This introductory course prepares students for the real world demands of acting work/performance in the film, television, and theater industries. This includes in-depth scene study and professional protocol used on set.
Prerequisite:	
Co-requisite:	
Recommended Preparation:	
Enrollment Limitation:	
Hours Lecture (per week):	2
Hours Laboratory (per week):	3
Outside Study Hours:	4
Total Course Hours:	90
Course Units:	3
Grading Method:	Letter Grade only
Credit Status:	Credit, degree applicable
Transfer CSU:	Yes
Effective Date:	
Transfer UC:	Yes
Effective Date:	propose
General Education ECC:	
Term:	
Other:	
CSU GE:	
Term:	
Other:	
IGETC:	
Term:	
Other:	
CalGETC:	
Term:	
Other:	

Student Learning Outcomes:	Students should be able to: SLO #1 Apply and utilize basic skills in script and character analysis for film and television. SLO #2 Create relevant characters and experience truthful moments while maintaining on camera techniques. SLO #3 Evaluate their own and others' work through performance and critical analysis.
Course Objectives:	1. This course involves a close look at scene study through instruction and practice in the craft of acting for the camera. 2. The course includes on-camera scene-work, singular character development, and script analysis. 3. The assignments will include scenes provided by the professor which will examine supporting and leading roles. 4. Exercises will be included to familiarize students with on-camera acting techniques seeking to expand each performer's range of emotional, intellectual, physical, and vocal expression for the camera. 5. Overall the student will be prepared in the way of the professional actor in relation to the use of the camera lens.
Major Topics:	I. Auditions On Camera and Self tapes (14 hours lec, 21 hours, lab) A Introduction to On-Camera Acting 1 Understanding the difference between stage and on-camera acting 2 Basic camera awareness B Fundamentals of Acting for the Camera 1 Naturalism on camera 2 Basic acting techniques C Working with the Frame 1 Understanding different camera shots (CU, MS, WS) 2 Eye lines and hitting marks 3 Physicality and small gestures for the camera D Audition Techniques & Self-Tapes 1 The dos and don'ts of self-taping II. Rehearsals On Camera (14 hours lec, 21 hours, lab) A Scene Study for Film & TV 1 Script Analysis 2 Emotions on Camera 3 Working with a reader B. Character exploration and development C Scene Presentation 1 Performing a recorded scene with feedback 2 Reviewing performances for improvement III. Other genres on-camera (8 hours lec, 12 lab) A Commercial Acting B Improvisation for the Camera
Total Lecture Hours:	36
Total Laboratory Hours:	54

Total Hours:	90
A.1. Primary Methods of Evaluation (Part 1 - CCN courses only):	
Primary Method of Evaluation:	3) Skills demonstration
Typical Assignment Using Primary Method of Evaluation:	Be prepared to perform your assigned scenes using on camera techniques taught in this lesson. All lines should be memorized. Choose between the eyeline focuses taught in class. Hit emotional peaks, specific to the genre assigned. Be able to identify story transitions. Wardrobe and props a must. Script Analysis must be written and turned in.
Critical Thinking Assignment 1:	Scene Analysis & Breakdown - Choose a scene from a film or TV show and break it down in terms of scene study elements taught in this class including character objectives, subtext, and emotional beats. - How does the actor use microexpressions, body language, and their voice to express their emotions? - How does the camera's framing, lighting, and editing influence the performance?
Critical Thinking Assignment 2:	Self-Tape Reflection - Record a self-tape audition for your assigned scene. - Implement 3 elements of on camera technique taught in this class into your performance. - Watch it back and critique your performance. What worked? What felt forced? Where did you miss opportunities?
Other Evaluation Methods:	
If Other:	Performance Exams Presentations Written Homework Journal kept throughout the course
Instructional Methods:	
If other:	Demonstration Discussion Group Activities Lab and Lecture Multimedia presentations
Work Outside of Class:	
If Other:	1 - Observation of or participation in an activity related to course contents such as theatre event, or film screening. 2 - Journal done on a continuous basis throughout the semester
Up-To-Date Representative Texts:	Joseph Hacker, Auditioning On Camera: An Actor's Guide, Routledge, 2011, discipline standard. https://www.amazon.com/Auditioning-Camera-Actors-Joseph-Hacker/dp/0415619025 Sharon Bialy, How to Audition on Camera: A Hollywood Insider's Guide for Actors, 2nd Edition, Tilbury House Publishers, 2016, discipline standard, https://www.amazon.com/How-Audition-Camera-Hollywood-Insiders/dp/0884485250 Peter Allen Stone, Acting for the Camera: Back to One, 1st Edition, Routledge, 2021, https://www.amazon.com/Acting-Camera-Peter-Allen-Stone/dp/0367500728

	Tony Barr, <i>Acting for the Camera</i> , Revised Edition (eBook), William Morrow Paperbacks/Open Road Integrated Media, 2012, discipline standard, https://www.amazon.com/Acting-Camera-Revised-Tony-Barr/dp/0060928190 .
Alternative Texts:	Melissa Bruder, <i>A Practical Handbook for the Actor</i> , First Edition, Vintage, 1986, discipline standard. Not freely available online. Michael Shurtleff, <i>Audition: Everything an Actor Needs to Know to Get the Part</i> , Bloomsbury USA, 2003, discipline standard. Not freely available online. Joanna Merlin, <i>Auditioning: An Actor-Friendly Guide</i> , Vintage Original, Knopf Doubleday Publishing Group, 2002, discipline standard. Not freely available online.
Required Supplementary Readings:	
Other Required Materials:	
Requisite	
Category	
Requisite course:	
Requisite and Matching skill(s): Bold the requisite skill. List the corresponding course objective under each skill(s).	
Requisite Skill:	
Requisite Skill and Matching skill(s): Bold the requisite skill(s). if applicable	
Requisite course:	
Requisite and Matching skill(s): Bold the requisite skill. List the corresponding course objective under each skill(s).	
Requisite Skill:	Focus Listening Skills Openness to Feedback
Requisite Skill and Matching skill(s): Bold the requisite skill. List the corresponding course objective under each skill(s). if applicable	
Enrollment Limitations and Category:	

Enrollment Limitations Impact:	
Course Created by:	Gloria Garayua
Date:	03/11/2025
Original Board Approval Date:	01/21/2026
Effective Term:	FA 2026