



El Camino College

COURSE OUTLINE OF RECORD - Official

I. GENERAL COURSE INFORMATION

Subject and Number: Theatre 114
Descriptive Title: Fundamentals of Acting

Course Disciplines: Drama/Theater Arts

Division: Fine Arts

Catalog Description: This course is a study of the techniques, styles, and disciplines of acting. The student is provided theory and practical experience with varied characterizations. Emphasis is placed on individual growth and acquired skills demonstrated through play and character analysis followed by presentations of scenes from contemporary realistic plays. Attendance is required at selected theatre events offered by the El Camino Center for the Arts and in the community.

Conditions of Enrollment: Recommended Preparation
eligibility for English 1A

Course Length: ☒ Full Term ☐ Other (Specify number of weeks):
Hours Lecture: 2.00 hours per week ☐ TBA
Hours Laboratory: 3.00 hours per week ☐ TBA
Course Units: 3.00

Grading Method: Letter
Credit Status: Associate Degree Credit

Transfer CSU: ☒ Effective Date: Prior to July 1992
Transfer UC: ☒ Effective Date: Prior to July 1992

General Education:

El Camino College: _____

CSU GE: _____

IGETC: _____

II. OUTCOMES AND OBJECTIVES

A. COURSE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES (The course student learning outcomes are listed below, along with a representative assessment method for each. Student learning outcomes are not subject to review, revision or approval by the College Curriculum Committee)

1. Monologues and short scenes.
Upon successful completion of this course students will demonstrate the beginning elements of acting through monologues in short scenes while applying a professional demeanor.
2. Elements of acting.
Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to analyze and critique the elements of acting.
3. Staging terminology
Upon successful completion of this course students will know and apply theater staging terminology.

The above SLOs were the most recent available SLOs at the time of course review. For the most current SLO statements, visit the El Camino College SLO webpage at <http://www.elcamino.edu/academics/slo/>.

B. Course Student Learning Objectives (The major learning objective for students enrolled in this course are listed below, along with a representative assessment method for each)

1. Demonstrate individual movement exercises that prepare the actor's "instrument."
Performance exams
2. Demonstrate relaxation and breathing techniques for proper vocal production.
Performance exams
3. Synthesize techniques for developing concentration, imagery, and picturization as applied to creative expression.
Objective Exams
4. Define stage terminology and acting positions in relation to various theatre configurations (proscenium, thrust, arena).
Objective Exams
5. Identify the character's "wants," obstacles, tactics and expectations.
Performance exams
6. Demonstrate techniques for coping with nervousness, stage fright and concentration.
Performance exams
7. Describe and integrate exercises used in developing acting technique.
Objective Exams
8. Analyze the particular social, economic, and psychological background of the character within the context of a chosen scene.
Objective Exams
9. Identify the character's "wants," obstacles, tactics, expectations and actions for a specific scene.
Performance exams
10. Apply various methods in the memorization of dialogue through repetition, writing analysis, or audio taping.
Written homework

11. Demonstrate the ability for discipline and commitment to a partner in the preparation of scene work, and/or selected exercises.

Performance exams

12. Analyze the playwright's theme and define the actor's through-line for the specific scene chosen.

Written homework

13. Evaluate, appraise, critique, and suggest methods of improvement for scene work.

Objective Exams

14. Analyze and assess the relative merits and flaws of scenes, and identify and describe elements of scene work that hampered or enhanced scene work.

Objective Exams

III. OUTLINE OF SUBJECT MATTER (Topics are detailed enough to enable a qualified instructor to determine the major areas that should be covered as well as ensure consistency from instructor to instructor and semester to semester.)

Lecture or Lab	Approximate Hours	Topic Number	Major Topic
Lecture	5	I	Preparing the body, mind and voice: A. Physical exercises B. Proper vocal production and technique C. Imagery and picturization exercises D. Relaxation exercises/techniques E. Stage/acting terminology; body positions on stage
Lab	8	II	Preparing the body, mind and voice: A. Physical exercises B. Proper vocal production and technique C. Imagery and picturization exercises D. Relaxation exercises/techniques E. Stage/acting terminology; body positions on stage
Lecture	10	III	Acting exercises: A. Two-minute basic object exercise B. Three-entrance exercise C. Immediacy exercise D. Fourth-wall exercise E. Conditioning-forces exercise.
Lab	15	IV	Acting exercises: A. Two-minute basic object exercise B. Three-entrance exercise C. Immediacy exercise D. Fourth-wall exercise E. Conditioning-forces exercise.
Lecture	15	V	Scene work:

			A. Identification of "wants" B. Scoring character actions C. Utilizations of relaxation techniques D. Memorization techniques E. Research of play and character F. Preparation, rehearsal and presentation of two-person scene work and monologues
Lab	25	VI	Scene work: A. Identification of "wants" B. Scoring character actions C. Utilizations of relaxation techniques D. Memorization techniques E. Research of play and character F. Preparation, rehearsal and presentation of two-person scene work and monologues
Lecture	6	VII	Audience task: A. Exploring and discussing critical methods B. Identifying strengths and weaknesses of presentations
Lab	6	VIII	Audience task: A. Exploring and discussing critical methods B. Identifying strengths and weaknesses of presentations
Total Lecture Hours		36	
Total Laboratory Hours		54	
Total Hours		90	

IV. PRIMARY METHOD OF EVALUATION AND SAMPLE ASSIGNMENTS

A. PRIMARY METHOD OF EVALUATION:

Skills demonstrations

B. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENT USING PRIMARY METHOD OF EVALUATION:

Perform a scene from a play such as Tennessee Williams' A Streetcar Named Desire.

C. COLLEGE-LEVEL CRITICAL THINKING ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Analyze a scene selected from an assigned list in terms of the character's goals, obstacles, tactics, and expectations
2. Prepare a character analysis and/or biography for a scene selected from an assigned list and perform it for the classroom audience.

D. OTHER TYPICAL ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION METHODS:

Performance exams

Written homework

Class Performance

Other (specify):

Oral and written criticism of scenes presented by fellow class members

V. INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS

Group Activities

Lecture

Other (please specify)

exercises, rehearsals and other physical or vocal activities, presentation of scenes, critical analysis of scenes, attendance at selected presentations by the El Camino Center for the Arts

Note: In compliance with Board Policies 1600 and 3410, Title 5 California Code of Regulations, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Sections 504 and 508 of the Americans with Disabilities Act, instruction delivery shall provide access, full inclusion, and effective communication for students with disabilities.

VI. WORK OUTSIDE OF CLASS

Study

Skill practice

Required reading

Written work

Observation of or participation in an activity related to course content

Estimated Independent Study Hours per Week: 4

VII. TEXTS AND MATERIALS

A. UP-TO-DATE REPRESENTATIVE TEXTBOOKS

Robert Cohen. Acting One. 5th Edition ed. McGraw-Hil, 2008.

Uta Hagen. Respect for Acting. 2nd Edition ed. Wiley, 2008.

Charles McGaw. Acting is Believing. 11th ed. ed. Wadsworth, 2011.

B. ALTERNATIVE TEXTBOOKS

C. REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY READINGS

Complete plays from which the student selects scenes

D. OTHER REQUIRED MATERIALS

Minimum of three individual scripts per student (approved by instructor)

VIII. CONDITIONS OF ENROLLMENT

A. Requisites (Course and Non-Course Prerequisites and Corequisites)

Requisites	Category and Justification
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B. Requisite Skills

Requisite Skills

C. Recommended Preparations (Course and Non-Course)

Recommended Preparation	Category and Justification
Non-Course Recommended Preparation eligibility for English 1A	Students with a college level understanding of the English language have a better chance of succeeding in this course. This course requires students to read college texts and plays and write papers based on their analysis of these readings.

D. Recommended Skills

Recommended Skills
Basic college-level reading and writing ENGL A - Read and apply critical thinking skills to college-level expository prose for the purposes of writing and discussion.ENGL 84 - Utilize comprehension and vocabulary strategies to improve reading rate.ENGL 84 - Select and employ reading strategies to interpret the content of a collegelevel textbook, with special focus on constructing a thesis statement and providing valid support.ENGL A - Apply appropriate strategies in the writing process including prewriting, composing, revising, and editing techniques.ENGL 84 - Identify an implied main idea (thesis), and support with major and minor details, from a longer text or novel.ENGL A - Demonstrate ability to incorporate into draft revision information received in peer review and one-on-one tutorials.ENGL 84 - Interpret a book-length work through discussion, journal writing, or composition writing.ENGL A - Plan, write, and revise 500-word multi-paragraph expository essays including an introduction and conclusion, exhibiting coherence and unity, avoiding major grammatical and mechanical errors that interfere with meaning, and demonstrating awareness of audience, purpose, and language choice.ENGL A - Utilize MLA guidelines to format a document, to cite sources in the text of an essay, and to compile a Works Cited list.ENGL 84 - Compare college-level texts to evaluate content.

E. Enrollment Limitations

Enrollment Limitations and Category	Enrollment Limitations Impact
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Course created by Linda Fossi on 01/01/1986.

BOARD APPROVAL DATE:

LAST BOARD APPROVAL DATE: 02/17/2015

Last Reviewed and/or Revised by William Georges on 03/24/2014