

Theater: Intro to Acting
Spring 2024
2023-2024 School Year
Course Code: CRS84QQB-11
Instructor: S. Manas

Learning Standards:

Course Objective:

Students will create a characterization, both in writing and performance, through text analysis and use of various acting techniques. Students will cite evidence from the text to support their character analysis and work collaboratively with their peers to create fully realized scenes.

New York State Learning Standards for the Arts

TH:Pr4.1.HS1

- a. Examine how character relationships affect telling a story
- b. Shape character choices by using given circumstances in a drama or theater work

TH:Pr5.1.HS1

- a. Apply various acting techniques to expand skills in rehearsal

TH:Pr6.1.HS1

- a. Perform a scripted drama or theater work for a specific audience.

TH:Re8.1.HS1

- a. Analyze the influence of personal experiences in theatrical work

Next Generation Standards:

9-10R1

CITE STRONG AND THOROUGH TEXTUAL EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT ANALYSIS OF WHAT THE TEXT SAYS EXPLICITLY/IMPLICITLY AND MAKE LOGICAL INFERENCES; DEVELOP QUESTIONS FOR DEEPER UNDERSTANDING AND FOR FURTHER EXPLORATION. (RI&RL)

9-10SL1

INITIATE AND PARTICIPATE EFFECTIVELY IN A RANGE OF COLLABORATIVE DISCUSSIONS WITH DIVERSE PARTNERS ON COMPLEX TOPICS, TEXTS, AND ISSUES; EXPRESS IDEAS CLEARLY AND PERSUASIVELY, AND BUILD ON THOSE OF OTHERS.

9-10SL3

Evaluate a speaker's point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric; identify any fallacious reasoning or exaggerated or distorted evidence.

Course Description:

In Introduction to Acting students will go through the process of analyzing a character and text through standard theatrical acting methods. They will create a full analysis of this character through several steps, including physical and vocal choices for their performances. Finally, students will perform assigned scenes as their final

Calendar:**

| Class Number | Classwork | Homework |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Introduction to Theater Class, what is acting | |
| 2 | Introduction to acting warm ups | Bring in a piece of writing that is meaningful to you that you are willing to read in front of the class |
| 3 | Meaningful readings | |
| 4 | Meaningful readings | |
| 5 | Text analysis: Given circumstances intro, start given circumstances | |

| | | |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| | | |
| 6 | Given circumstances | |
| 7 | Given circumstances | |
| 8 | How do you relate to this character, what is different? | |
| 9 | Superobjective | |
| 10 | Intro to Beats/objectives | |
| 11 | Beats/objectives | |
| 12 | Intro to finding the physical | |
| 13 | Finding the physical: tempo/rhythm | |
| 14 | Finding the physical: tempo/rhythm | |
| 15 | Intro to finding their voice | |
| 16 | Finding their voice | |
| 17 | The relationship between the actor and director & taking direction | |
| 18 | What is blocking and parts of the stage. | |
| 19 | Begin blocking scenes | |
| 20 | Block scenes | |
| 21 | Block scenes | |
| 22 | Rehearsal | |
| 23 | Rehearsal | |
| 24 | Rehearsal | |

| | | |
|----|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 25 | Rehearsal | Prepare for performance |
| 26 | Final performances | Prepare for performance |
| 27 | Final performances | Prepare for performance |
| 28 | Final performances | Prepare for performance |
| 29 | Make up work | Make up work |
| 30 | Make up work | Make up work |
| 31 | Make up Work | |

subject to change based on student needs

Materials and Texts:

- *Our Town* by Thornton Wilder
- *Oz* by Don Zolidis
- *No Exit* by Jean-Paul Sartre
- *The Strangest Kind of Romance* by Tennessee Williams
- *Antigone Now* by Melissa Cooper
- Pencils
- Paper

Grading Policy:

Projects -35%

Students will be assigned at least one project every semester. Some will have written components, some a performance/practical component, and some both. Students will be provided a rubric that the teacher will go over to assist them in completing the project to the best of their ability. Students are encouraged to frequently refer back to the rubric when completing projects.

Classwork – 15%

Students will first practice the various components of Stanislavski's method in small groups using the same script. Students are encouraged to refer to the rubrics when completing these assignments.

Homework – 10%

For homework, you will either receive a 100% for having completed it with clear effort or a 0 for having not completed it. Homework must show an effort has been made to be considered complete.

Attendance – 20%

You must come to class and you must be on time. You will receive 2 points (100%) for being present and on time, 1 point (50%) for being late, and zero points (0%) for an unexcused absence or cut.

Participation – 20%

When you are in class please participate. This is an easy way to boost your grade.

Classroom Procedures:

Students are expected to be in class, on time, and ready to work. There is a bathroom in the classroom that students may use. If a student needs the nurse, the Dean, the unit coordinator, or to go to the main office, they will be allowed to go and provided a pass at the teacher and para's discretion.

Students will come into the classroom and complete a theater exercise unless otherwise directed. The students will then participate in the lesson. As the period comes to a close, the teacher will go over their behavioral points with the students, asking them first what they think they earned and then telling them what they actually earned. The rules and point policies are detailed in the next section.

Class Rules and Behavior:

School Rules:

Students may not wear hats or bandanas in school. They may not bring weapons, drugs, alcohol, or any illegal paraphernalia into the school building. Students must attend school and be on time. Cell phones and other non-approved technology must be turned off and away while in class unless otherwise instructed.

Classroom Rules:

Rules are clearly posted in the classroom and are as follows:

1. Listen to your teachers and paras.
2. Keep your hands (and all other body parts) to yourself.
3. Be respectful of your peers and teachers.
4. Avoid side conversation.