

Spokane Falls Community College
COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES AND OUTLINE

Prefix and Course Number: DRMA 250
Course Title: Basics of Acting I

Last Modified: Winter | 2020

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Apply basic acting vocabulary in the discussion of performance
2. Analyze a script for given circumstances, objectives, actions, obstacles, and character relationships and apply that analysis to the creation of a performance
3. Critique their own work as well as the work of their peers with a focus on identifying the actor's level of success in achieving their intended goal
4. Demonstrate basic vocal (breath, resonance, articulation) and physical (grounded presence, kinesthetic awareness, flexibility, tempo) technique in solo and ensemble performance work
5. Demonstrate a basic understanding of major American and European acting methods including Stanislavski, Adler, Strasberg and Meisner
6. Demonstrate a detailed understanding of the Michael Chekhov acting technique including the principles of the Actor's Ideal Center, Radiating, Atmospheres, The Four Brothers, The Three Sisters, Imaginary Body, and Psychological Gesture.

Course Outline:

Introduction to Stanislavsky-Based Script Analysis (approximately two weeks)

- Understanding given circumstances, objectives, actions, obstacles, and character relationships
- Considering the perspectives of playwright, characters, and audience
- Applying analysis to performance

Introduction to the Critical Response (approximately one week)

- Exploring the benefits of purpose-centered critique
- Accepting the critiques of peers
- Understanding the value of specificity
- Considering artist's intent and the way in which individuals' diverse perspectives affect opinion

Collaborative Practice: Development of Vocal and Physical Technique (approximately two weeks)

- Exploring the art of physical acting
- Developing vocal control: breath, resonance, articulation
- Developing physical control: grounded presence, kinesthetic awareness, flexibility, tempo

Collaborative Practice: Introduction to Major American and European Acting Methods (approx. three weeks)

- Understanding the work of Stanislavski, Adler, Strasberg, and Meisner
- Exploring the ways in which the techniques can be applied to scene work

Collaborative Practice: Introduction to the Michael Chekhov Acting Technique (approximately two weeks)

- Understanding the Michael Chekhov Acting Technique including the principles of the Actor's Ideal Center, Radiating, Atmospheres, The Four Brothers, The Three Sisters, Imaginary Body, and Psychological Gesture
- Exploring the ways in which the technique can be applied to scene work.