

Chaminade University
DRAMA 20520 - Acting Workshop
 January 13 - March 17, 2001
 Kaneohe MCBH

COURSE: Acting Workshop
TIME: Saturdays 8:00 - 12:10

INSTRUCTOR: Holly A. Blumner
 Telephone: (808) 239-7989
[E-mail: hollyh@lava.net](mailto:hollyh@lava.net)
 Office Hours & Location: by appointment

Introduction and Description:

Acting is not just what we see in plays, television and movies. We all act in our everyday lives, whether we are aware of it or not. This class will explore acting through improvisation, theatrical exercises, and monologues and will culminate in a final scene at the end of the semester. By participating in this course, in addition to having fun, you will learn how to create a character and appear believable on stage. This course will also help you will help you improve your public speaking skills, and feel more comfortable performing in front of a group.

This is a basic acting course with no prerequisites open to all Chaminade students. No previous acting experience is necessary.

Participation and Attendance:

Participation is essential to make this Course successful. Because theatre is a form in which people must work together, this course is designed around group work in which classmates are dependent upon each other as acting partners as well as for feedback. You should attend for both your own benefit and the benefit of your classmates. Each student should come to class on time and stay for the whole period. Be prepared to participate each class session. You will be required to meet outside of class with your project partners, so be prepared to allocate time for this.

Missed acting classes are impossible to make up, so try to be present and on time for each class. After two absences, your final grade will be lowered one full letter grade and will continue to drop with each absence. If you must miss a class make sure that your instructor AND your project partners know in advance that you will not be there. Repeated lateness (3 or more) will count as one absence.

Clothing: This is a class where we will rarely be sitting. Wear clothes that you can move comfortably in. Wear flexible shoes or be prepared to take off your shoes for acting exercises. If this requires you to bring a change of clothes, plan ahead. If your monologue or scene requires a specific type of clothing, bring that to class in addition to your "acting class clothes" on the day(s) it is needed.

Always bring the following items to class:

Your syllabus

a small notebook to take notes

a calendar for scheduling

a copy of your monologue/scene - once they are chosen

props/costumes needed for your monologue/scene work

a positive attitude

Written Work:

Each class participant will read at least two plays for this class: the entire play from which their monologues and final scenes are selected. You will be expected to turn in a typed, double-spaced written report on these two plays.

You are responsible for remembering due dates and turning all of your work in at the beginning of class. These will be discussed in detail in class.

Late work will be penalized approximately five percent per day (not class session).

There may be additional one-page writing assignments in class.

Grading:

Grading will be based on:

Monologue Play Report	20%
Monologue Performance	20%
Scene Play Report	20%
Scene Performance	20%
Class Participation	20%

100%

Your final grade will be determined based on the following criteria:

A - Outstanding work, consistently outstanding teamwork and creativity in class and performance.

B - Superior work done in a consistent manner.

C - Average work in class and performance.

D- Inferior work of the lowest passing grade.

F - Failure to complete assignments and guidelines of course. Also given for failure to officially withdraw from course.

90-100=A, 80-89=B, 70-79=C; 60-69=D, 59 and Below =F

Questions or Problems:

If you have any questions or problems with any aspect of this course, or if you wish to discuss ways to improve your acting, please make an appointment with me.

SCHEDULE:

January 13 - Course Introduction, theatrical improvisation

January 20 - Theatrical improvisation, monologue choices due

January 27 - Acting exercises, monologue work

February 3 - Monologue "dress rehearsal" with class feedback, Play Report due

February 10 - Monologue Performances

February 17 - Acting exercises, discuss final scenes, choose a scene partner for final scenes

February 24 - Acting exercises, scene choices due

March 3 - Acting exercises and scene work

March 10 - Scene "dress rehearsal" with class feedback, Play Report due

March 17 - Final Scene Performances

I reserve the right to make changes to this syllabus based on the needs of the class.