



AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT  

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CONTINUING EDUCATION

COURSE SYLLABUS/OUTLINE DEVELOPMENT FORM

1. **Name of Course:** Improvisation II for The Actor

2. **Number of Clock Hours:** 12

3. **Course Description:** This class expands on the basic principles of improv by going deep into the nuts and bolts of scene work. The class will cover the most common categories of improv scene and explore the many different approaches to playing them. (There's never just one right answer!) Other topics include the practical challenge of creating fully realized characters on the fly and the productive tension between absurd circumstances and emotionally grounded performance. Important note: this class is also a lot of fun! This class is for students who have successfully completed Improvisation I for the Actor. Students who have taken introductory improv classes elsewhere may be eligible to take this class at the instructor's discretion.

Limited to 10 students. Online platform: Zoom \*Materials needed: internet connection & audio/video capability with computer or tablet.

4. **Course Objectives:**

- To sharpen strategies for developing believable and complex characters in real time
- To explore the deeper emotional content implied by the surface of the scene
- To create compelling scenes that build on creative agreement between players
- To examine a range of different improv styles, formats, and approaches
- To gain confidence and skill in deploying the essential principles of improv

**5. Rationale: State the reason for offering the course:**

To strengthen skills learned in Improvisation I for the Actor, to delve more deeply into the creative process of scene work, and to broaden understanding of the range and possibilities of improv performance

**6. Required Materials:**

An internet connection with audio/video capability with computer or tablet. Up to 30 minutes of homework a week may be assigned.

**7. Course Outline: What topics and sub-topics will be covered in this course?**

Week 1: Review of basic improv principles

Week 2: The game of the scene: recognizing and developing patterns

Week 3: Building on what's been established: "If that's true, what else is true?"

Week 4: Finding emotional depth in comedy: "What's really going on here?"

Week 5: Shape of show: how improv formats and styles affect scenework

Week 6: Cumulative review; special topics suggested by class