



AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
CONTINUING EDUCATION

COURSE SYLLABUS/OUTLINE DEVELOPMENT FORM

1. Name of Course: Acting Fundamentals

2. Number of Clock Hours: 18

3. Course Description:

This class provides an opportunity to develop acting skills in a supportive, low-stakes environment. We'll use improvisation and imagination exercises to work on being present and creating a rich inner life. We'll move into character and script analysis, focusing on backstory, given circumstances, objectives, obstacles, and actions. Students will be assigned scenes from contemporary theater, film, and/or television scripts, and as we work scenes, we'll work towards developing a naturalistic acting style through listening and responding, vulnerability, and following impulses.

4. Course Objectives:

- Build students' confidence and comfort level with performing
- Guide students in creating an imaginary world and inner life for their characters
- Provide students with tools for basic character & script analysis
- Help students develop a naturalistic acting style
- Help students fill in the blank parts of the page and use physical behavior to tell a story

5. Rationale:

To introduce beginning actors to the tools and skills needed for stage and/or screen acting

6. Required Materials:

Access to Zoom outside of class (optional)

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

Week 1 - Basic Skills & Improv. Exercises to build connection, listening & reacting, imagination skills. Begin to work with character, given circumstances, & objectives.

Week 2 - Script Analysis. Assign Scene 1. Breakdown sample script as a group. Partners work with their scripts in class & can rehearse over Zoom if desired.

Week 3 - Rehearse Scene 1. Scene partners present their work-in-progress and get feedback.

Week 4 - Perform Scene 1. Assign Scene 2. Begin script analysis and rehearsal for Scene 2.

Week 5 - Rehearse Scene 2. Scene partners present their work-in-progress and get feedback.

Week 6 - Perform Scene 2. End with Q&A about acting in Austin, auditions, etc.