



AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

CONTINUING EDUCATION

ACTING FUNDAMENTALS COURSE SYLLABUS

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Course Description

This class is an opportunity to develop or refresh your acting skills in a supportive, low-stakes environment. Using improvisation and imagination exercises, we'll train ourselves to build a rich inner life and follow impulses. We will review basic tools of script analysis, focusing on character, circumstances, relationships, objectives, obstacles, and actions. We'll workshop scenes from contemporary theater, film, and/or television scripts, using various exercises to understand our character's point of view, improve listening and responding skills, strengthen relationships, and deepen the connection to the text. (Class is 15 clock hours; limited to 10 students)

Course Objectives

- Build students' confidence and comfort level in performing
- Guide students in creating an imaginary world and inner life for their characters
- Provide students with a script analysis technique
- Help students develop a naturalistic acting style based in connection and listening
- Teach students to use physical behavior to tell a story

Rationale

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

Required Materials

Access to Zoom outside of class (optional)

Course Outline

Week 1 – Improv games, imagination exercises, & intro to script analysis.

Week 2 – Assign Round 1 scenes and partners. Script analysis and improv exercises.

Week 3 – Workshop Scene 1 with new exercises and feedback.

Week 4 – Assign Round 2 scenes and partners. Script analysis and improv exercises.

Week 5 – Workshop Scene 2 with new exercises and feedback.

Week 6 – Final Group Scenes. End with Q&A about next steps, auditions, the business of acting, etc.