



AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT  

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CONTINUING EDUCATION

**COURSE SYLLABUS/OUTLINE DEVELOPMENT FORM**

1. **Name of Course:** Acting for the Camera

2. **Number of Clock Hours:** 18 hrs.

3. **Course Description:**

This is a beginning-to-intermediate class focusing on acting for the camera. It is required that you have had at least a basic acting class before joining — such as Acting Fundamentals or the equivalent. The emphasis is on developing a naturalistic acting style through connection, honesty, vulnerability, and following intuitive impulses. The student's work will be explored through exercises and scene study from film and television scripts. Some videotaping and playback will be used for critique. In-person class is limited to 12 students.

4. **Course Objectives:**

To gain confidence acting for the camera using television, and film scripts. At the end of the course, students will have gained insight and experience into the process of acting on camera using script analysis, character description and physical and verbal techniques to convey the most naturalistic and honest performance. Students will work through a scene(s) and gain an understanding of the importance of listening, character development, acting choices and overall approach to acting for the camera.

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

Acting for the camera successfully is tremendously rewarding but it takes practice to understand the nuances and subtleties that make for memorable scenes and performances.

6. **Required Materials:**

Scripts provided by instructor and emailed to students prior to each week of the course. Students will need access to a printer. Working from hard copies rather than a phone or tablet is most productive.

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

Week 1 – Introduction. Class objectives. Short scene work on camera.

Week 2 – Warm up/Discussion/Exercises. Answering the “Actor’s Questions”.  
Begin Partnered scenes - Assigned scenes but not rehearsed or discussed with partner prior to class. Basic camera setups.

Week 3 – Warm up/Discussion/Exercises. Continue with Week 2 scenes. Basic camera setup – the medium shot.

Week 4 – Warm up/Discussion/Exercises. New Scenes. The “close up”. Working through scenes for each actor’s closeup.

Week 5 – Assign partners and new scenes. Come in rehearsed and ready to work through 2 camera set ups – the medium shot and the close up.

Week 6 – Final performances of Week 5 scenes with all the fixings – props, costume, rehearsed scene, off book. (memorized)