



AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

CONTINUING EDUCATION

SELF-TAPING YOUR AUDITIONS COURSE SYLLABUS

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Course Description

This course will introduce students to the various skills and techniques required to produce professional audition tapes at home. We'll begin by covering the technical how-to's of self-taping. Each week, students will produce and submit their own audition outside of class with provided scripts. In class, we'll discuss how to handle the unique acting challenges of each audition and evaluate tapes from an artistic and technical standpoint. Students will learn how to make blocking and behavior choices that look good within the confines of the camera and stand out to casting directors. For actors with previous training/experience. (Class is 18 clock hours, limited to 12 students).

Course Objectives

- Teach students how to set up the proper space, including framing, lighting, sound, and background, and how to professionally edit, label, and upload tapes.
- Develop camera technique, including eyelines & awareness of frame.
- Develop professional judgment regarding props, blocking, and physical action.
- Work towards a naturalistic acting style based in listening & imagination.

Rationale

Provide students with the working knowledge, experience, and confidence to create professional self-taped-auditions.

Required Materials

A home self-taping setup, including devices for recording & editing, a tripod, and a well-lit area free of visual distractions. **Optional:** Cold Read app.

Course Outline

Week 1 – Intro. Technical overview of taping, editing, & slating. In-class audition.

Week 2 – Acting is Reacting - auditions in which your character is mostly listening.

Week 3 – No Small Parts - how to make a co-star audition stand out from the rest.

Week 4 – Make 'Em Laugh - finding rhythm and how and when to improvise.

Week 5 – Less is More - how to tackle action/violence and keep it grounded.

Week 6 – Final Audition - a chance to combine everything we've covered.