



## I. Course Overview:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to analyze and create a dramatic character on stage in a play. For each production, students will learn to understand the genre of the play and adopt appropriate acting styles and techniques. They will learn how to uncover clues in the script which will reveal character objectives and tactics. Additionally, students will create characters through analysis, improvisation, and the development of psychophysical actions grounded in the given circumstances of the play. This information will guide the student actor to make distinct choices regarding the physical and vocal qualities of each character being portrayed. Students will learn what is expected of an actor in a professional rehearsal and performance situation and how to adopt proper theatre etiquette while supporting the company concept.

## II. Units:

### Unit 1. **Integration of Rehearsal Process**

#### General Outcome:

1.0 The students should be able to perform a role in a major dramatic/musical show and apply those class theories during the 6-8 week rehearsal process as applicable to a particular production.

#### Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

1.1 Conduct themselves during the rehearsal process according to the necessary rules of discipline (concentration, observation, and cooperation).

1.2 Demonstrate an understanding of the theories of analyzing the script (genre, style, metaphor, etc.).

1.3 Identify the elements of plot as the script is analyzed in the process of dissecting the particular play in rehearsal.

1.4 Keep the actor's journal as a tool to determine growth during the rehearsal process.

1.5 Create and utilize an Acting Score, making specific choices with regard to beats, objective, tactics, and subtext.

1.6 Create and incorporate a Character Analysis, complete with Character History and Given Circumstances.

## Unit 2. Integration of Actor's Voice and Body

### General Outcome:

- 2.0 The students should be able to create a character through the integration of voice and body.

### Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 2.1 Demonstrate the use of blocking symbols and stage areas.
- 2.2 Warm up and relax the body and voice in preparation for rehearsal.
- 2.3 Follow directions given by a director who uses stage terminology.
- 2.4 Understand and support the concept of "ensemble" acting.
- 2.5 Utilize appropriate level of linguistic detail, vocal energy, diaphragmatic breathing, vocal variety, and use of dialects when necessary.
- 2.6 Apply movement techniques which assist in the physical transformation of actor to character.
- 2.7 Create motivated movement by understanding the link between stimulus and response and fully incorporating the pursuit of objective.

### Unit 3. Character Development/Play Analysis

#### General Outcome:

3.0 The student should be able to study the play's text and from it derive Character and Play Analyses. Research methods will be taught to empower students to fully understand the Given Circumstances and World of the Play.

#### Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

- 3.1 Research the period of the play.
- 3.2 Discuss the socio-political forces which control the action of the play.
- 3.3 Research the physical environment of the play.
- 3.4 Determine where dramatic beats occur for their character(s) and identify character objective, tactics and subtext.
- 3.5 Be familiar with the relationships within the play and potential obstacles for their character(s).
- 3.6 Understand the Director's Concept and their part in it.

Unit 4: Production Hours: Understanding the Company Concept

General Outcome:

4.0 The student should be able to understand all of the "parts of the whole" that create a theatrical production. By taking part in the set construction, prop construction, costume construction, house management, running crew or publicity process, the student fully understands the collaborate process of theatre and can better fulfill his/her responsibilities as a performer.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the student should be able to:

4.1 Explain the importance of collaboration in theatre.

4.2 Understand how to support the technical elements of theatre.

4.3 Move appropriate to the scenery according to the technical requirements of the set.

4.4 Explain the importance of proper handling of scenic elements, costumes and properties.

Unit 5: Performance: Execution of Role before a Live Audience

General Outcome:

5.0 The student should be able to conduct themselves in a professional manner before a live audience, assisting the audience with their "suspension of disbelief" as well as adhering to the Director's concept. Students will understand proper theatre etiquette and abide by the department's expectation of complete respect for the process.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this unit, the students should be able to:

5.1 Maintain punctual attendance at all performances and understand the importance of such.

5.2 Utilize analyses in performance.

5.3 Maintain communication with Stage Manager and understand the nature of this relationship.

5.4 Understand and follow all rules set forth by the Costume Design and Wardrobe Crew regarding the proper wearing and care of all costumes, wigs, accessories, and makeup.

5.5 Perform vocal and physical warm ups prior to each performance.

5.6 Know how to walk the set before each and every performance, and understand the proper procedure should scenic elements be missing or out of place.

5.7 Be responsible for checking all props prior to the performance each night, and know the proper handling techniques for each prop.

5.8 Adhere to proper stage etiquette, avoiding the temptation to criticize the work of others or to alter lines, blocking, choreography, or business without permission from the Director.