

# THEA 105A: IMPROVISATION FOR THE THEATRE - BEGINNING

## Citrus College Course Outline of Record

Heading	Value
Effective Term:	Fall 2024
Credits:	3
Total Contact Hours:	54
Lecture Hours :	54
Lab Hours:	0
Hours Arranged:	0
Outside of Class Hours:	108
Total Student Learning Hours:	162
Strongly Recommended:	ENGL 101.
Transferable to CSU:	Yes
Transferable to UC:	No
Grading Method:	Standard Letter, Pass/No Pass

## Catalog Course Description

A beginning course introducing the techniques of improvisation to enhance character development. Focus is on group expression, problem-solving, focus, imagination, concentration and spontaneity with and without dramatic text. 54 lecture hours.

## Course Objectives

- Demonstrate a beginning understanding of how character traits can be developed through spontaneous interaction.
- Demonstrate a beginning understanding of how a character's psychology can deepen through role playing in unique and diverse settings.
- Develop the basic tools necessary to create character background and character relationships from a neutral canvas.
- Demonstrate a basic knowledge of physical exercises that heighten concentration.
- Demonstrate a basic knowledge of how props and furniture are not obstacles but tools to be used in creating a dynamic activity.
- Utilize the 'senses' of looking, listening, seeing, touching, smelling and tasting in order to enrich characterizations.
- Utilize beginning problem-solving exercises in order to strengthen actionable actions in pursuit of character objectives.

## Major Course Content

1. Improvisation: its nature and purpose for the beginner
  - a. What is improvising?
  - b. Background to improvisation
  - c. Aspects of spontaneity
  - d. Workshop procedures
2. A fundamental outline of a Theatre Game for the beginner
  - a. Focus
  - b. Description and Example
  - c. Side-Coaching

- d. Evaluation
  - e. Points of Observation
  - f. Timing
  - g. Problem-solving
  - h. Boundary setting
3. Sensory Awareness
  4. Physical involvement
  5. Use of Space
  6. Exploration of mood and feeling through interpersonal and open communication
  7. Stimulating the imagination
  8. Building characterization - basic, fundamental concepts for the beginner
    - a. Role playing
    - b. Clothing and accessories
    - c. Temperament
    - d. Character background including multi-cultural perspectives
    - e. General attitude and outlook

## Examples of Required Writing Assignments

A journal on developing character through improvisational techniques is required.

## Examples of Outside Assignments

Observation of people and animals for character development

## Instruction Type(s)

Lecture