

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