

## Course Outline Acting I

**Course Description:** TA110. Acting I. 3 credit hours. This course will enable the student to find an approach to building a theatrical character with a method suited to his/her particular skills and individual knowledge. The student will be able to make informed choices drawn from personal life experience to apply to the craft/art of acting.

**Course Relevance:** Upon completion of this course the student will:

- Have an appreciation of basic acting techniques and approaches.
- Be able to integrate approaches and techniques with his/her individual skills.
- Be able to identify what is a personal, workable approach to the craft/art of acting.
- Will possess stage confidence.

**Required Materials:** Textbook: Vozoff, Lorinne. *Changing Circumstances*. Heinemann, 2002.

**Learning Outcomes:** The intention is for the student to be able to have an appreciation for the craft/art of acting, be able to approach an assigned theatrical role with informed confidence and appreciate the discipline of acting from a broader insight.

**Learning PACT Skills that will be developed and/or documented in this course:** Through the student involvement in this course, they will develop and document their achievement of the following PACT skills:

### Primary Skills

#### 1. Critical Thinking

- Through analysis of theatrical literature the student will demonstrate basic principles involved in effective character analysis.

#### 2. Aesthetic Response

- Through an oral response to class performances by classmates the student will develop an appreciation for the craft/art of acting.
- Through the viewing of and an oral response to filmed theatrical productions the student will develop an appreciation of different acting styles and methods.

#### 3. Writing

- Through written analysis of characters from theatrical literature and a class journal the student will express ideas and develop writing skills.

## **Secondary Skills**

### 1. Teamwork

- Through the presentation of multiple acting assignments the student will learn the basic principles of theatrical collaboration.

### 2. Listening

- Through observation of classroom performances and class lectures the student will demonstrate listening skills.

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### 3. Reading

- Through a variety of reading assignments – from the class text and assigned play scripts – the student will demonstrate reading skills.

### 4. Speaking

- Through response to monologues and scenes performed in class the student will demonstrate speaking skills.

### 5. Nonverbal Communication

- Through assigned theatrical monologues and scenes (utilizing the concept of subtext) for performance the student will demonstrate nonverbal communication skills.

**Assessment Tasks:** These learning outcomes and the primary Learning PACT skills will be demonstrated by:

1. Written analysis of characters written for theatrical performance.
2. Performances of characters from theatrical literature interacting with another character from theatrical literature.
3. Performances of characters written as a monologue for theatrical performance.
4. Oral response to the work presented in the class by other students.

## **Course Content:**

### **Themes: Key recurring concepts that run throughout the course:**

- Art & aesthetics.
- Basic acting principles.
- Appreciation for human dignity and worth.
- The value of theatrical performance.

### **Issues:**

- Art vs. craft.
- Following rules vs. breaking rules.

**Concepts: That must be understood to address the issues:**

- An approach to building a theatrical character
- Theatrical genres

**Skills: By the end of the course, the student will have demonstrated the ability to:**

- Analyze and dissect a character from theatrical literature.
- Bring a personality, unique to the student, to a character from theatrical literature for performance.
- Respond to and critique acting performances by fellow performers.

**Learning Units:**

- Character analysis
- Character construction
- Observation