Beginning Acting THTR 1008 Mendy McMasters, MFA

(formerly Mendy Garcia)

Required Text: Acting One Handbook (available in the bookstore)

Course Description

Introduction to the study and practice of acting and how it is a reflection of the human experience. Through reading, viewing and analyzing plays, students will gain insight into the art of theatre and apply this insight in frequent performance opportunities. Students will develop and reflect upon their vocal, physical, and creative skills as they apply to acting and develop a plan to integrate these skills into their own lives.

Student Learning outcomes

- Students will employ methods of script analysis from a performance perspective
- Students will evaluate a theatrical performance in written form using critical standards of performance
- Students will identify and explain acting techniques and theatre terminology
- Students will apply appropriate acting techniques in solo and group exercises in front of an audience
- Students will identify and assess use of body, voice and self-confidence and how they relate to behavior both on stage and off
- Students will reflect on elements of human behavior and how to apply these elements to performance

Student's Responsibilities:

- To be prepared
- To wear comfortable, flexible clothing that you don't mind getting dirty
- To bring all pertinent materials to class such as texts, props, homework, etc.
- To come with a healthy, positive attitude that supports fellow students and the learning environment
- To participate fully with an open mind and a sense of humor
- To be responsible for one's own physical needs (allergies, injuries, etc.), to adjust exercises as needed and to inform the instructor of the specifics of these needs
- NO Food or drink (except water) allowed in classroom. Please be respectful of the environment we all work in and clean up after yourself.

Possible Assignments

Midterm

Script Analysis/Character Worksheet

Character Interviews and Final Scene Performance

Head to Toe Assignment (For one whole day, wear something YOU WOULD NEVER WEAR)

Movement Research (Attend a movement based class or participate in a workshop in an area of movement that interests you. Choose something you've never done before and want to learn more about)

Production attendance and production paper

Open Scene project and analysis

2 Personal Inventory/Personality texts