

Assignments

[First Monologue Assignment](#)

Resources

[Titles For Acting and Directing](#)

[Memorizing Lines Techniques List](#)

August Enrollment Audition Information:

We take 12 students each semester. We still have a few spots available.

Enrollment will be determined by submitted audition videos: No experience submitting an audition video is necessary. Simply choose any contemporary text from any theater, television or film script. Choose a text you can relate to in some way, that feels comfortable and real to you when you say the words out loud. Don't choose a monologue that you've recently seen performed. Edit the script so it takes no longer than 2 minutes to speak out loud. Please memorize the text and practice saying those lines until they feel very natural to say. Then, just use your phone to record a video of you saying those lines of text. Please upload your monologue to the Google Form on the Canvas site no later than **5pm, Wednesday, August 21st**. We will notify everyone about enrollment for the class **on Thursday, August 22nd**.

The Google Form link to submit auditions is [HERE](#).

Course Description:

This is an acting class designed both for students who have no previous acting, performance, or arts class experience, as well as for students who have had a fair amount of acting experience and are interested in honing their work in pursuit of a career in acting. The focus is on scene and monologue work. The texts for the scenes and monologues come from contemporary theater, television, and film scripts. Core components of the class include the idea of simply working from yourself, "action-based acting" (how one person is trying to change/affect another person in a scene), how to read a scene or monologue to figure out what your character might want from that situation, how to find a personal connection to that character, and how to choose material that best suits the individual actor so they can do their best work. We've designed the class around very tangible and concrete ideas and techniques, so that those who might initially be intimidated by the idea of an acting class, or an arts class in general, will feel exceedingly comfortable. We always have students in the class who have had no previous art class experience. It is important to note that while the class is intentionally designed to be as un-intimidating and accessible as possible, the class does require a great deal of outside work. Students should expect to spend 4-6 hours per week on class work, including time for analyzing texts and rehearsal time for the scenes and monologues.

Additional information will be shown if available from the Registrar.

Course goals:

Helping students with no acting experience at all, as well as students who have a fair amount of experience, to enjoy the process of rehearsing and performing as an actor. Core components of the class include the idea of "simply working from yourself". This includes "action-based acting" (how one person is trying to change/affect another person in a scene or monologue), how to read a scene or

monologue to figure out what your character might want from that situation, how your character goes about getting what they want, how to find a personal connection to that character, and how to choose material that best suits the individual actor so they can do their best work.

Course format:

The focus is on scene and monologue work. Every class students perform either monologues or scenes. The texts for the scenes and monologues come from contemporary theater, television, and film scripts. We've designed the class around very tangible and concrete ideas and techniques, so that those who might initially be intimidated by the idea of an acting class, or an arts class in general, will feel exceedingly comfortable. We always have several students in the class who have had no previous art class or acting experience, and they have found the process quick and easy to learn. It is important to note that while the class is intentionally designed to be as un-intimidating and accessible as possible, the class does require a great deal of work outside of class. Students should expect to spend 4-6 hours per week on class work, including rehearsal time for the scenes and monologues.

Typical enrollees:

We always have a wide range of enrollees. In fact, most of the students are not arts concentrators. Our enrollees are from all over the campus, including Applied Math, African and African American Studies, Biomedical Engineering, Comparative Literature, Athletes, Environmental Science, Neuroscience, Statistics, Studies of Women, Gender and Sexuality, etc.

When is course typically offered?

Fall

What can students expect from you as an instructor?

A casual, safe, comfortable and protective environment. I complement first and then do a "next steps" critique. I never compare one student to another. I work with each student individually, whether they're complete beginners with no art class experience who are just taking the class out of curiosity, or students who have done a fair amount of acting experience. I try to help the students find the process of acting enjoyable and entertaining. Although the class environment is very relaxed, I expect rigorous work from everyone and I try to push each individual accordingly.

Assignments and grading:

Grading is individually based, never in comparison to another student. I don't grade based on the final product of each assignment, but rather on the amount of effort a student has put in outside of class. 85% of the grade is based on this degree of effort made outside of class creating the work they present in class. 15% of the grade is based on being on time to class, participating in class discussions, and being kind and supportive to the other students.

Enrollment cap, selection process, notification:

We take 12 students each semester.

Enrollment will be determined by submitted audition videos: No experience submitting an audition video is necessary. Simply choose any contemporary text from any theater, television or film script. Choose a text you can relate to in some way, that feels comfortable and real to you when you say the words out loud. Don't choose a monologue that you've recently seen performed. Edit the script so it takes no longer than 2 minutes to speak out loud. Please memorize the text and practice saying those lines until they feel very natural to say. Then, just use your phone to record a video of you saying those lines of text. Please upload your monologue to the Google Form on the Canvas site no later than **5pm, Wednesday, August 21st**. We will notify everyone about enrollment for the class **on Thursday, August 22nd**.

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Current syllabus:

Link to Syllabus [HERE](#)

Absence and late work policies:

Students should arrive to class at least 1 minute before start time. Getting extensions on work due is fine as long as it's requested before the due date and time.