

Las Positas College
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Course Outline for THEA 31C
DRAMA WORKSHOP - ADVANCED
Effective: Fall 2014

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

THEA 31C — DRAMA WORKSHOP - ADVANCED — 3.00 units

Participation as an advanced actor in one act plays, original student scripts, or other projects preferably in styles or genres different from those done in Theater 31 A and B. Casting subject to audition.

3.00 Units Lab

Prerequisite

THEA 31B - Drama Workshop - Intermediate
with a minimum grade of C

Grading Methods:

Letter Grade

Discipline:

Family: Theater Workshop

	MIN
Lab Hours:	162.00
Total Hours:	162.00

II. NUMBER OF TIMES COURSE MAY BE TAKEN FOR CREDIT: 1

III. PREREQUISITE AND/OR ADVISORY SKILLS:

Before entering the course a student should be able to:

A. THEA31B

1. A. Develop and create a specific character as called for in a play script
2. B. Use effective and appropriate physical movement in becoming a character in a play.
3. C. Exhibit a vibrant vocal life in portraying a role (volume, diction, resonance)
4. E. Prepare, rehearse and perform at an experienced level in a one act play
5. F. Perform with consistency, but also with spontaneity and freshness

IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to:

- A. Prepare, rehearse and perform at an advanced level in a play preferably in a different style than that performed in Theater 31 A and B - comedy, drama, classic, modern, contemporary, original script.
- B. Thoroughly analyze a play to discover author's intent, historical and sociological background, dramatic action and use of language.
- C. "Score" a scene - discovering objectives, emotions and changes in the beats of action.
- D. Incorporate alternative rehearsal techniques in creating a role and building an ensemble feeling (eg. improvisations, warm up exercises, role playing, psychological gesture).
- E. Evaluate in written form the experience of creating a play and the contributions of the various artists - actors, director, designers.

V. CONTENT:

- A. Participation by the students as actors in the preparation and performance of one act plays or other projects - preferably in a style different from that performed in Theater 31A or 31B - auditioning, memorizing, blocking, rehearsing and performing before an audience.
- B. Analysis of the play as a whole including the author's intent, historical and sociological background, dramatic action, message, and use of language.
- C. "Scoring" of at least parts of the play - discovering objectives, emotions and changes in the beats of action.
- D. Alternative rehearsal techniques for the purpose of creating an ensemble feeling and also for individual character development (improvisations, warm up exercises, role playing, psychological gesture)
- E. Evaluation of the experience of creating and performing the play - individual experience as actors and as part of an artistic whole

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. **Classroom Activity** -

- B. **Demonstration** -
- C. **Individualized Instruction** -
- D. **Observation and Demonstration** -
- E. **Student Presentations** -
- F. Lecture, discussion and demonstration of various styles and genres of theater
- B. **Lecture** -
 - I. Coaching and guidance of student directors through discussions and individual conversations
 - J. Learning by doing. Student actors are involved in auditions, rehearsals and performances.
 - K. Observation of student directors working with the student actors
- L. **Critique** -

VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Write a description of the differences between the style or genre of the plays done in this class as opposed to those done in previous Drama Workshop classes.
2. Research the author and the historic period of the plays and present findings in an oral presentation to the other cast members.

VIII. EVALUATION:

A. **Methods**

1. Class Participation
2. Class Work
3. Home Work
4. Class Performance
5. Final Class Performance
6. Final Public Performance
7. Other:
 - a. Evaluation of the student's ability to perform in a style or genre different from work done in other Drama Workshop classes.
 - b. Grading of participation in the process of creating the student projects
 1. Spirit and discipline
 2. Quality of performance
 3. Amount of improvement
 4. Ensemble support and cooperation
 5. Ability at creating specific characters through their physical, vocal and emotional attributes
 - c. Attendance

B. **Frequency**

Twice in the semester; at the conclusion of each of the public performances.

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

1. McGraw, Stilson, Clark *Acting is Believing*. 12th ed., Wadsworth Publishing Company, 2015.
2. O'Neill, Rosary Hartel *The Actor's Checklist: Creating the Complete Character*. 4th ed., Thomson, Wadsworth, 2014.
3. Play scripts of shows chosen to be performed

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS: