

Las Positas College
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**Course Outline for THEA 1B
THEORY/PRACTICE OF ACTING II**

Effective: Fall

I. CATALOG DESCRIPTION:

THEA 1B — THEORY/PRACTICE OF ACTING II — 3.00 units

Continued exploration of the theory and practice of acting, focusing on more complex characterization and character analysis. Introduction to theatrical styles and period acting with emphasis on monologues and scenes.

3.00 Units Lecture

Prerequisite

THEA 1A - Theory/Practice of Acting I
with a minimum grade of C

Grading Methods:

Letter Grade

Discipline:

	MIN
Lecture Hours:	54.00
Total Hours:	54.00

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. THEA1A

IV. MEASURABLE OBJECTIVES:

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

- A. Have widened his/her acting range through study, technique work and performances in various acting styles;
- B. Have broadened his/her acting range by playing a character(s) somehow different from their own personality;
- C. Be able to analyze a character, scene and play as part of the actor's preparation;
- D. Be able to work individually and with a partner in the process of rehearsing and performing an acting scene;
- E. Be able to effectively perform a scene and monologue in the particular style(s) focused on in the course;
- F. Be able to explain the uniqueness in performing in the particular acting styles(s) focused on in the course;
- G. Be able to critically evaluate the acting performances of other students and other actors.

V. CONTENT:

- A. Review of the basics of acting studied in Theater Arts 1A (beats of action, subtext, playing objectives, listening/reacting, etc.)
- B. Exercises (basic acting technique exercises and exercises specific to the particular styles studied)
- C. An introduction to period acting and acting styles e.g. Greek, Roman, Elizabethan, Commedia Del 'Arte, Comedy of Manners, Asian, Ritualistic, Theater of the Absurd, Television and Film, etc.)
- D. Vocal techniques for the particular acting styles being studied
- E. Movement techniques for the particular acting styles studied
- F. Characterization
 - 1. Physical life
 - 2. Vocal life
 - 3. Inner life
- G. Scene/monologue Preparation
 - 1. Character scene and play analysis
 - 2. Memorization of lines
 - 3. Rehearsals with partner in and outside of class
 - 4. Blocking
- H. Scene Presentation
 - 1. Performing the scene before the class and instructor
 - 2. Feedback and coaching from instructor and class members
 - 3. Second presentation of scene after feedback

VI. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

- A. Student participation in warm up exercises and acting technique work

- B. Lectures, demonstrations and discussions on characterization and on the styles of acting to be studied
- C. In-class and outside-of-class rehearsal of scenes and monologues, with as much coaching and guidance from the instructor as possible
- D. Video feedback through the taping of scenes and monologues
- E. Reading and analyzing the plays from which scenes are taken
- F. Reading from textbooks or handouts
- G. Prepared performances of scenes and monologues. Evaluation and critique of this performance work by instructor and class members

VII. TYPICAL ASSIGNMENTS:

A. Presenting a rehearsed scene in class, with lines memorized and blocking created, using acting techniques and principles learned in class B. "Scoring" of the Shakespearean scene to be performed. i.e. Thinking through and writing down on the rehearsal script, the beats of action, objectives, feelings and inner monologue of the character as the scene progresses. Also, writing a paraphrase in contemporary language of what the character is saying.

VIII. EVALUATION:

A. **Methods**

- 1. Exams/Tests
- 2. Quizzes
- 3. Papers
- 4. Class Participation
- 5. Other:
 - a. Grading of prepared scenes and monologues, based on the objective quality of the work, the discipline and seriousness demonstrated in rehearsals, and the amount of improvement and growth shown by the student.
 - b. Grading of written play/character analyses
 - c. Grading of test or quizzes
 - d. Judgement of the participation by the student in technique work and discussions
 - e. Attendance

B. **Frequency**

IX. TYPICAL TEXTS:

- 1. Scripts of the plays or films from which the acting scenes are taken

X. OTHER MATERIALS REQUIRED OF STUDENTS:

- A. Video tapes for the student's record of their performance work