

GRADES 10-12 ACTING AND DIRECTING/DRAMA MAJOR 2
CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

This intermediate level course is designed for students interested in focusing on acting and directing as artistic disciplines. Through use of vocal and diction exercises, physical character work, pantomime, complex improvisation, scene work, and advanced monologues, students will work to improve their acting skills and technique. In addition, students will study the fundamentals of directing by directing their peers in original and/or published scripts in scenes that will be performed in class and /or as public performances. This class will require participation in rehearsals and performances both during and after school.

Learning Experiences: (*from the student's perspective*)

- I can create, develop and sustain a realistic or stylised character through the use of voice, movement and language.
- I can demonstrate sensitivity, precision and depth in the portrayal of a character, conveying relationships and situations in a variety of settings and to different audiences.
- Acting and directing can provide valuable lessons for dealing with the ambiguous nature of a partially ordered world.
- Through scene work I develop an understanding of the responsibilities of the director.
- I explore and resolve theatrical production challenges.
- I understand and use the principles of blocking.
- I understand the process of selecting and analyzing a dramatic text.
- I am directly involved in my own learning activity and the activity corresponds in some way to the world outside the classroom, and as the learner I have a great deal of control over my learning experience.
- I have a concrete experience; I make observations and reflect on my experience; I formulate abstract concepts and generalizations; and I test the implications of new concepts in new situations. Experiential education
- I engaged in this creative learning setting and I experience the complexities of real-life scenarios in a safe environment.

Content Outline

TERM 1

Acting: Review of Improvisational work; Text Study; Circumstances; Beats; Action; The Obstacle; Script development performance and discussion

TERM 2

Directing: The Directors Function; Technique for the actor; Body and voice; Composition; Picturization; Movement; Rhythm

TERM 3

Play Building and Staging: Motivated movement; Thematic Blocking; Advanced Scene Study; Philosophy as it impacts drama and theater.

TERM 4

Acting: Scene study; Play development for performance on camera and stage; Subtext; The Arc; Transitions; Performance.

Resources Used

- *Fundamentals of Play Directing*. Alexander Dean and Lawrence Carra. Holt, Rinehart and Winston. 1980
- *Tips, Ideas for Actors*. Jon Jory. Smith and Kraus Inc. 2000
- *Theatre, A Way of Seeing*. Wadsworth Publishing Company. 1995