



Acting I

Course Information

Grade(s):	9-12
Discipline/Course:	Fine Arts/Theatre/Acting I
Course Title:	Acting I
Prerequisite(s):	none
Course Description: <i>Program of Studies</i>	This introductory acting course provides students with a foundational understanding of acting techniques, character development, and stage presence. Through practical exercises, improvisation, and scene work, students will develop their acting skills and gain confidence in their performance abilities. Students first learn basic techniques in elementary acting with emphasis on stage work in improvisation. Monologues follow introductory work to familiarize students with developing characterization. Then comes scene work. This course should help to acquaint students with the responsibilities of actors on stage; it should also help to eliminate stage fright and aid students in the development of working toward characterization. As they begin to recognize the importance of posture, voice, diction, movement, etc., the students should become more self-aware. In addition, students will learn to interact with others and grow in their ability to work as a member of an interdependent, collaborative group.
Course Essential Questions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What happens when theatre artists and audiences share a creative experience? ● What happens when theatre artists foster understanding between self and others through critical awareness, social responsibility, and the exploration of empathy?
Course Enduring Understandings:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Theatre artists and audiences can shape and experience stories together in a way that shapes how the world is understood. ● Theatre artists can knock down barriers and lift up marginalized voices by fostering understanding through critical awareness, social responsibility, and the exploration of empathy.

Duration: Credit:	1 semester .5 credit
Course Materials/Resources:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Respect for Acting</i> by Uta Hagen • <i>An Actor Prepares</i> by Constantin Stanislavski • <i>Impro: Improvisation and the Theatre</i> by Keith Johnstone • <i>Whose Line Is It Anyway?</i> Comedy Series
FPS Course Academic Expectation(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating and Constructing • Collaborating Strategically
Year at a Glance (Units)	Unit 1: To Be or not to Be... for Actors there is no Question Unit 2: Quite the Character

Units

Unit Number and Title:	Unit 1: To Be or not to Be... for Actors there is no Question
Duration:	One quarter
Resource(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Impro: Improvisation and the Theatre</i> by Keith Johnstone • <i>Whose Line Is It Anyway?</i>

Unit Overview:	<p>In this unit students will explore the essence of what it means to be an actor. From scoring a script to the actual production of a show, students will learn about the foundational skills necessary to perform in front of a live audience. Additionally students will explore their skills through the art of improvisation.</p>
Standard(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Anchor standard 1: Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work
Essential Question(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What happens when theatre artists use their imaginations and/or learned theatre skills while engaging in creative exploration and inquiry?
Enduring Understanding(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Theatre artists rely on intuition, curiosity, and critical inquiry.
Learning Goal(s): <i>Students will be able to use their learning to:</i> (Content/ Skills)	<p>Content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Improvisation ● Theatre skills ● Inquiry ● Social Justice Theatre ● Musical Theatre ● Production ● Technical Theatre ● Physical Theatre ● Playwriting ● World Theatre History <p>Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Collaborate with peers on creative projects ● Participate fully in improv experiences ● Use intuition and curiosity to engage in critical inquiry

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Student directing ● Devise scenes ● Direct scenes or plays
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Unit Number and Title:	Unit 2: Quite the Character
Duration:	One quarter
Resource(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Respect for Acting</i> by Uta Hagen ● <i>An Actor Prepares</i> by Constantin Stanislavski
Unit Overview:	In this unit students will begin to explore character motivation and objectives. They will create a character biography, develop an understanding of physicality and mannerisms, and demonstrate their ability to make characters distinct through in-class mini performances. Students will also continue to hone their improv skills by participating in a variety of improv games and exercises. This will help them to develop spontaneity and quick thinking. The course will conclude with an improv showcase.
Standard(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Anchor standard 2: Organize and develop artistic ideas and work.
Essential Question(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● How, when, and why do theatre artists' choices change?
Enduring Understanding(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Theatre artists work to discover different ways of communicating meaning.

<p>Learning Goal(s): <i>Students will be able to use their learning to:</i> (Content/ Skills)</p>	<p>Content:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Characterization ● Mannerisms and physicality ● Spontaneity ● Social Justice Theatre ● Musical Theatre ● Production ● Technical Theatre ● Physical Theatre ● Playwriting ● World Theatre History <p>Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Collaborate with peers on creative projects ● Participate fully in improv experiences ● Use intuition and curiosity to engage in critical inquiry around the area of character development ● Devise Scenes ● Direct scenes or plays
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