

Course Descriptions ~ Tuesday Classes

Dance-based courses

Body Conditioning- *Open to: all interested students*

Class length: 1/2 year, repeatable

This yoga based class aims to strengthen the core by working internal muscle groups, balances your body, and builds strong lean muscle. This class also focuses on improving posture, concentration, flexibility, efficiency of movement and mobility.

Character Dance- *Open to: Dance students only*

Class length: Full year

This class will focus on the stylized representation of a traditional folk or national dance, normally from a European country. Some examples of character dance are Irish, Russian dance, Polish mazurka, tarantella and flamenco.

Contemporary Dance For Everyone- *Open to: all interested students*

Class length: 1/2 year, repeatable

This class is intended for anyone who wants to improve their dance skills. The class will focus on individual improvement and skill development in things like positioning, posture, movement, jumps, turns and strength. Rather than focusing on learning dances, students will work toward individual and group improvement goals that will help students in any department improve their dance skills.

Hip Hop - *Open to: all interested students*

Class length: 1/2 year, repeatable

Students will learn to create, explore and express themselves through movement. Note: While a student may take Hip Hop for a half-year, only students who take it both semesters will be able to perform in the Dance Performances.

Hip Hop (Advanced)- *Open to: all interested students*

Class length: 1/2 year, repeatable

Teacher must approve students to be in the advanced version of Hip Hop. Note: While a student may take Hip Hop for a half-year, only students who take it both semesters will be able to perform in the Dance Performances.

Inter-Disciplinary Performance- *Open to: all interested students*

Class length: 1/2 year, repeatable

This course focuses on strategies for successful collaboration between artists from different disciplines including, discussion, debate and the articulation of ideas. Students will work in groups to create presentations demonstrating a variety of areas including percussion, music, voice, movement, video and tech. The class will create eclectic performances together.

Jumps and Turns - *Open to: Dance students only*

Class length: 1/2 year, repeatable

This class focuses on developing the strength, power, flexibility, and technique necessary for jumps and turns. An emphasis will be placed on proper body alignment, spotting, and strength. Students will be taught combinations that will enhance their dance repertoire for multiple dance styles.

Pre-Pointe- *Open to: Students taking ballet in any department*

Class length: Full year

Pre-Pointe is a pointe preparation class for ballet students interested in dancing en pointe. The class is taken barefoot. A portion of the class is spent doing foot/ankle exercises and stretches on the floor. Students also do strenuous core strengthening exercises and repetitious barre exercises aimed at strength-building.

Pointe- *Open to: Dance students only, pre-pointe class and placement audition required*

Class length: Full year

Beginning pointe class can be taken on flat or in pointe shoes at the instructor's discretion. All pointe classes are designed for students with previous ballet training. Students will utilize previously learned ballet technique while working in pointe shoes. Each class includes barre exercises, center floor work and across the floor combinations. These exercises focus on strengthening the feet and ankles.

Pre-Pointe Class is required before being considered to dance en pointe.

Tap Semester 1- *Open to: Any student with desire and ability to learn tap (must own tap shoes)*

Class length: 1/2 year, not repeatable

This class is a mix of rhythm and Broadway tap that focuses on musicality and syncopation by learning basic tap steps and implementing them in choreography. Can be a tool for basic movement for theater class.

Tap Semester 2- *Open to: Any student with some tap experience (must own tap shoes)*

Class length: 1/2 year, not repeatable

This class is a continuation of Tap Semester 1. Students who do not take Semester 1 may only take this class if they have previous tap experience. Students who successfully complete Semester 1 are welcome to take Semester 2.

World Dance- *Open to: all interested students*

Class length: 1/2 year, repeatable

This class explores international dance forms. Fun collection of line, partner and circle dances in Latin American, European and Middle Eastern styles, while learning specific techniques inherent to each dance.

Music-based courses

Combo-*Open to: All interested students only by audition in September* **Class length: Full year**
Students may REQUEST this class, but must audition for it in September. The Combo is a self-run group that organizes all aspects of its own performance including rehearsals, repertoire, stage set-up, and presentation. The combo serves as a support group for the choir and other departments that require musical accompaniment. Performances in the community are mandatory. **(by audition only)**

Chamber Ensemble- *Open to: all interested students who play a chamber instrument* **Class length: Full year or ½ year**
The Chamber Ensemble plays a varied repertoire drawn from the Western European classical canon. Focus will be on listening, balance, and reading. All instruments and voices are welcome!

Guitar I - *Open to: all interested students* **Class length: Full year**
This is for students who have little to no knowledge of guitar playing. Students will learn the basics of playing guitar including scales, chords, strumming patterns, and the reading of standard notation. Students must own a guitar in or to practice weekly homework assignments.

Guitar: II - *Open to: students who have successfully completed Guitar I or with teacher approval* **Class length: Full year**
This course is designed for students to learn more than the fundamentals of playing guitar. Students must be proficient at guitar prior to taking the course. Students must have a solid grasp of major and minor chords in order to take this class.

Harmony In Singing - *Open to students in music or musical theater* **Class Length: 1/2 year repeatable**
This course is designed to help students improve their ability to sing in harmony. Students will explore intervals to improve their ability to read harmonic lines. They will also have significant practice in listening to other singers while singing in order to improve their ability to blend.

Inter-Disciplinary Performance- *Open to: all interested students* **Class length: 1/2 year, repeatable**
This course focuses on strategies for successful collaboration between artists from different disciplines including, discussion, debate and the articulation of ideas. Students will work in groups to create presentations demonstrating a variety of areas including percussion, music, voice, movement, video and tech. The class will create eclectic performances together.

Introduction to Music Technology (Garageband)- *Open to: all interested students* **Class length: 1/2 year, not repeatable**
Students will use I-pads to develop their skills in music production and recording. Students will acquire a basic understanding of Garageband to create their own musical selections.

Jazz Vocal Performance - *Open to: Singers by audition* **Class length: 1/2 year, repeatable**
This class is for advanced vocalists from any department who want to become better at singing as lead singers. Students will develop their voice by performing jazz and contemporary songs. Students will also explore improvisational singing.

Keyboard I & II- *Open to: all interested students* **Class length: 1/2 year, repeatable**
Students will learn the basics of playing piano including scales, chords, technique, and the reading of standard notation. Students are graded on the successful presentation of homework assignments. Any student who cannot practice at home is welcome to use RCA's pianos to practice before classes or during break.

Pit Orchestra- *Open to: Instrumental students only by audition* **Class length: Double period ½ year repeatable**
Students may sign up for Pit, but are chosen by audition each semester. The Pit Orchestra provides the music for the musical theater production and Showcase each semester. Therefore, enrollment is based on the needs of the production and will change each semester. Students in this class will not take another elective during the semester they are enrolled. **(by audition only)**

Radio Plays- *Open to: all interested students* **Class length: 1/2 year, repeatable**
Radio plays come from the days before television when families gathered around the radio to listen to dramas and comedies. The use of sound effects to create doors closing, people walking, and action is an integral part of the performance, while the actor's use of the voice is incredibly important to the audience understanding the plot. This class will feature live music, sound effects, and actor performance to create the world of the radio play, culminating in a live performance. This would be offered in collaboration with the theater dept.

Sight Reading- *Open to: All instrumental and vocal students only.*

Class length: 1/2 year, repeatable

This class covers the skills needed to feel comfortable reading music. Each week, new pieces of music focusing on a specific key signature and rhythmic phrase will be analyzed and performed by the class. By the end of this course, students will feel comfortable reading music in a variety of keys and genres.

Voice I- *Open to: All students who are interested in singing*

Class length: Full year

A foundational class that provides introductory training for healthy vocal techniques for all styles of singing, as well as an understanding of the anatomy of the voice, and provides opportunities for singers to improve performance skills. **(required for vocal majors)**

Voice II- *Open to: Any student who has successfully completed Voice I*

Class length: 1/2 year, not repeatable

This class can be taken by those who have successfully completed Voice I. More complex music will be explored. May be taken without Voice I through permission from the vocal teacher.

Voice: Advanced Workshop *Open to: Any student who has successfully completed Voice I*

Class length: 1/2 year, repeatable

This class can be taken by those who have successfully completed Voice II. Students will prepare and perform a variety of repertoire aimed at improving their singing ability including breath support, tone, quality and performance. Students may take this repeatedly as each time they will be presented with new and more challenging repertoire.

Musical Theatre-based courses

Advanced Auditioning for Musical Theatre- *Open to: Juniors & Seniors only*

Class length: 1/2 year, not repeatable

A class open to juniors and seniors who have a good basic grasp on auditioning for musicals. Attention will be given to selection and preparation of material, understanding how to sell yourself when given "16 bars" and overall audition presentation etiquette. This class is especially good for students who plan to audition for competitive college musical theatre programs.

Inter-Disciplinary Performance- *Open to: all interested students*

Class length: 1/2 year, repeatable

This course focuses on strategies for successful collaboration between artists from different disciplines including, discussion, debate and the articulation of ideas. Students will work in groups to create presentations demonstrating a variety of areas including percussion, music, voice, movement, video and tech. The class will create eclectic performances together.

Musical Theater Production- *Open to: Theatre or Mus. Theat. students by audition*

Class length: 1/2 year, repeatable

Students will be part of a main stage musical theater production. This class begins with auditions and continues through the final performances. Emphasis is placed on the process- character development, blocking, staging, choreography, set, costumes, props. **(by audition only)**

Musical Theatre Dance - *Open to: all interested students*

Class length: 1/2 year, repeatable

Each semester, the class will focus on a different style of dance from ballet to modern to lyrical to tap. The class is open to all students who have an interest in dance for musical theatre. You do NOT need to be a musical theatre major to take this class. For 25-26 it will be ballet in the fall and contemporary in the spring.

Stage Makeup - *Open to: all interested students*

Class length: 1/2 year, not repeatable

Students will explore all facets of stage makeup from basic makeup usage to color theory, aging makeup and special effects makeup. Students should be willing to apply makeup on themselves and others, as well as have makeup applied to them. Individual makeup kits will be required.

Theatre-based courses

Children's Theatre- *Open to: all interested students*

Class length: 1/2 year, repeatable

Performing for children and young adults is an exciting and fun genre of theatre. Making big, bold choices, using animated expression and capturing the audience's attention with your energy will all be explored in this class. Students will learn to write and perform children's theatre with the goal of performing for a children's audience at the end.

Inter-Disciplinary Performance- *Open to: all interested students*

Class length: 1/2 year, repeatable

This course focuses on strategies for successful collaboration between artists from different disciplines including, discussion, debate and the articulation of ideas. Students will work in groups to create presentations demonstrating a variety of areas including percussion, music, voice, movement, video and tech. The class will create eclectic performances together.

Performance in Film- *Open to: all interested students*

Class length: 1/2 year, repeatable

Students will examine a variety of films in order to evaluate the performance of the actors in the film. Students will attempt to employ a variety of techniques to create performances based on the film actors they've analyzed.

Personal Stories in Theatre- *Open to: all interested students*

Class length: 1/2 year, repeatable

Based on the principles developed in MOTH Theatre, students in this class will develop the ability to tell live personal stories. These stories may eventually take shape in monologues, slam poetry or even short plays. Students will use personal experiences to develop their narratives, and improve their ability to tell stories.

Radio Plays- *Open to: all interested students*

Class length: 1/2 year, repeatable

Radio plays come from the days before television when families gathered around the radio to listen to dramas and comedies. The use of sound effects to create doors closing, people walking, and action is an integral part of the performance, while the actor's use of the voice is incredibly important to the audience understanding the plot. This class will feature live music, sound effects, and actor performance to create the world of the radio play, culminating in a live performance. (This would be offered in collaboration with the music dept.)

Stage Makeup - *Open to: all interested students*

Class length: 1/2 year, not repeatable

Students will explore all facets of stage makeup from basic makeup usage to color theory, aging makeup and special effects makeup. Students should be willing to apply makeup on themselves and others, as well as have makeup applied to them. Individual makeup kits will be required.

Theatre Games *Open to: all interested students*

Class length: 1/2 year, repeatable

This course will introduce students to a variety of theatre games and exercises intended to increase their ability to make spontaneous creative choices. Improvisation will be part of the class. Full participation is expected in all activities. Note: For students taking it a second time, many of the games will be repeated.

Theatre Production *Required of all theatre majors in productions*

Class length: Full year

Students will rehearse for the theatre production in which they are involved. Emphasis will be on the process - character development, script analysis, blocking, rehearsal, staging and memorization.

Visual Arts and Crafting for the Stage- *Open to: all interested students*

Class length: 1/2 year, repeatable

This course allows students to express their visual creativity through drawing, crafting, painting and other visual mediums. This course will examine how visuals play an important role in theater, dance and musical theater performances. This is a hands-on class where students will be conceiving and creating a variety of visual arts pieces that may be used in performances.

Creative Media / Technical Theatre-based courses

Backstage in Production- *Open to: all interested students*

Class length: 1/2 year, repeatable

This class is meant to prepare students for working backstage in the many productions at RCA and beyond. Students will learn about practical elements of tech theatre including hanging and focusing lights, properly working with microphones and sound equipment, running a show as a full production staff, how to comport themselves backstage, in the lighting booth, and behind the soundboard. There will be a strong focus on fast set transitions, mixing a live musical with microphones, and calling cues for lights, sound, and projections. Our goal is to translate these skills into practice for our productions here at RCA. This may be particularly suited for non-tech majors who want to learn about the production elements of live theater.

Film Study: How To Analyze Film - *Open to: all interested students*

Class length: ½ year, not repeatable

This course allows students to examine films from an analytical perspective. Students will be required to watch selected films during their own time so that class time can focus on the analysis of the films. This is a great class for any student who enjoys films and wants to learn more about what makes a film great.

Filming and Editing for Live Performance- *Open to: all interested students*

Class length: 1/2 year, repeatable

This course is designed to help students understand the process of filming and editing live content for video. Students will participate in filming theatre, dance, music and musical theatre performances and edit them in post-production.

Fundamentals of Scenic Arts - *Open to: all interested students*

Class length: 1/2 year, repeatable

Students will learn the basic fundamentals of scenic painting and designing scenery including brick and stone work, marbling, stained glass and other commonly used techniques in scenic painting. Students may work on painting for the musical or play.

Lighting for the Stage-

Open to: all interested students

Class length: 1/2 year, repeatable

This class will focus on lighting for the stage. Students will learn about the lighting elements, how to hang and focus lighting instruments, how to use the lighting board and will later progress to learn lighting design. Students will work both with the new LED lighting instruments and the traditional incandescent lighting. (Currently deciding which semester and period it will be offered)

Photography- *Open to: all interested students*

Class length: Full year

This course covers basic concepts and practice of digital photography. Including understanding and use of the camera, lenses, and other basic photographic equipment. Students will learn Photoshop techniques and participate in group discussions to give feed-back and share thoughts on each other's work. The course will also address aesthetic and creative principles as they relate to composition, space, exposure, light, color, angle and environment. **Note: Students must own a decent camera in order to take this elective..**

Stage Makeup - *Open to: all interested students*

Class length: 1/2 year, not repeatable

Students will explore all facets of stage makeup from basic makeup usage to color theory, aging makeup and special effects makeup. Students should be willing to apply makeup on themselves and others, as well as have makeup applied to them. Individual makeup kits will be required.

Technical Theatre In Practice (TD Practicum)- *Open to: all interested students*

Class length: 1/2 year, repeatable

Students may request this course, but **must be approved by the technical director**. Students will employ their skills learned through technical theatre classes to assist the TD in preparing for performances including hanging and focusing lights, preparing sound equipment, programming the board, creating props, building and painting sets, and other technical tasks needed for production. Must have taken some technical theatre experience before taking this class.