

**Raritan Valley Community College
Academic Course Outline**

ACTING II: SCENE STUDY

I. Basic Course Information

- A. Course Number and Title: THEA-106 ACTING II: SCENE STUDY
- B. Date of Proposal or Revision: October 2005
- C. Sponsoring Department: Visual and Performing Arts Department
- D. Semester Credit Hours: 3
- E. Weekly Contact Hours: Lecture: 2
Laboratory: 2
- F. Prerequisites: THEA-103 ACTING I: FUNDAMENTALS
- G. Laboratory Fees: NO

II. Catalog Description

Prerequisite: THEA 103 Acting I: Fundamentals

Acting II will delve deeper into the art of acting focusing specifically on characterization and styles. Students will perform scenes from a variety of playwrights and genres.

III. Statement of Course Need

This course is a core program requirement for the A.F.A. degree in Theatre.

IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum

- Free elective
- The course meets a program requirement for the A.F.A. degree in Theatre.
- The course is an elective in A.F.A. Theatre (Technical Theatre).
- Satisfies studio elective in A.A. degree Liberal Arts (Theatre option).
- Course transferability: According to the njtransfer.org website this course will transfer to most four year universities as a theatre or free elective.

V. Outline of Course Content

- The students will perform in four different scenes from the following genres:
 - Contemporary comedy
Discussion and performance of scene from playwrights such as:
Neil Simon, Beth Henley, Christopher Durang or Dorothy Parker.
 - Contemporary drama
Discussion and performance of scene from playwrights such as: August
Wilson, Sam Shepard, John Patrick Shanley, Paula Vogel, David Mamet or
Tina Howe.
 - Classic drama
Discussion and performance of scene from playwrights such as:
Tennessee Williams, Eugene O'Neill, or Arthur Miller.
 - Theatre of the Absurd
Discussion and performance of scene from playwrights such as:
Samuel Beckett, Eugene Ionesco, Edward Albee or Harold Pinter.

- Analyze and critique a professional performance

VI. Education Goals and Learning Outcomes

Education Goals

Students will:

- Develop the performance of roles through imagination, research and practice of varied acting methodologies. (G.E.1)
- Organize their own rehearsals outside of class in preparation for their final performance in front of an audience. (G.E.2)

Learning Outcomes

The student will be able to:

- Interpret characters and actions.
- Justify choices made while performing roles.
- Write a biography for each character.
- Discuss playwrights and their work.
- Create truthful behavior under imaginary circumstances regardless of genre.
- Demonstrate an advanced level of competency in performance.

VII. Modes of Teaching and Learning

- Lecture/discussion
- Student collaboration
- Simulation/role playing
- Improvisation (unscripted performance)

VIII. Papers, Examinations, and other Assessment Instruments

- Journals
- Demonstrations
- Essays
- Performance
- Participation in critiques and discussions

IX. Grade Determinants

- The grade determinants, including attendance, participation, written weekly assignments, review of professional production and performances, will be used to assess the students according to the learning outcomes and general education goals listed above.

X. Texts and Materials

- **Suggested text:** Mamet, David. *True and False: Heresy and Common Sense for the Actor*. Vintage Books. New York. 1997. ISBN 0-679-77264-2.

XI. Resources

- Performance space (Welpo Theatre)
- DVD/VHS player