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DRAM 111.04: Acting for Non-Majors

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University of Montana's Department of Dance and Drama
Drama 111/Acting for Non-Majors – Section 4
MWF 10:10am -11:00am
Schreiber South- 124
Fall, 2001
Sarah D'Angelo, Instructor
243-4481
Office hours by Appointment

WELCOME



PURPOSE

The purpose of this course is to give you a hands-on introduction to the art form and discipline of acting and live theater. The experiences and skills explored during this semester will also be useful to you outside of the classroom environment. This work will help you to deepen your ability to communicate and respond more effectively to the numerous interpersonal encounters that will occur during your life span. Acting is the art of being human and by committing fully to the class work, your perspectives, values and attitudes about yourself, your background, other people and the world you have experienced will begin to transform.

OUTCOMES

By committing fully, the student will achieve:

- A demonstrated confidence in basic interpersonal skills. *Life skills* will enhance your ability to interact with honesty and integrity in any given situation.
- A means of discovering a solid foundation beginning with the student's own personal values, attitudes and experiences by studying created character (s) for the purpose of live performance.
- A system of preparation to gain ease and comfort essential to engaging fully in a live performance.
- An opportunity to attend live theater, enabling the student to observe other actors work and experience audience etiquette.

REQUIREMENTS

Be yourself.

Come to class with an open mind and you'll have fun.

Attendance & Prompt Arrival *Please do not miss more than three classes.. your grade will drop a whole letter.* This includes mental health days, vacations, illness, family emergencies, and any other reason.

Production Attendance *If you miss a show for any reason, your grade will drop a whole letter.* Production attendance and subsequent reflection is essential to this class. Don't worry, your fee has covered the cost of your tickets, but there is a procedure that must be followed in order to secure your seats. Failure to do the steps outlined in this course syllabus may result in missing a show.

TICKET PROCEDURE

Go to the PARTV building. Go to the BOX OFFICE located in the lobby.

Ask for a ticket, in person between 11:30 am and 5:30 pm Monday-Friday.
You may only receive a ticket for your own seat. Please do not ask the box office if you may also get tickets for friends/classmates in Drama 111.

Sorry, no phone reservations.

You must have your GRIZ CARD. Tell the box office staff that you are in SARAH D'ANGELO'S Drama 111 class.

CAUTION: Seats in the Montana Theater are assigned, if you wish to sit with another Drama 111 student, you must go together to pick up your ticket. If you plan to sit with a non-drama 111 person, (i.e. pay for the seat) you must make that arrangement when picking up your ticket. Either way, plan in advance if you wish to sit with a friend, date, or classmate. Seats in the Masquer Theater are general seating. Arrive early in order to get the best choices. As a rule, weekend evening performances tend to sell out quickly. If a show is sold out, you will not be accommodated. See the shows early in the run to ensure getting a seat. TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY tend not to sell out as quickly as the weekend evening performances, so again, PLAN AHEAD.

SPRING SEMESTER PERFORMANCES

BILOXI BLUES - Masquer Theater –October 16-20; October 23-27
Mo-Trans DANCE CONCERT – Montana Theater October 31 – November 3
OUR TOWN – Montana Theater – December 11- 15

EVALUATION

The final grade will reflect the student's personal development, effort and progress.

Effort, respect, attitude	15%
Participation	15%
Growth in the skills practice (class performances)	25%
Writing Assignments (2)	15%
Production Attendance and reflections (3)	15%
Final Exam	15%

POLICIES

Safety

This is to express written caution. **ACTING IS A CONTACT SPORT!!!** This class will entail physical activity. Please use sensible caution to avoid injury to yourself and **others**. Please, no animals. **NO WEAPONS** or real glass. No smoking, no flame or fire, no aggressive physical contact. No nudity. No touching, kissing or hand holding without **prior discussion and the consent of your scene partner**.

Respect

Please help to create and maintain an environment in which we can all feel our personal boundaries and feelings will be honored. I will vigorously penalize anyone who breaches this policy—intentionally or “unintentionally”. Bear in mind that we may not be familiar with your brand of humor. Respect for university property also falls under this clause and will be enforced.

Under the Influence

I uphold a strict No Drugs and alcohol policy during class or rehearsal. Please do not challenge it.

Please no food or drinks class... water is ok.

Late work will not be accepted. This includes late or unprepared class performances.

Please wear appropriate attire- you will be moving around.

COURSE STRUCTURE

The course will be divided into four sections:

Ensemble work includes group activities, theater games, concentration, focus, movement and vocal warm ups.

Improvisation is covered in the course so that you may gain a better understanding of relationships, personalities, character motivations, obstacles and objectives, imagination.

Scene and Character Study will provide you with an established system of building a character, and giving over to the creative process. It will broaden your sense of empathy by allowing you the opportunity to explore different values and attitudes.

Performance from a text will allow you to put into practice the skills and exercises covered during the course of the semester

FINAL EXAM : Wednesday, December 19th – 8am-10am