

THEA-220: ACTING FOR FUN AND PROFIT

Effective Term

Fall 2025

SECTION A - Course Data Elements

CB04 Credit Status

Credit - Degree Applicable

Discipline

Minimum Qualifications	And/Or
Drama/Theater Arts (Master's Degree)	

Subject Code

THEA - Theater Arts

Course Number

220

Department

Theater Arts (THEA)

Division

Arts and Humanities (ARAH)

Full Course Title

Acting for Fun and Profit

Short Title

Acting for Fun and Profit

CB03 TOP Code

1007.00 - Dramatic Arts

CB08 Basic Skills Status

NBS - Not Basic Skills

CB09 SAM Code

E - Non-Occupational

Rationale

Update textbook and DE Activities

SECTION B - Course Description

Catalog Course Description

This course provides students with a study of the fundamental skills required for gaining employment as an actor on stage and in film as well as other mediums. Course content includes audition techniques, voice over and on-camera acting skills, guidance for securing an agent, working with casting directors, preparing photographs and resumes, and joining the entertainment unions. In addition, students will prepare monologues and other materials necessary for transfer and work as a professional actor.

SECTION C - Conditions on Enrollment

Open Entry/Open Exit

No

Repeatability

Not Repeatable

Grading Options

Letter Grade or Pass/No Pass

Allow Audit

Yes

Requisites**SECTION D - Course Standards****Is this course variable unit?**

No

Units

3.00

Lecture Hours

54.00

Outside of Class Hours

108

Total Contact Hours

54

Total Student Hours

162

Distance Education Approval**Is this course offered through Distance Education?**

Yes

Online Delivery Methods

DE Modalities	Permanent or Emergency Only?
Entirely Online	Permanent
Hybrid	Permanent

SECTION E - Course Content**Student Learning Outcomes**

	Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:
1.	Analyze dramatic literature.
2.	Demonstrate basic audition skills.
3.	Produce a resume and monologue for peer, professional or academic review.

Course Objectives

	Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:
1.	Compare and contrast acting on-stage to acting on-camera.
2.	Recall voice over and on-camera terminology.
3.	Demonstrate and perform various commercial and stage audition techniques.
4.	Analyze, score, and perform audition pieces.
5.	Apply skills necessary to assemble photographs, prepare resumes, join unions and relate successfully to talent agents and casting directors.
6.	Create a business plan for work as a professional actor.
7.	Utilize proper audition etiquette.

Course Content

1. On-camera and Voice Over Technique
 - a. Text
 - b. Voice
 - c. Physical Life
2. Audition Technique
 - a. Monologue
 - b. Cold Reading
 - c. Singing
 - d. Dance
 - e. On camera
 - f. Interview
3. Digital Employment Opportunities
 - a. Film
 - b. Television
 - c. Commercials
 - d. Industrials
 - e. Print
 - f. Radio
 - g. Video
 - h. Gaming industry
4. Live Theater Work Opportunities
 - a. Regional Theater
 - b. Children's Theater
 - c. Dinner Theater
 - d. Improv Troupes
 - e. Cruise ships
 - f. National Tours
5. Business of Acting
 - a. Agents
 - b. Casting Directors
 - c. Photographs
 - d. Resumes
 - e. Publications
 - f. Communication
 - g. Unions
6. Schools of Acting
 - a. Studios
 - b. Conservatories
 - c. International
 - d. BA and BFA programs
 - e. MFA programs

Methods of Instruction

Methods of Instruction

Types	Examples of learning activities
Activity	Students will create a five year plan for acting as a profession.
Critique	Students will critique each other's performance and portfolio work.
Discussion	Students will participate in discussions on selected topics.
Lecture	Students will listen to lectures on all elements of the business of acting professionally: including headshots, resumes, on camera acting, stage acting, commercials, voice overs, print work, and animation.
Observation and Demonstration	Students will observe each other's audition pieces and individual and small group work demonstrating particular topics such as interview, casting and resume.

Instructor-Initiated Online Contact Types

Announcements/Bulletin Boards

Chat Rooms
 Discussion Boards
 E-mail Communication
 Telephone Conversations
 Video or Teleconferencing

Student-Initiated Online Contact Types

Chat Rooms
 Discussions
 Group Work

Course design is accessible

Yes

Methods of Evaluation

Methods of Evaluation

Types	Examples of classroom assessments
Projects	Research Projects - Research paper or other writing projects on topics covered in course content.
Portfolios	Students will develop a portfolio to include resume, photo and cover letters.
Essays/Papers	Written evaluations covering topics discussed in class and in the reading.
Oral Presentations	Present monologues and cold readings during class.
Performances	Class Performance - Students will perform monologues and scenes. Final Class Performance - Students will present a business plan, portfolio and perform an audition piece.

Assignments

Reading Assignments

Selected readings from textbook, periodicals or library collection covering and expanding on lecture.

For Example:

Read Chapter 2 of The Actor's Business Plan focusing a five-year plan.

Read Chapter 7, of The Actor's Business Plan covering the Casting Directors and Managers

Writing Assignments

Written evaluations of topics discussed in class.

For example:

1. Write a three-page, typewritten analysis of different mediums for employment as an actor.
2. Topical essays expanding on course material.

For example: Write a three-page paper comparing stage acting to screen acting.

Other Assignments

Research paper or other writing projects that develop a related topic.

For example:

Students are to select a paper topic covering a critical analysis and evaluation of the employment opportunities for professional acting covered in the course during the semester. This paper is designed as a research project and students are expected to go beyond the level of information found in the course textbook. Students must find a minimum of five sources for this paper. Of those five, no more than two may be periodical sources and no internet sources are allowed, except where students can demonstrate the academic verifiability and validity of a source. Paper will be in the MLA format using parenthetical citations. The body of the text must be a minimum of 7 pages and no more than 15. Work will be graded on a 50 point rubric that evaluates format; development of the body of the text including a thesis, relevant examples, integration of research, conclusion and merit of original premise; punctuation; grammar; bibliography; citations; and use of images.

SECTION F - Textbooks and Instructional Materials

Material Type

Textbook

Author

Jane Drake Brody

Title

The Actor's Business Plan: A Career Guide for the Acting Life

Publisher

Bloomsbury Methuen Drama

Year

2015

Material Type

Textbook

Author

Robert Cohen and James Calleri

Title

Acting Professionally: An Essential Career Guide for the Actor

Edition/Version

9th Edition

Publisher

Methuen Press

Year

2024

ISBN #

1350347728

Course Codes (Admin Only)**ASSIST Update**

No

CB10 Cooperative Work Experience Status

N - Is Not Part of a Cooperative Work Experience Education Program

CB11 Course Classification Status

Y - Credit Course

CB13 Special Class Status

N - The Course is Not an Approved Special Class

CB23 Funding Agency Category

Y - Not Applicable (Funding Not Used)

CB24 Program Course Status

Program Applicable

Allow Pass/No Pass

Yes

Only Pass/No Pass

No