

Washtenaw Community College Comprehensive Report

DRA 204 Improvisational Acting Effective Term: Spring/Summer 2021

Course Cover

Division: Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences

Department: Communication, Media & Theatre Arts (new)

Discipline: Drama (new)

Course Number: 204

Org Number: 11500

Full Course Title: Improvisational Acting

Transcript Title: Improvisational Acting

Is Consultation with other department(s) required: No

Publish in the Following: College Catalog , Time Schedule , Web Page

Reason for Submission: Course Change

Change Information:

Consultation with all departments affected by this course is required.

Pre-requisite, co-requisite, or enrollment restrictions

Rationale: Minor change: Special removal of the DRA 152 Pre-req for the purpose of a) adding it as an elective for the Broadcast Arts Media Associates Degree and Broadcast Arts Media Certificate and b) developing this course as a viable entry course in the DRA discipline. The Broadcast Arts Certificate will emphasize improvisational skills as an asset to Broadcast Arts training. Additionally, we are working to expand enrollments in DRA204 with outreach to include professionals and non-traditional students; with this goal in mind we are exploring options such as the Executive Weekend intensive model. We believe removing the DRA152 pre-req will welcome more students who otherwise would be turned away and allow DRA204 to serve as an entry into DRA studies. We are asking that a special consideration be made to remove this pre-req asap for the updating of the Broadcast Arts Media degree and certificate. I will assess this course and submit a full syllabus update for Fall 2021.

Proposed Start Semester: Spring/Summer 2021

Course Description: In this interactive acting course, students will be introduced to the art of performing without a script. Various forms of impromptu exercises and traditional acting games are explored to enhance skills in spontaneity, comic timing, concentration, verbal and non-verbal expression, characterization and group cooperation. These skills apply to stage and film acting. Students will practice developing improvisational sketches and prepare to perform before an audience.

Course Credit Hours

Variable hours: No

Credits: 3

Lecture Hours: Instructor: 45 **Student:** 45

Lab: Instructor: 0 **Student:** 0

Clinical: Instructor: 0 **Student:** 0

Total Contact Hours: Instructor: 45 **Student:** 45

Repeatable for Credit: NO

Grading Methods: Letter Grades

Audit

Are lectures, labs, or clinicals offered as separate sections?: NO (same sections)

College-Level Reading and Writing

College-level Reading & Writing

College-Level Math

No Level Required

Requisites

General Education

Request Course Transfer

Proposed For:

Eastern Michigan University
Ferris State University
Grand Valley State University
Jackson Community College
Kendall School of Design (Ferris)
Lawrence Tech
Michigan State University
Oakland University
University of Detroit - Mercy
University of Michigan
Wayne State University
Western Michigan University

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Apply improvisational acting skills in a performance setting with attention to performance choices based on: a) listening and behaving truthfully in the imaginary circumstance, b) acceptance (as opposed to denial), c) physical awareness and staging effectiveness, d) vocal delivery effectiveness.

Assessment 1

Assessment Tool: Departmental review of video documentation of performance

Assessment Date: Winter 2021

Assessment Cycle: Every Three Years

Course section(s)/other population: All

Number students to be assessed: All

How the assessment will be scored: Departmentally-developed rubric

Standard of success to be used for this assessment: 70% of all students must score 70% (7 out of 10) or greater on each category of the learning outcome.

Who will score and analyze the data: Departmental faculty

Course Objectives

1. Practice the skill of listening in exercises focusing on behaving truthfully in the imaginary circumstance, and enhancing trust within the group.
2. Practice spontaneously making performance choices based on character development.
3. Practice the skill of concentration (focus) in exercises focusing on maintaining illusion.
4. Practice spontaneously making performance choices based on encountering obstacles and the tactics employed to resolve conflict.
5. Practice the skill of acceptance (as opposed to denial) in exercises focusing on enhancing plot and character development.
6. Practice spontaneously making performance choices as they relate to timing and vocal delivery effectiveness.
7. Practice spontaneously making performance choices as they relate to appropriate "leading" or "following" with acting partners.
8. Practice developing physical staging in small and large group exercises.

9. Practice spontaneously communicating character through body awareness (non-verbal performance choices).
10. Practice spontaneously making performance choices as they relate to timing and vocal delivery effectiveness.

New Resources for Course

Course Textbooks/Resources

Textbooks
Manuals
Periodicals
Software

Equipment/Facilities

Other: Must be in LA 175 The College Theatre (requires a large theatre/stage acting space)

<u>Reviewer</u>	<u>Action</u>	<u>Date</u>
Faculty Preparer: <i>Tracy Jaffe</i>	<i>Faculty Preparer</i>	<i>Jan 08, 2021</i>
Department Chair/Area Director: <i>Allison Fournier</i>	<i>Recommend Approval</i>	<i>Jan 13, 2021</i>
Dean: <i>Scott Britten</i>	<i>Recommend Approval</i>	<i>Jan 28, 2021</i>
Curriculum Committee Chair: <i>Lisa Veasey</i>	<i>Recommend Approval</i>	<i>Feb 12, 2021</i>
Assessment Committee Chair: <i>Shawn Deron</i>	<i>Recommend Approval</i>	<i>Feb 12, 2021</i>
Vice President for Instruction: <i>Kimberly Hurns</i>	<i>Approve</i>	<i>Feb 15, 2021</i>