

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: ACTING 1 (MINOR STUDY)
Status: Definitive
Code: **4501DAN** (109243)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2011

Owning School/Faculty: Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts
Teaching School/Faculty: Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts

Team	Leader
Sarah Baker	Y

Academic Level: FHEQ4
Credit Value: 12.00
Total Delivered Hours: 30.00
Total Learning Hours: 120
Private Study: 90

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

Component	Contact Hours
Practical	30.000

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Practice	CONTINUOUS	Coursework - Continual assesment	80.0	1.00
Presentation	PRESENT	Coursework - Presentation	20.0	1.00

Aims

The module aims to provide students with an understanding of the fundamental processes of acting.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- 1 Utilise improvisation and theatre games in a rehearsal context.

- 2 Demonstrate an understanding through application in scene work of the notion of Tasks, Motivations, Obstacles and Tactics as the basis of building a credible acting performance.
- 3 Demonstrate an understanding of the first stages of scene analysis from an actors point of view using the character's Given Circumstances.
- 4 Understand and apply the notions of ensemble and complicity in both a rehearsal and performance context.
- 5 Demonstrate effective skills in communicating with an audience.
- 6 Demonstrate an improved awareness of physical and vocal habits (strengths and limitations) in the expressive range of the individual student.

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

CONTINUOUS	1	2	4	5	6
ASSESSMENT					
PRESENTATION	2	3	4	5	

Outline Syllabus

Through practical workshops and self-directed rehearsal, students explore the idea of 'action' as a key focus in developing credible acting for an audience. Students will examine both individual and ensemble aspects of acting. Initial work will cover concentration and focus, observation, sense memory, spontaneity and play leading to exploration via short improvisations.

The module encourages students to build a process as an actor that will eliminate self-consciousness in performance and create a psychologically believable reality for an audience. Whilst not adopting any set orthodoxy, the work is rooted in the ideas of Stanislavski as they have been developed throughout the 20th century as a basis for actor training.

A final exercise requires students to rehearse short duologues outside class time and present them in an assessed showing.

Learning Activities

The module takes the form of a series of tutor directed practical workshop classes, where students are encouraged to experience acting as a physical process rather than a self-consciously intellectual one in the first instance. This encourages students to develop an approach to acting, which stresses living in-the-moment rather than pre-planning and controlling. As such theatre games are used as a means of re-engaging with significant elements of play - i.e. playing to win, spontaneity, creativity and living in an imagined world.

Class work may focus upon ensemble work with the whole class, or individual work on scenes with a small number of participants. Students are expected to give their full attention at all times, whether or not they are the focus of the work at the moment. Students will learn as much in the observing, as they will in the doing. In

the latter half of the term, students are expected to undertake self-directed rehearsal outside class-time leading to an assessed scene showing at the end of the course.

References

Course Material	Book
Author	Benedetti. J
Publishing Year	1998
Title	'Stanislavski and the Actor'
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London: Methuen Publishing Ltd
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Boleslavski. R
Publishing Year	1989
Title	'Acting: The First Six Lessons'
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	New York: Vintage Books
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Bruder, M et al.
Publishing Year	1986
Title	'A Practical Handbook for the Actor'
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	New York: Vintage Books
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Calderone, M & Lloyd-Williams, M
Publishing Year	2004
Title	'Actions: The Actor's Thesaurus'
Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London: Nick Hern Books
ISBN	

Course Material	Book
Author	Donnellan, D
Publishing Year	2002
Title	'The Actor and the Target'

Subtitle	
Edition	
Publisher	London: Nick Hern Books
ISBN	

Notes

For modules with multiple assessments students must pass all individual elements, as detailed in the Principles and Procedures for Higher Education A2.3.4.