



Reynolds High School

Advanced Acting

Building Relationships for Academic Success

Instructor Name: CJ Parsons

Phone: 503.667.3186 x1107

Room Number: A-21

Email Address: CParsons@rsd7.net

Required Textbooks/Materials -

All course material, including scripts, textbooks, and other writing/art materials will be provided in class. If any readings are assigned outside of class, they will be made available via email or Schoology.

Course Description -

Students in the Advanced Acting section of this course will learn and practice more advanced techniques in Acting, as well as choosing, rehearsing and producing their monologues, scenes and One Acts for competitions and performances. The required performances and competitions required for Advanced Acting students include:

1. 3 sets of contrasting Monologues – 6 monologues in total
2. At least 1 Duo Scene
3. Participation in at least 1 One Act
4. 3 musical theatre songs – patter/upbeat, character and ballad
5. City Research Project

Advanced Acting Students will read and study a One Act script per year. Scripts are purchased as a class set through a curriculum budget – **students are not required to purchase scripts**. Students will submit their One Act into the Mt. Hood Conference One Act Festival in February, and perform for the other schools in the conference.

Every year we will study a different founder of Modern Theatre. These will also be on a 4-year rotation. The exercises and theories of each founder will be explored and performed during the start of each class as we get further into the term. Artists included in the founder category of Modern Theatre include:

1. Uta Hagen - 2026-27
2. Stella Adler - 2027-28
3. **Viola Spolin - 2024-25**
4. Konstantin Stanislavski - 2025-26

Course Requirements -

For a more detailed outline of the activities and subjects covered in class, look at the Course Schedule below.

In a typical class period, students will:

- Entrance Tickets, Warm ups and High & Lows (10-15 min.)
- 1-2 Warm Up games (10 min.)
- Rehearsing and workshopping acting material for performances (20-25 min.)
- On your feet part of the curriculum or rehearsing for performances (30-40 min.)

- Close out class with an Exit Ticket and goal for the next day (5-10 min.)

There will be a workshop assessment followed by a final performance assessment for the end of each unit. If time is allotted, there will also be the opportunity for class-wide critique and a revised performance of the same piece.

Performance Attendance – all Acting students must see one performance for each Main Stage production. Each production has approximately 6 show nights, which means that if you saw one show for each production, you would need to see 3 performances – 1 Fall Main Stage, 1 Winter Black Box & 1 Spring Musical.

- If you are unable to attend a production due to circumstances beyond your control, an alternative assignment must be completed to earn credit for this grade. The alternative assignment consists of watching an online version of the running production and writing a 1-page review of 3 major acting elements.
- ADMISSION IS FREE FOR ALL ACTING & STAGECRAFT STUDENTS!**
- Add showdates to your calendar from the Course Schedule below. Tickets are available 1 month prior to opening – make your reservation as soon as possible.

Actor's Book -

Students will research, rehearse, workshop and accumulate monologues, scenes, and musical theatre songs to create a full Actor's Book – a tool for professional actors to utilize in the professional industry when auditioning for theatre and film productions.

Elements of the Actors Book will include:

- 1 3-ring binder
- 6 contrasting monologues
- 2-3 duo scenes
- A copy of 1 One Act
- 3 musical theatre songs – 1 upbeat/patter, 1 ballad & 1 character song

These binders will be built throughout the course and presented at the end of the Musical Theatre Unit. Students must have accumulated a full repertoire of new pieces, workshopped in class and performed in each Unit Final Assessment. Pieces used from previous classes or outside of class will not be accepted.

City Research Project -

Students will apply their basic acting skills and research any given city where they believe they can thrive as an actor. The city research project is for students to apply themselves professionally and properly research what it would take to thrive in any given city in the acting profession. Elements of this project include:

- A list of 10 current housing options (listings must be active and official)
 - o Apartments, hostels, motels/hotels, shared living arrangements – shared house, basement apartment, etc. or living with a family member or friend
 - o Cost of rent
 - o Cost of utilities
- A list of all living essentials
 - o Groceries
 - o Laundry
 - o Medical Facilities – hospital, dentistry, primary care, etc.
- Transportation
 - o Create a transportation plan of how you will get from Point A to Point B. These can include:
 - Bus routes - cost of bus pass would need to be researched and added to cost of living if choosing this option

- Car and parking situations – cost of gas would need to be researched and added to cost of living if choosing this option
 - Walking – distance from each point of your living situation
 - Ride Share – Uber/Lyft, sharing a car with someone – again, cost to ride would need to be researched and added to cost of living if choosing this option
- Job
 - You must find 10 current job listings, all active that have requirements within your skill set.
 - It is most likely that you will not be successful as an actor right away, so you must research full-time/part-time work that you would be able to hold while auditioning and working in the industry.
 - Intro level positions can be:
 - Barista
 - Server/Host
 - Temp Agency jobs – office administrative work, etc.
 - Dog walker/ House sitter
 - Uber Eats
- Representation
 - You must research 5 acting agencies that would be able to represent you while in your chosen city. Film and stage.
 - Listing the specifics of representation requirements – this could be a monthly fee to have your profile in their system, agent compensation based on work, auditions required or not, etc.
- Map
 - You must create a city-wide map of all the following information and routes:
 - Places of work
 - Theatres & shooting locations
 - Living necessities – groceries, laundry, medical facilities, etc.
 - Transportation routes – walking, bus or car
 - Locations of representation agents
 - Location of residence

All of these elements must be thoroughly researched and presented to the class at the end of the year. Presentation format is open ended, but must include all of the information above in a clear and concise format for students to see and understand.

Thespian/MHC Competitions -

All Advanced Acting students are required to compete in the MHC League events and Thespian Acting Competitions. Please refer to the schedule below for details regarding weekend participation.

Grading Policy Description -

No homework will be assigned outside of class. All assigned tasks will be able to be worked on during class time. This is a performance-based class - students must be present in class in order to receive points toward a letter grade.

30% = Daily Participation – engagement in exercises and rehearsal time

10% = Performance Attendance – attendance of the Main Stage productions

40% = Final Performance Scores – final performances for each unit – this is a performance-based class. Performances also include Screen Analysis Reflection, Year-End Reflection, etc.

20% = Classwork – rehearsal time, reflections/critique, Entrance/Exit Tickets

There will be classwork in class, and Mastery of the given work will be within the parameters of their performances in class.

Performances will be graded based on the ITS judge rubric, and according to CTE standards. Rubrics and criteria for performances will be made known and passed out prior to performance dates in class. You will know exactly what is expected from you based on each rubric.

Assignments for Mastery will be:

- (1) Monologue Final Performance – Set 1 (**Oct 3 & 4**)
- (2) Monologue Final Performance – Set 2 (**Oct. 24 & 25**)
- (3) Monologue Final Performance – Set 3 (**Nov. 14 & 15**)
- (4) Scene Final Performances (**Dec. 19 & 20**)
- (5) One Act Final Performance (**Feb. 13**)
- (6) Musical Theatre Final Performance - Ballads (**March. 18 & 19**)
- (7) Musical Theatre Final Performance – Uptempo/Patter (**Apr. 17 & 18**)
- (8) Musical Theatre Final Performance – Character (**May. 8 & 9**)
- (9) Actors Book – Due May 15 & 16
- (10) City Research Project – Due June 2 & 3

Required Events for Participation:

- (1) Acting Showcase (**Thur. Dec, 12**) - at least 1 piece – 5:00-7:00pm
- (2) Districts (**Sat. Jan. 11**) - at least 1 entry – ALL DAY
- (3) Regionals (**Sat. Feb. 1**) - at least 1 entry – ALL DAY
- (4) One Act Festival (**Fri. Feb. 21**) - participation in at least one entry
- (5) Attendance of 2 Main Stage Productions, and 1 Black Box Production

Letter Grade Description & Percentage Breakdown

(The following is our current language in the course catalog)

Grade Percentage	Letter Grade	Description
81%-100%	A	The student fully understands the content and the course objectives have been mastered.
61% - 80%	B	The student understands the content and course objectives at an above average level.
41% - 60%	C	The student understands the course content and course objectives at an average level.
21% - 40%	D	The student understands the course content at a below average level and a minimum of course objectives are met.
0% - 20%	F	The student has not met a sufficient number of course objectives to pass a minimum level and receives no credit.

Late Work/Retake Policy -

Students not satisfied with their grade on performances and critiques will have the opportunity for a redo. This opportunity is for students that earn a “D” or higher in at least 4 (or half) of the rubric scoring areas. There is no limit to the number of redo’s you may attempt to get the grade that is most acceptable to you.

Course Schedule/Outline of Units -

Dates	Topic
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sept. 4-6: Ensemble Building - Sept. 9-13: Monologues - Sept. 16-20: Monologues - Sept. 23-27: Monologues
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sept. 30-Oct. 4: Mono Performances Round 1 - Oct. 7-10: Monologues No School - Oct. 11 - Oct. 14-18: Monologues - Oct. 21-25: Mono Performances Round 2 - Oct. 28- Nov. 1: Monologues
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nov. 4-7: Monologues No School - Nov. 8 & 11 - Nov. 12-15: Mono Performances Round 3 - Nov. 14-16 - Twelfth Night - Nov. 18-22: Scenes - Nov. 21-23 - Twelfth Night No School - 23-29 - Thanksgiving Week
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dec. 2-6: Scenes - Dec. 9-13: Scene Performances - Dec. 16-20: Scenes Performances - Dec. 19 - Showcase - 5:00-7:00pm No School - Dec. 23-Jan. 3 - Winter Break
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jan. 6-10: One Act Performances - Saturday Jan. 11: Districts - MHC League Acting Competition - 8:00am-4:00pm - Jan. 13-17: One Acts - Jan. 16-18: Reynolds Night Live! No School - Jan. 20 - Jan. 21-24 - FINALS WEEK - Jan. 23-25: Reynolds Night Live! No School - Jan. 27 - Jan. 28-31: One Acts
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Saturday Feb. 1: Regional Acting Competition - Feb. 3-7: One Acts - Feb. 10-13: One Act Performances No School - Feb. 14 & 17 - Feb. 18-21: One Act Final Dress Rehearsals - Friday Feb. 21: One Act Festival @CCC 8:00am-4:30pm - Feb. 24-28: Musical Theatre
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mar. 3-7: Musical Theatre

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mar. 10-14: Musical Theatre - Mar. 17-19: MT Performances - Ballad No School - Mar. 20 & 21 - Conferences No School - Mar. 24-28 - Spring Break
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mar. 31-Apr. 4: Musical Theatre - Apr. 3-5: State Acting Competition in Salem - Apr. 7-10: Musical Theatre No School - Apr. 11 - Apr. 14-18: MT Performances - Uptempo - Apr. 21-25: Musical Theatre - Apr. 28-May 2: Musical Theatre
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - May 5-9: MT Performances - Character - May 8-10: Peter & the Starcatcher - May 12-16: Actors Books Due - May 15-17: Peter & the Starcatcher - May 19-23: City Research Project No School - May 26 - May 27-30: City Research Project
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - June 2-6: City Research Project Due - Jun. 4 - Senior's Last Day Saturday, Jun. 7 - Theatre Banquet - Jun. 3-7: FINALS WEEK

Class Expectations -

Students will be asked to be vulnerable with one another in their performances and critiques of one another. It is expected that class be a safe space for all students, where they feel seen, heard and respected in the highest regard.

Other -

Food and drink are not allowed backstage, in the Black Box or in the auditorium. Any food or drink must be consumed before class.

There are at least 5 commitments outside of school hours for Advanced Acting students. If this is something you are not able to commit to, please seek alternative assignments with the Theatre Director.

Advanced Acting Syllabus Acknowledgement

By signing below, I indicate that I have read and reviewed the assigned syllabus for this course with a parent, and thereby agree to the conditions and requirements of the course.

PLEASE SIGN AND DATE BY: Monday, Sept. 9th, 2024

Student Signature_____ Date_____

Parent Signature_____ Date_____