



The mission of Concord University is to provide quality, liberal arts based education, to foster scholarly and creative activities and to serve the regional community (<http://www.concord.edu/academics/>).

Course Prefix, Number and Title: Acting I

Course CRN # and Section 20301 /THEA 316:01

Semester Taught (including year): Spring 2019

Credit Hours: 3

Prerequisites: THEA 102

Course Time (if applicable): Tues 2 – 4:30

Building and Room Number (if applicable):

Fin Arts M104

Professor: Karen Vuranch

Office Location: Alex. Fine Arts M108

Office Hours: T/TH 12:30 – 2:00 and

Wed. 11:00 am – 2:00 pm

Email: kvuranch@concord.edu

Phone: (304) 384-5259

Office Fax: (304) 384-3384

**College/Department Website:
<http://www.concord.edu/comm/>**

Course Description/Rationale: Need and purpose of course

The student will develop performance skills and explore various styles of performance using the Stella Adler method of acting, a nationally known acting technique. This will include developing vocal and body technique, comedic and dramatic performance and monologues. In addition, each student will have an 1 minute audition piece ready by the end of the semester.

Course Management System (Blackboard/Moodle or other systems): Blackboard

Hardware/Software Needed (include privacy policies, if applicable): none

Text requirements: *The Technique of Acting*, Stella Adler, Foreword by Marlon Brando

Scripts as provided by the instructor

Concord University Educational Goal(s) This should address at least one of the areas (skills, knowledge, or attitude) for each course. Similar courses with different sections should have the same goal(s).

Students will develop performance skills and learn the Stella Adler Technique

National Standards (if applicable) For example, NCTM, IRA, CAEP, etc. Not applicable

Specific Learning Outcomes

Students will create performances for the class, understand the techniques of acting and complete an audition piece suitable for professional auditions

Course Requirements

Course requirements as indicated in the syllabus may be changed or added to at the discretion of the instructor. The student's grade for the course will be based on the completion of the following:

1. **Pantomime (25 Points):** Students will choose a specific character from a Norman Rockwell painting. They will create a written backstory for the character and perform a short pantomime of the actions leading up to the pose in the picture.
2. **Story (25 points):** Each student will perform a traditional story using voice and gesture.
3. **Comedic Group Scene (50 points)**
4. **Audition Piece (50 points)** – Each student will prepare a one minute performance suitable for a professional audition
5. **Dramatic Group Scene (50 points)**
6. **Final Monologue (50 points)**
7. **Class Participation (100 points):** The student's attendance and class participation will affect their grade. If the student has an unavoidable conflict, the instructor should be contacted **in advance**. **A student is permitted two missed classes.** That does NOT mean in addition to ones that have a good excuse: TWO ABSENCES - including ones with a good excuse. Every additional absence results in a deduction off the final grade. Repeated absences may cause a drop in letter grade. Students are expected to participate in class discussions and activities.

Grading Policy and Scale, Make-up Policy, Late Work

Grading - Students will receive points for completion of each component of the course. The points are to be earned as follows and grades will be given on a 10% grading scale:

Story	25
Comedic Group Scene	50
Audition Piece	50
Dramatic Group Scene	50
Final Monologue	50
Participation Points	<u>100</u>
Total points available	350*

* If classes are cancelled due to bad weather, there will be additional assignments in the form of

Late Work, Communication and Assignments:

- It is YOUR responsibility to communicate with the instructor if you need to miss class or an assignment.
- Some assignments may be accepted late, with 10% penalty, unless advance arrangements were made.
- **Absolutely and without exception – No written work may be submitted Finals Week.** All work must be completed by the last day of classes.
- Assignments may be turned in by Blackboard, email or hard copy. If emailed, you will get an email confirming it was received. If you do not get a confirmation, it was not received.
- **All assignments MUST be typewritten**
- Messages will be sent to you through email. If, for some reason, you are not getting messages, call the instructor. Phone numbers are provided at the beginning of this syllabus.

Attendance:

It is expected that everyone attend class on a regular basis. Thus, each student is given *two absences* to use during the semester. That does NOT mean in addition to ones that have a good excuse: **TWO ABSENCES** - including ones with a good excuse. Every additional absence results in a deduction off the final grade.

Course Timeline (Schedule of Assignments/Assessments/Presentations)

Jan. 15 Introduce syllabus, assignments, theory behind the class.
 Movement and pantomime

Assignment: Norman Rockwell Pantomime

Jan. 22 Read Introduction, Chapter 1: The Actor's Goals, Chapter 2: Beginning the Technique
(pages 3-16 in the text)

Perform Norman Rockwell Pantomime Assignment

Complete exercises in textbook Chapter 2.

Jan. 29 Guest speaker – Barbie Yurick
Movement and improvisation

Feb. 5 Read Chapter 3: Imagination (pages 17 – 29 in the text)
Complete exercises in textbook Chapter 3
Techniques of Storytelling
Assignment: Story

Feb. 12 Read Chapter 4: Circumstances (pages 30 – 34 in the text)
Complete exercises in Chapter 4
Perform Story Assignment

Feb. 19 Read Chapter 5: Actions (pages 32 – 35 in the text)
Complete exercises in Chapter 5
Assignment: Group Scenes (comedic with actions)

Feb. 26 Read Chapter 6: Justifications (pages 48 – 57 in the text)
Complete exercises in Chapter
Perform Comedic Group Scenes

Mar. 5 Read Chapter 7: Working on the Stage (pages 58 to 65 in the text)
Assignment: Audition Piece

- Mar. 12 No class – Spring Break
- Mar. 19 Read Chapter 8: Character (pages 66 to 86 in the text)
Rehearse Audition Pieces
- Mar. 26 Read Chapter 9: The Vocabulary of Action (pages 87 -101 in the text)
Rehearse Audition Pieces
- Apr. 2 Guest Speaker – Michael Martin, professional actor
- Apr. 9 Final dress for ***Godspell***
- Apr. 16 Read Chapter 10: The Actor’s First Approach (pages 102 – 105 in the text)
Complete exercises in Chapter 10
Rehearse Audition Pieces
- Apr. 23 Read Chapter 11: Working on the Text (pages 106 – 114 in the text)
Complete exercises in Chapter 11
Assignment: Dramatic Group Scenes
- Apr. 30 Read Chapter 12: The Actor’s Contribution and On My Way to Stanislavski
(pages 115 -122 in the text)

Perform Dramatic Group Scenes
Assignment: Final Monologue
- May 7 (Monday) **Final Exam – 2:00 p.m.**
Final Monologues Performed

Accessibility/Accommodations:

Concord University is committed to responding to the needs of students with disabilities as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please inform your instructor at the beginning of the class semester if you have a disability and are requesting accommodations. It is your responsibility to self-disclose that you are requesting accommodations. The University and instructor will provide you with a reasonable accommodation. You should register with CU's Disability Services Office, located in the Athens campus Jerry and Jean Beasley Student Center, Bottom Floor, across from the Campus Post Office. The Disability Services Office phone is 304-384-6086 or you can email the Director, Nancy Ellison, at nellison@concord.edu for assistance.

Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty is morally unacceptable as well as destructive to the learning and teaching atmosphere. Academic dishonesty includes the giving or receiving of improper help on examinations or assignments, falsifying documents, and plagiarism (the act of stealing and using, as one's own, the ideas or the expression of the ideas of another). Such dishonesty can lead to a variety of penalties — including but not limited to failure of assignment, failure of course, loss of institutional privileges, or dismissal from the University. (See University Catalog Academic Policies and Procedures.)

Concord University Honor Code

A Concord University Honor Code was approved by students, staff, faculty, administration, and the CU Board of Governors. The Code states:

"As a member of the Concord University Community I will act with honesty and integrity in accordance with our fundamental principles and I will respect myself and others while challenging them to do the same."

The Honor Code is intended to unite the Concord community behind a culture of honesty, integrity, and civility.

Class/Online Attendance Policy

Regular class attendance is part of a student's academic obligation at Concord. Irregular attendance may affect academic performance adversely and is detrimental to the atmosphere of a class. (See University Catalog Academic Policies and Procedures.)

Emergency Alert System

In an effort to increase safety and security on our campus, Concord University encourages everyone to register for instant text message alerts. Alerts will only be used for security and safety notices. All students, faculty, and staff are eligible to receive text message alerts on their cell phones or email alerts. Please contact the IT Help Desk for further assistance (304-384-5291).

Emergency Information

Emergency/courtesy telephones are located at the main entrance of each residence hall and at various other locations on campus. Emergency telephones can be identified by the flashing blue light and will provide the user with a direct link to Public Safety at the press of a button. To report an on-campus emergency, call 304-384-5357 or 911. The Office of Public Safety is located on the bottom floor of the

Rahall Technology Center. For further emergency information go to:
<http://www.concord.edu/administration/office-public-safety>.

Inclement Weather Policy

As a general policy, the University will remain in normal operations during adverse weather conditions. In the event of severe weather conditions, the following may occur:

University Closure

No students or employees are to report.

Classes Cancelled

Students do NOT report BUT employees are expected to report to work at their normal time.

Operating on an Inclement Weather Delay

Under this schedule, all 8 a.m. classes will start at 10 a.m. Students and faculty will follow the Inclement Weather Schedule. (See <http://www.concord.edu/emergency-alerts> for Athens/Beckley Inclement Weather Schedules.)

**Announcements invoking the late schedule or other options referenced above are aired on area radio and television stations and are sent as text and email messages to those enrolled for this service.*

Student Conduct

In classrooms, online, laboratories, and during any activities that are part of course requirements, students are expected to observe reasonable rules of conduct.

Sexual Harassment & Assault

Federal law, Title IX, and Concord University policy prohibits discrimination, harassment, and violence based on sex and gender (Including sexual harassment, sexual assault, domestic/dating violence, stalking, sexual exploitation, and retaliation). If you or someone you know has been harassed or assaulted, you can receive confidential counseling support through the Concord University Counseling Center (304-384-5290). Alleged Violations can be reported non-confidentially to the Concord University Title IX Coordinator at 304-384-6327 or titleix@concord.edu. Reports to Campus Security can be made at (304-384-5357). As an employee at Concord University, I am a mandatory reporter which means I must report any sexual misconduct I am made aware of. This includes verbal or written (such as in an assignment) disclosures of sexual harassment or sexual assault.

Technology Services

Contact the CU Help Desk at extension 5291 from campus or 304-384-5291 off campus. You may also e-mail cuhelpdesk@concord.edu.

Syllabus Disclaimer

"This syllabus is subject to change based on the needs of the class. Please check it regularly."

Miscellaneous (for example):

Sources of Help

Glossary of Terms

Related Research/Professional Organizations