

ACTING 120 – BEGINNING ACTING (ACTING ONE)

Instructor: Gregory K. Krosnes
Mon/Wed/Fri 9:10 – 10:10
101 Kennedy

Office Hours: By appointment. I am very flexible with my time, if need be. I have a mailbox in the McCoy Theatre and on my door. I also check email at least once a day, but you should not rely on email for important messages. If it is important, find me and we can talk face to face.

Phone numbers: Office - 3936
Home - 274-2496

Texts: **Acting One** – Robert Cohen
Crimes of the Heart – Beth Henley
Boy's Life – Howard Korder

Course Objectives

Begin work in:	Relaxation	Concentration
	Risk/Trust	Creative Imagination
	Ensemble Work	Freedom in Rehearsal and Performance

Incorporate and explore these principles through scene study.
Gain a basic understanding of traditional and personal acting theory and practice.
Comprehend the basics of scene study.
Understand and expand personal vocal and physical strengths on stage and improve upon any limitations in these areas.
Explore the “self” through personal journals.
Experience and respond to McCoy and local theatre productions.

Attendance and Tardiness

Now that we all know where class is being held, make it her on time. Being late for class will hamper not only your on progress, but your classmates’ or scenepartner’s as well. As for absences, I “allow” two; after that, your grade will drop for each absence. Example: If you have an **A** at the end of the term and you have four absences, your grade will drop to a **B+** (because I “allow” two). If you are tardy three times (15 minutes late), it counts as an absence. *I want you to think about this now. I want and expect seriousness when it comes to your commitment to this class and to your classmates. If this grading method causes you problems, you may want to think again about taking this class from me. This class depends on you being here for other people, too, not just for you.*

Grading

Participation/Journals	20%
Performances	30%
Preparation of Assignments	50%
- Review of Productions	20%
- Quizzes	15%
- Scene/Character Breakdowns	15%

Participation – 20%

Acting is very personal, and different people have different ideas of what constitutes good or bad acting. All I ask is that you do your best with what I give you to work with, and participate as best you can with everyone else in the class. I understand that everyone has a different experience level, but hopefully everyone will learn from each other's talents and personalities. Everyone has something to offer, so everyone has something to learn.

Journals

The journals are part of your participation grade. This is a way to express your thoughts to yourself and to me about things you discover through your work in class, scene work, and vocal and physical exercises. It can also be a mode of communication between you and me; ask me questions, or tell me something that may be bothering you, etc. Let's keep the subject matter related to acting class, the readings, or some play or movie you saw. You know, things that you've seen that have to do with acting (but I don't want just movie reviews, either). Also, make entries about outside rehearsals, when they were, and how they went. One entry per class. More are welcome. Put your journals in a separate notebook – no loose paper, please. I have enough of my own, thank you.

Performances – 30%

I grade you on final performances of scenes and monologues and how much you have worked and grown over the arc of the class.

Preparation of Assignments – 50%...the combined total of the following:

As above, prepare reviews and breakdowns as best you can. I will evaluate everyone fairly; I have done all of this stuff, too, so I have a good idea of what is real effort and what is not.

Reviews of Productions – 20%

You are required to see and review two theatrical productions. One must be a McCoy production (*The Hypochondriac* or *Extremities*), and the other must be a community theatre production (reference the list of performance dates on the handout). We have

some very powerful theatre both on campus and in the city. I encourage you to see for yourself.

Due dates for the papers:

First review: October 5

Second review: November 30

(Late papers will be docked a third of a grade for each day past the due date.)

Quizzes – 15%

There will be quizzes on readings and material discussed in class. You will be notified what materials you will be quizzed on.

Character and Scene Breakdowns – 15%

Whether we are doing scenes or monologues, you will be asked to had in a basic outline of what is going on in the scene as well as in your character's head. I will give you the materials to complete these exercises.

Does this sound like too much? It really isn't. Just relax...don't stress. We're going to have a lot of fun.

We will be on a first name basis, so call me Greg.