

HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

COURSE OUTLINE

1. COURSE TITLE

Acting: Theory and Practice

2. COURSE CODE

HUMN3085

3. NO. OF UNITS

3 Units

4. OFFERING DEPARTMENT

Department of Humanities and Creative Writing

5. PREREQUISITES

N.A.

6. MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION

Cantonese

7. AIMS & OBJECTIVES

This course aims to introduce the histories and aesthetic principles of the major forms of acting. It will also provide basic training in acting through different forms of exercises, both physical and intellectual. It will then provide opportunities to students to have scene work practice by selecting works from well-known plays for analysis, rehearsal and presentation.

8. COURSE CONTENT

- i. What is acting?
 - a) Naturalistic, Formalistic, Stylized, etc.
 - b) Shakespearian Acting: "Speak the speech, I pray you!"
 - c) Stanilavsky's theory of acting
 - d) Meyerhold's biomechanics
 - e) Brecht on acting
 - f) Traditional Chinese acting

ii. Preparation

- a) Self-discovery of an actor
- b) Use of voice and bodily movement
- c) Relaxation and concentration
- d) Imagination and improvisation
- e) Bodily sensitivity
- f) Spontaneous response
- g) Creating a situation

iii. Play analysis and character study

- a) Identifying objectives and circumstances
- b) Who? where? when? what? why?
- c) Self-study and analysis
- d) Reflective essay

iv. Creating a role

- a) Finding super-objectives
- b) Biography of the character
- c) In-depth examination of his/her inside world
- d) How to physicalize a character

v. Scene works

- a) Rehearsal in groups
- b) Comments and guidance
- c) Run through and premiere

9. COURSE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES (CILOs)

CILO	By the end of the course, students should be able to:
CILO 1	Narrate the major theories of acting
CILO 2	Demonstrate understanding of different methods of acting with practical examples
CILO 3	Demonstrate acting skills by presenting scenes

10. TEACHING & LEARNING ACTIVITIES (TLAs)

CILO alignment	Type of TLA
1	The students will: Be given introduction to the ideas, forms and works of major acting theories
2	Be given basic training in acting skills through physical and intellectual exercises as preparation
3	Be given selected scenes from famous theatre pieces for analysis, rehearsal

and performance presentation

11. ASSESSMENT METHODS (AMs)

Type of Assessment Methods	Weighting	CILOs to be addressed	Description of Assessment Tasks
Oral presentation of theories in acting	30 %	1	Oral presentation will test the students' understanding of different theories of acting.
Participation in exercises and Reflective essay	30 %	2	Students will be assessed in the participation of class exercises and written reflective essays
Scene-work presentation	40 %	3	Examination will test students' ability in presenting scene works

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