

Rationale for Theatre 280

Course Title and Credit Hour Change

Theatre 280: Acting Fundamentals 1 was first approved as a GEC Visual and Performing Arts course as a pilot studio course, designed to meet the needs of students in tagged degree programs who were to be required to have a studio based course as a part of their degree program. We feel that the following revisions will better serve today's BA students and meet the current GEC model:

The title "Acting Fundamentals 1" incorrectly portrays the content of the course. The course is not simply a course on the mechanics of acting, instead it:

- explores and encourages aesthetic response and judgment of dramatic texts;
- provides a basis for interpreting and evaluating a play's artistic accomplishment through reading, discussion, and play going;
- promotes a critical experience of the texts, contemplating their meanings and creating performance pieces based on that perspective;
- develops an individual's public presence.

We feel that the proposed course title, "The Craft of Acting," provides a better summary of both the course and Visual and Performing Arts GEC objectives.

The attached syllabus also reflects a need to raise the credit hours assigned from 3 to 5, in accordance with 3335-8-24 of the Administrative Code, which states:

(1) One credit hour shall be assigned for each three hours per week of the average student's time, including class hours, required to earn the average grade of "C" in this course.

(2) One credit hour shall be assigned for each two consecutive hours of practical or experimental work per week in any department or school.

As indicated on the syllabus, the course meets twice per week for two hours per meeting with a heavy emphasis on both practical and experimental work, which provides us with 2 credit hours. The additional 3 credit hours are derived from time required outside of the classroom which includes readings, creation of character analyses, monologue and scene rehearsals, attending and responding to two OSU Theatre productions, which averages between 8 to 10 hours per week.

The department will be happy to respond to any questions the committee may have after reviewing the enclosed materials. Please direct questions to our curriculum coordinator, Eric Mayer (mayer.93@osu.edu).