

The Department's Educational Philosophy

Education in the Arts plays a major role in three general areas of education. Students gain knowledge of events and historical movements that shaped society. The arts help to develop critical and creative thinking skills. The arts can provide the means for communicating thoughts, emotions, and ideas that cannot otherwise be expressed.

Guiding Principles

For those students interested in developing skills in voice, instrumental, and drama performance, the Performing Arts Department offers courses and activities of considerable variety. Performance material is selected to meet the varied needs and skill levels of the students, provide cultural enrichment for the students, help students develop aesthetic, make provision for technical growth of the students, provide for school and community service, and create interdisciplinary relationships.

ACTING III: COURSE #898

Course Frequency: Alternating Days – (semester)

Credits Offered: 1.25 Credits

Prerequisites: Permission of instructor or Advanced Acting

Background to the Curriculum

Drama is essential to the performing arts curriculum. ABRHS has had a successful, award-winning drama program for many years, including speech and debate and broadcasting, with courses in each area. The drama courses allow students to develop skills that are needed in all of these courses, and many students take the drama courses as a first step in their development of oral performance. The classes, therefore, aid those students who are interested in drama, as well as those students who are interested in both speech and debate and broadcast.

This class is for any student who has taken Advanced Acting or who has a large experience base in acting. This class will consist of more advanced scene study and acting techniques. Plays, readings and scenes will be selected from the classics of world theater, including but not limited to Shakespeare, Oscar Wilde, Sheridan, Bertolt Brecht, Anton Chekov, and Henrik Ibsen. Work in intensive scene study consists of reading, analyzing, and discussing classics of theater; choosing scenes; memorizing and then exploring scenes. Advanced movement and voice techniques will be explored. The text will be *How To Stop Acting* by Harold Guskin. Students will be expected to furnish their own texts. This class is for experienced actors only.

Core Topics / Questions / Concepts/ Skills

By the completion of this course of study, the student should be able to:

- Continue development of acting skills
 - ~ Create and sustain believable character throughout a scripted or improvised scene
 - ~ Consider costuming in development of character
 - ~ Use effective vocal acting skills, including resonance, placement, diction, articulation
 - ~ Perform effectively within an ensemble
 - ~ Continue to develop script and character analysis skills
 - ~ Continue to develop the body and gesture to delineate and enhance character
- Read and analyze scripts
 - ~ Study scripts from a variety of genres and eras
- Critical Response
 - ~ Students will describe and analyze their own theatrical work and the work of others using appropriate theatre vocabulary. When appropriate, students will connect their analysis to interpretation and evaluation.

Course-end Learning Objectives

Students will:

- 1] Continue to develop acting skills
 - Create and sustain believable character throughout a scripted or improvised scene
 - Costuming considerations
 - Proper use of physical acting skills
 - Proper use of vocal acting skills, including resonance, diction, placement, articulation
 - Character analysis
 - Perform effectively within an ensemble
- 2] Read and analyze scripts
 - Study scripts from a variety of genres
- 3] Technical Theatre
 - Roles and responsibilities
 - Analyze requirements
 - Research of needs
 - Understanding of relationship between technical aspects and on-stage performers
 - Apply safety procedures
- 4] Critical Response
 - Describe and analyze their own theatrical work and the work of others using appropriate theatre vocabulary.
 - When appropriate, students will connect their analysis to interpretation and evaluation.

Assessment

Students will be assessed on the following:

- Growth over the length of the course
- Attainment of pre-stated goals
- Journals
- Ensemble scene work
- Performance – all aspects including voice, body, memorization and characterization

Materials and Resources

Materials will be used from varying eras of theater literature, ranging from Greek to present day contemporary. Dramatic literature for scene selections will be substantial in its educational value. The text will be *How To Stop Acting* by Harold Guskin. Students will be expected to furnish their own texts. This class is for experienced actors only.