

# Acting 1 Syllabus

## DRAM 1351

Lesson Plan for the calendar year 2017 for tertiary education in SaigonTech.

Prepared by Marc on 9/1/2017

1. **Course Syllabus:** DRAM 1351 – ACTING I
2. **Semester Term:** Spring 2016
3. **Campus and Room Location with Days and Times:**  
Room 310/ Room 411  
Wednesday: 13:00 – 14.30, 14.40 – 16.10  
Friday: 13:00 – 14.00
4. **Course credits:** 3
5. **Course Contact Hours per Semester:** 64
6. **Course Length:** 16 Weeks
7. **Type of instruction:** Lecture, Practical
8. **Lecturer:** Marc Valentine Chia
9. **Phone:** +84 943100998
10. **Email:** [marc.vc@saigontech.edu.vn](mailto:marc.vc@saigontech.edu.vn) [marc.valentine@rocketmail.com](mailto:marc.valentine@rocketmail.com)
11. **Instructor Scheduled office hours:** By appointment.
12. **Course Description**  
This course will cover the basic knowledge of theatre, acting and art appreciation. Develop skills and techniques of acting which includes: basic stagecraft, voice work, acting techniques, physical conditioning and script work.
13. **Course Objective:** To introduce *basic* overall theatrical acting experience, and to enable critical thinking in students and to explore creative outputs through exercises in scenarios.
14. **Course Student Learning Outcomes:**
  - ❖ Explore and apply core elements of the acting craft into theatrical performances.
  - ❖ Develop Critical cognitive skills
  - ❖ Develop skills for observing human behavior
  - ❖ Expression of the English language
  - ❖ Thrive in the mechanics of the voice and body
15. **Course Student Learning Objectives:**  
*Lecture:* Exploring on themes, and the world of art.
  - ❖ Understanding the human behavior and the development of the world from history.
  - ❖ Examine acting techniques used that affects the human behavior and emotions.
  - ❖ Reflecting individual self with the effects of the craft.  
*Practical*
  - ❖ Examine the basic stage craft, skills and approach to acting



- ❖ Exploring ensemble work and its values
- ❖ Creating an area of improvisation that enhance creativity and patience.
- ❖ Incorporating all skills and creating a devised scene.
- ❖ Script Analysis.
- ❖ Creating a piece of ensemble theatrical work as a final showcase.

**16. Core Curriculum:** This course fulfills the following core basic intellectual competencies: Creation, Expression, speaking, Listening, critical thinking.

- ❖ **Creation:** Enables the students to value their work and enjoy the experience of co creation with partners and also to understand how to troubleshoot problems as a team player.
- ❖ **Expression:** To enable the students who are newly exposed to Drama to have a chance of using their body as an instrument to express their thoughts and to optimize their capability that they are unaware of.
- ❖ **Speaking:** To allow them to speak confidently and communicate ideas and thoughts clearly and effectively.
- ❖ **Listening:** Learning to accept and respond accordingly to situations and allowing the surroundings to settle.
- ❖ **Critical Thinking:** To enable cognitive thinking that allows them to think in and out of the box.

| Semester of 16 Weeks |   |                       |
|----------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Date                 | Lectures / Topics / Assignments / Projects / Quizzes / Exams  | Remarks               |
| Week 1               | Introduction to Syllabus.<br><br>Practical: Introduction to Basic Acting. Space awareness, energy work. Creating an ensemble, through frozen images. Creating tableaux based on fairytales and folklore. Creating a beginning, middle and an end. Creating Story through Tableaux. Improvisation.<br>Improvisation. Creating a scene alive through heighten images.<br><br>Lecture: Introduction to Stage history and terms | 3 hours<br><br>1 hour |
| Week 2               | Introduction to Movement Laban<br>- Animal movement<br>- Laban effort 8<br>Improvisation exercises.<br><br>Introduction to Speech and Text.<br>-Breath<br>-Resonance<br>-Opening of Voice   | 3 hours<br><br>1 hour |

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|         | Lecture:<br>-Ancient Greece Play   |                       |
| Week 3  | Introduction to Speech and Text.<br>-Articulation<br>-Understanding the Vocal Mechanics.<br><br>Movement Laban<br>- Animal movement<br>- Laban effort 8<br>Improvisation exercises.<br><br>Lecture:<br>- A Commedia Dell Arte Play | 3 hours<br><br>1 hour |
| Week 4  | Monologues Identifying the Super objectives and Script analysis.<br>Speech & Text. Movement exercises.<br><br>Text Work: Monologue 1 and performance<br><br>Lecture:<br>-William Shakespeare Play                                  | 3 hours<br><br>1 hour |
| Week 5  | Shakespearean Monologue & Performance<br>Lecture: Theatre Presentation Review<br>(10 minutes per group)  | 3 hours<br><br>1 hour |
| Week 6  | Stanislavsky & Michael Chekhov- Naturalism Acting.<br>Dialogues exercises.<br>Speech and Text. Movement Exercises. Improvisations.<br>Lecture: Tennessee Williams: A Streetcar Named Desire  | 3 hours<br><br>1 hour |
| Week 7  | Stanislavsky & Michael Chekhov -Scene work & directing<br>Character Discussions (hot seating).<br>Lecture: A Raisin in the Sun   | 3 hours<br><br>1 hour |
| Week 8  | Speech and Text. Movement Exercises. Dialogues. Script Analysis and dissecting. Rehearsing for a play.<br>Lecture: Doubt   | 3 hours<br><br>1 hour |
| Week 9  | Speech and Text. Movement Exercises.<br>Group script: Rehearsal<br>Lecture:<br>-Musicals: Phantom of the Opera   | 3 hours<br><br>1 hour |
| Week 10 | Speech & Text. Movement Exercises.<br>Group Performance & Review<br>Lecture: Film Acting   | 3 hours<br><br>1 hour |

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| Week 11 | Speech & Text. Movement Exercises.<br>Examination Script. Group discussion.<br>Lecture: Stage Management | 3 hours<br>1 hour |
| Week 12 | Rehearsal  | 3 hours<br>1 hour |
| Week 13 | Rehearsal  | 3 hours<br>1 hour |
| Week 14 | Rehearsal<br>Theory Exam Review  | 3 hours<br>1 hour |
| Week 15 | Full Dress Rehearsal<br>Theory Exam  | 3 hours<br>1 hour |
| Week 16 | Final Examination Performance<br>Course Review   | 3 hours<br>1 hour |

*\*Syllabus subjected to Change in accordingly.*

**17. Instructional Methods:**

- ❖ Methods of instruction include: explanations, demonstrations, in-class critiques, slide presentations, video/film presentations, lectures, and/or readings (from textbooks, peer-reviewed articles, books, original source seminal texts). Class time may include demonstrations, field trips, assignments, introductions, rehearsal time for in-class projects, and critiques.

**18. Student Assignments:**

- ❖ Assignments/Activities may include: in-class scene work, attendance at theatrical performances, written critical responses, group projects, critiques, exams or quizzes, various assigned readings from textbooks, peer-reviewed articles, books, original source seminal texts; discussions based on various topics related to the major areas of study in Drama; writing papers including critiques, essays, analyses, reviews, research, comparing and contrasting artistic or design theories and perspectives; service learning projects; presentations; group and/or individual projects.

**19. Student Assessments:**

- ❖ Methods of Assessment/Evaluation may include: in-class scene work, ensemble performance, creative projects, tests and quizzes which may include: definitions, matching, multiple choice, true/false, short answer, brief essay, essay, lists; writing assignments, in-class discussions and/or critiques; written papers including critiques, essays, analyses, reviews, research, comparing and contrasting artistic or design theories .

**20. Instructional Materials:**

- ❖ **Required additional supplies:** Personal theatrical Journals & loose clothing

**21. Individual Instructor's Requirements Statement:**

- ❖ Students are required to wear loose clothings to class.
- ❖ All students have to have access into SaigonTech Moodle account for assignments.
- ❖ There is a **15 minutes late grace period**, or they will be deemed as **absent**.

- ❖ After 4 missed classes (barring a very good reason and documentation) I will drop you if it is before the last withdrawal date, this class is impossible to do well in without being on time and regular attendance. The final project is a group project and repeated absences and tardiness hurts not only you but your partner(s).
- ❖ Also, I will include a weekly report in assessing the students. These will help monitor the students response and observations through the session.

## 22. Grading Policies

- ❖ An Incomplete may be given only for extenuating circumstances (i.e. family illness, accident, and an unforeseen event occurring at exam time). The grading policy is summarized below:

| Course Grading                        | Grading Scale |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|
| <b>Practical Assessment</b>           | <b>50%</b>    |
| -Monologue (individual)               | 10%           |
| -Performance Practice (Group)         | 40%           |
| <b>Lecture</b>                        | <b>50%</b>    |
| -Theatre Review & Group Presentations | 10%           |
| -Final Exam                           | 20%           |
| -Weekly Reflection Journal            | 20%           |

## 23. Grading Criteria

- ❖ Individual students will be assessed based on the following rubric for *Practical assessment (50%)*.

| Criteria   | Level 1 (0-2)   | Level 2 (3-5)   | Level 3 (6-8)   | Level 4 (9-10)  |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| <b>Group Participation and discipline (10 points)</b>                                      | - Little to no contribution to group work.<br>- Disturbance to team<br>- Poor in discipline         | Lacks concentration and ability to listen and engage in group work                              | Able to take directions and instructions. Both listens and offers ideas within group work at most times | Contributes heavily to group work and allows collaboration and room for ideas to be heard |
| <b>Physical Techniques: Elementary stage awareness, Focus, Space. (10 points)</b>          | Does not apply and respond according to basic stage crafts.   | Half Hearted attempts in effort trying to apply the stage crafts.                               | Attempts and able to apply physicality and stage craft frequently.                                      | Able to execute the use of stagecraft freely and justly.                                  |
| <b>Vocal Techniques: Purposefully able to articulate their thoughts through Speech and</b> | uses a few volume levels and which are inappropriate to the character in the situation.<br>Example: | employs a limited range of volume levels which is sometimes appropriate to the character in the | draws upon a range of volume levels which are appropriate to the character in the situation.            | enhances the character's development and audience involvement through an extensive        |

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| <b>volume (10 points)</b>  | <i>murmuring or silence observing.</i>                  | <i>situation</i>  | <i>Able to articulate the words and texts.</i>  | <i>range of volume levels. Articulation of speech.</i>  |
| <b>Character Research: Purposefully using action and gesture to suit the character and situation (10 points)</b> | <i>Stands still and recites lines as though reading</i> | <i>Employs a limited range of actions and gestures which at times are appropriate to the character in their situation</i> | <i>Draws upon a range of actions and gestures which are appropriate to the character in the situation. Able to use their bodies to express.</i> | <i>Enhances the character's development and audience involvement through an extensive range of volume levels<br/>Able to play actions physically and textually.</i> |
| <b>Production Value (10 points)</b>  | <i>Barely any effort in production</i>                  | <i>Shows some effort in attempting a production.</i>  | <i>An overall rehearsed production that keeps the audience watching.</i>  | <i>A thorough detailed rehearsed production that engages audiences.</i>   |

#### 24. Academic Dishonesty Policy

- ❖ **Cheating:** Acts of cheating in examinations, homework, tests and other assignments include but are not limited to:
  - 1. Copy tests, works, reports etc. from computers, database, programs of other students and people
  - 2. Use study materials or electronic devices during examinations, tests without instructor's permission
  - 3. Collaborate with other students during examinations, tests, or assignments without instructor's permission
  - 4. Use or submit the same work for different classes without instructors' permission
  - 5. Use, buy, sell, steal, spread out, ask for a part or a whole of unpublished tests
  - 6. Take the test for someone else or have someone take the test for you or help or ask someone to do your homework
  - 7. Bribe to get unpublished tests
  - 8. Bribe students, instructors, or school staff to change grades
- ❖ **B. Plagiarism:** Acts of plagiarism include but are not limited to:
  - 1. Submit other people's works to get points
  - 2. Copy words or ideas without citing source and author's name
  - 3. Do not use quotation marks for direct citation
  - 4. Cite the wrong source
  - 5. Change the wording but sentence structure without citing author's name

6. Borrow words/ phrases from a source without using quotation marks or with making negligible change
7. Copy too many words or ideas that make up the most of personal work, regardless of whether source and author's name are cited
8. Copy information from Internet such as company information, market information etc.
9. Use Google Translation to write up papers, regardless of whether you use your own ideas or borrow ideas
10. Use Google Translation to write up papers by translating Vietnamese from existing Vietnamese study materials/ sources into English