



DRAM 1351 – Acting 1

Course Syllabus: Fall 2023

“Northeast Texas Community College exists to provide personal, dynamic learning experiences empowering students to succeed.”

Instructor: Page Petrucka, PhD

Office: Whatley Center, 142

Phone: (903) 434-8395

Email: ppetrucka@ntcc.edu

Office Hours	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	8:30 – 11 am	8:30 – 11 am	8:30 – 11 am	8:30 – 11 am	

This syllabus serves as the documentation for all course policies and requirements, assignments, and instructor/student responsibilities.

Information relative to the delivery of the content contained in this syllabus is subject to change. Should that happen, the student will be notified.

Course Description: 3 credit hours

This class is designed to acquaint the student with acting techniques and disciplines. The course concentrates on ensemble exercises, improvisation, and acting scenes with emphasis on motivation, characterization, and believability.

Prerequisite(s): None

Student Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Analyze scripts from the viewpoint of the actor.
2. Analyze, develop, and perform a character.
3. Demonstrate effective and safe use of the voice and body.
4. Define and discuss terms and concepts using the vocabulary of theatre.
5. Perform at an appropriately skilled level in ensemble building exercises, scenes, and final projects, which may include participation in plays.

Evaluation/Grading Policy: The method of assessment will be as follows:

1) Reflection Papers: Students will be writing about topics and assignments given in class. These should be submitted on Blackboard (details to follow). Please spell check, use correct punctuation, and develop your own ideas and thoughts. These papers are one page in length and are similar to journal entries you may have been required to keep in other acting classes. The most important thing to include in these papers is what you have learned from the assignment.

7 Reflection papers @ 100 points each – 700 possible points

2) Exercises: Students will perform three object exercises as outlined by Uta Hagen that complement the specific techniques being taught in class (readings to follow).

3 Graded Class Exercises @ 100 points each – 300 possible points
(Basic Object, Three Entrances, Endowment)

3) Scoring Assignments: There will be four scored script assignments, one for your sonnet performance, one for your monologues, and two for your scenes with partners. These need to be uploaded into Blackboard. A picture of your scored script is fine as long as it is legible.

4 Scored scripts Assignments @ 100 points each – 400 possible points

4) Rehearsals in Class: Students will rehearse their scenes and monologues in front of the instructor and class, as guided practice. Handout of expectations to follow.

3 Graded In-Class Rehearsals @ 100 points each – 300 possible points

4) Performance of Scenes: Students will perform two scenes with different partners.

Scene with Partner Performances – 200 possible points

5) Final Performance of Monologues: Students will perform two monologues for their final exam, one contemporary monologue and one classical monologue which total no more than three minutes in length.

Performance of Final Monologues – 100 possible points

GRADING Point Totals

2000 – 1800 points: A

1799 – 1600 points: B

1599 – 1400 points: C

1399 – 1200 points: D

1199 and below: F

Required Instructional Materials:

Respect for Acting by Uta Hagen

Publisher: John Wiley and Sons

ISBN Number: 978-0-470-22848-7

Optional Instructional Materials: None

Minimum Technology Requirements:

- ✓ Daily high-speed internet access
- ✓ Microsoft Word
- ✓ Power Point

Required Computer Literacy Skills:

- ✓ Rename, delete, organize, and save files.

- ✓ Create, edit, and format word processing and presentation documents.
- ✓ Copy, paste, and use a URL or web address.
- ✓ Download and install programs and plug-ins.
- ✓ Send and receive an email with attachments.
- ✓ Locate and access information using a web search engine.
- ✓ Use a learning management system.
- ✓ Attach a file

Course Structure and Overview: See Evaluation and Grading Policy.

Communications: Communication with instructor must be done through NTCC official email only. Turnaround time for email responses is 24 hours.

Institutional/Course Policy:

Late work: All assignments must be completed on time. Work cannot be made up. Please do not miss assigned performance days.

Cell Phones: Cell phones are not permitted during class time. Please put them away.

Attendance: Attendance is vital to learning and student success. *Therefore, students can only miss five (5) class periods during the semester. Students that miss more than five classes shouldn't expect to pass the class.*

Medical emergencies and illness can be excused with a doctor's note. For all other issues, please contact the instructor directly.

Alternate Operations During Campus Closure and/or Alternate Course Delivery Requirements:

In the event of an emergency or announced campus closure due to a natural disaster or pandemic, it may be necessary for Northeast Texas Community College to move to alterer operations. During this time, Northeast Texas Community College may opt to continue delivery of instruction through methods that include, but are not limited to, online through the Blackboard Learning Management System, online conferencing, email messaging, and/or an alternate schedule. It is the responsibility of the student to monitor NTCC's website (<http://www.ntcc.edu/>) for instructions about continuing courses remotely, Blackboard for each class for course-specific communication, and NTCC email for important general information.

Additionally, there may be instances where a course may not be able to be continued in the same delivery format as it originates (face-to-face, fully online, live remote, or hybrid). Should this be the case, every effort will be made to continue instruction in an alternative delivery format. Students will be informed of any changes of this nature through email messaging and/or the Blackboard course site.

NTCC Academic Honesty/Ethics Statement:

NTCC upholds the highest standards of academic integrity. The college expects all students to engage in their academic pursuits in an honest manner that is beyond reproach

using their intellect and resources designated as allowable by the course instructor. Students are responsible for addressing questions about allowable resources with the course instructor. Academic dishonesty such as cheating, plagiarism, and collusion is unacceptable and may result in disciplinary action. This course will follow the NTCC Academic Honesty and Academic Ethics policies stated in the Student Handbook. Refer to the student handbook for more information on these subjects.

ADA Statement:

It is the policy of NTCC to provide reasonable accommodations for qualified individuals who are students with disabilities. This College will adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and guidelines with respect to providing reasonable accommodations as required to afford equal educational opportunity. It is the student's responsibility to request accommodations. An appointment can be made with the Academic Advisor/Coordinator of Special Populations located in Student Services and can be reached at 903-434-8264. For more information and to obtain a copy of the Request for Accommodations, please refer to the special populations page on the NTCC website.

Eagle Assist

At Northeast Texas Community College, we understand that students often need support that extends beyond the classroom. "Eagle Assist" is the place to start when looking for that type of assistance. Our support system is here to help you succeed in both your academic and personal growth. www.ntcc.edu/eagleassist

Services provided:

- [Mental Health Counseling](#)
- [Classroom Accommodations](#)
- [NTCC Care Center Food Pantry](#)
- [NTCC Care Center Hygiene Closet](#)
- [NTCC Care Center Cook Nook](#)
- [Financial Literacy](#)
- [Child Care Assistance](#)
- [Emergency Aid](#)

Can't find what you are looking for? Send us a message at eagleassist@ntcc.edu

[Mental Health Counseling Services](#) are available to all NTCC students.

- Visit the following page to get your account activated:
www.thevirtualcaregroup.com/ntcc
- Dual credit students please email the instructor if interested.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA):

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a federal law that protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. FERPA gives parents certain rights with respect to their children's educational records. These rights transfer to the student when he or she attends a school beyond the high school level. Students to whom the rights have transferred are considered "eligible students." In essence, a parent has no legal right to obtain

information concerning the child's college records without the written consent of the student. In compliance with FERPA, information classified as "directory information" may be released to the general public without the written consent of the student unless the student makes a request in writing. Directory information is defined as: the student's name, permanent address and/or local address, telephone listing, dates of attendance, most recent previous education institution attended, other information including major, field of study, degrees, awards received, and participation in officially recognized activities/sports.

Tentative Course Timeline: (Instructor reserves the right to adjust this timeline at any point in the term)

Day/Date	Topic	Reading Due	Assignment Due
M 8/28	Introduction/Syllabus Warm-Ups	Syllabus	
W 8/30	Backstory Workshop	Uta Hagen, Chapters 25-27	
M 9/4	No Class	Labor Day	
W 9/6	Monologues, Papers, GOTE, OOA		
M 9/11	Basic Object Exercise Introduction	Uta Hagen, Pgs. 81- 94	
W 9/13	Basic Object Exercise Performance		Performance of Basic Object Exercise
M 9/18	Discovering Character/Working a Script	Uta Hagen, Chapters 22 & 23	Reflection 1: Basic Object Exercise
W 9/20	Senses and Immediacy	Uta Hagen, Chapters 5, 13, 14	
M 9/25	3 Entrances Introduction	Uta Hagen, Chapter 12	
W 9/27	3 Entrances Performance, Endowment Introduction	Uta Hagen, Chapter 15	Performance of 3 Entrances
M 10/2	Watch <i>Frankenstein</i> on Blackboard		Reflection 2: 3 Entrances
W 10/4	Endowment Performance		Reflection 3: <i>Frankenstein</i> / Performance of Endowment
M 10/9	Working w/a Partner, Scene 1 Assignments		Reflection 4: Endowment
W 10/11	Beats Made Easy/Scoring a Script/Action Words Rehearse with Partner		

M 10/16	Stanislavski Day Rehearse with Partner		
W 10/18	Graded Scene 1 Rehearsal with Page		Score 1: Scene 1 Score and GOTE
M 10/23	Scene 1 Performance		Performance of Scene 1
W 10/25	Scene 2 Assignments		Reflection 5: Scene 1 Performance
M 10/30	Improvisations		
W 11/1	Character / Physicality Rehearse with Partner		
M 11/6	Graded Scene 2 Rehearsal with Page		Score 2: Scene 2 Score and GOTE
W 11/8	Scene 2 Performance		Performance of Scene 2
M 11/13	Selection of Monologues / Classical Monologues / Sonnets Discussion	Select Monologues and Sonnet	Reflection 6: Scene 2 Performance
W 11/15	Touch the Wound, But Don't Live There	American Theatre Article	Score 3: Sonnet Score and GOTE
11/20 – 11/24	No Class	Thanksgiving Break	
M 11/27	Performance of Sonnets / Monologue Work	Uta Hagen, Chapter 16	Performance of Sonnets
W 11/29	Funeral Services Exercise		
M 12/4	Monologue Work		Score 4: Monologue Score and GOTE
W 12/6	Last Day of Class / Graded Monologue Rehearsal with Page		
TBD	FINAL		Performance of Monologues
12/15	Fall Graduation		