

THEA-2520: IMPROVISATION AND PERFORMANCE II

Cuyahoga Community College

Viewing: THEA-2520 : Improvisation and Performance II

Board of Trustees:

2012-01-26

Academic Term:

Fall 2019

Subject Code

THEA - Theatre Arts

Course Number:

2520

Title:

Improvisation and Performance II

Catalog Description:

Synthesize concept and technique through the directed practice of long-form improvisational performance. Apply the skills discovered in Improvisation and Performance to the creation of long-form narrative structures. Develop an advanced improvisational ensemble that performs regularly before a public audience. Apply Spolin's seven aspects of spontaneity to create narrative improvisations from minimal given circumstances. Explore advanced forms of improvisation including musical improvisation, script development from improvisation, subject and incident specific performances and "Harolds". Course is primarily active and participatory in nature and requires participation in numerous public performances based on this exploration.

Credit Hour(s):

3

Lecture Hour(s):

2

Lab Hour(s):

2

Requisites

Prerequisite and Corequisite

THEA-1520 Improvisation and Performance I.

Outcomes

Course Outcome(s):

A. Develop advanced improvisational ensemble.

Objective(s):

1. 1. Display mastery of vocal, physical and imaginative skills.
2. 2. Display advanced listening techniques.
3. 3. Synthesize basic improvisational concepts with advanced narrative skills.
4. 4. Develop improvisation from personal narrative.
5. 5. Develop improvisation from popular narrative.
6. 6. Master the techniques of successful group play.

Course Outcome(s):

B. Compose Musical Improvisation

Objective(s):

1. 4. Perform musical improvisation in class.
2. 5. Perform musical improvisation for public audience.
3. 6. Create written musical from improvisational exploration.
4. 1. Demonstrate ability to spontaneously create lyrics.

5. 2.Demonstrate awareness of rhythmic elements in scene work.
6. 3.Demonstrate ability to transact with live musician.

Course Outcome(s):

C.Create Long Form Improvisation.

Objective(s):

1. 1.Demonstrate ability to create group narrative.
2. 2.Create from minimal given circumstances.
3. 3.Organize creative possibilities into narrative structure.
4. 4.Apply the seven aspects of spontaneity to more complex narratives.
5. 5.Display the use of basic techniques to develop advanced structures.
6. 6.Perform Long Form Improvisation in class.
7. 7.Perform Long Form Improvisation for public audience.
8. 8.Apply skills to a variety of performance constructs.

Methods of Evaluation:

1. Faculty-directed in-class projects and exercises.
2. Written examinations on theoretical content.
3. Written reviews of improvisational performances.
4. Written self-assessment journals.
5. Written research paper on established improvisational performing groups.
6. Participate in class performances.
7. Participate in public performances.

Course Content Outline:

1. Explore Specific Problems with Group Play
 - a. Listening
 - b. Transacting with several players
 - c. Developing multiple plot lines
 - d. Developing characters with depth
 - e. Recalling relevant developments
2. Create Musical Improvisation
 - a. Working with rhythm
 - b. Working with Live Musicians
 - c. Improvising within Music Styles
 - d. Spontaneous lyric development
 - e. Developing specific lyrical narrative structures
 - f. Developing free form lyrical narrative structures
3. Developing Long Form Improvisation
 - a. Working from single given circumstance
 - b. Developing character arc and depth of relationship
 - c. Developing structure from play
 - d. Expanding narrative impact
 - e. Utilizing personal narrative
 - f. Utilizing popular narrative
 - g. Exploring alternative performance spaces and constructs

Resources

Viola Spolin. *Theater Games for the Classroom: A Teachers Handbook*. First. Northwestern University Press, 1986.

Charna Halpern. *Truth in Comedy: The Manual for Improvisation*. First. Meriwether Publishing, 1994.

Mick Napier. *Improvise: Scene from the Inside Out*. First. Heinemann Drama, 2004.

Keith Johnstone. *Impro for Storytellers*. First. Routledge, 1999.

Resources Other

Guest Instructors and materials available to the class from:

Something Dada Improvisationa Theater Company

Cleveland Improv Institute

Second City Training Center

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Key: 4212