



Course Outline

2026-2027 Catalog

DRAM 16 - Acting III Script Analysis

Catalog Description

Transfer Status: CSU/UC

Prerequisite: DRAM 9

Unit(s): 3.00

Lecture: 51.00 Contact hours/102.00 Out of class hours/153.00 Total hours/3.00 Unit(s)

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Course Description: Principles, theories and techniques of play script analysis for theatrical production.

Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Obtain a greater comprehension and satisfaction when reading a play.
2. Discover the patterns common to most, if not all, dramatic storytelling.
3. Practice applying an analytical framework to several model plays.
4. Write both personally and academically about drama.
5. Undertake individually both a creative and analytical response to a chosen play.

Course Content

Topic Titles / Suggested Time Topic

Lecture

<u>Topics</u>	<u>Lec Hrs</u>
Fully explore an in-depth methodology of reading, analyzing and understanding play scripts in a variety of genres and styles intended for production.	15.00
Investigate techniques used to determine how to read a play for its structure.	12.00
Scrutinize the playwright's methods of creating theatre through plot, character and imagery.	12.00
Understanding what scripts "mean" to the professional theatre artist and theatre-goer as distinct from other forms of literature.	12.00
Total Hours:	51.00

Methods of Instruction

- A. Discussion
- B. Group Discussions
- C. Guest Speakers
- D. Homework: Students are required to complete two hours of outside-of-class homework for each hour of lecture
- E. Lecture
- F. Reading Assignments

Methods of Evaluation

- A. Exams/Tests
- B. Research Projects
- C. Portfolios
- D. Oral Presentation
- E. Homework
- F. Written Assignments

Examples of Assignments

Reading Assignments

1. Read the section titled Working with a Partner in your text, "Acting: Onstage and Off." With your assigned scene partner prepare exercise (Partner Sharing).
2. Read the chapter on "Establishing Yourself" in your textbook. Be prepared for class discussion of the following: Performers Unions, Resumes and Photographs, Agents and Agencies.

Writing Assignments

1. Write a brief analysis (1-2 pages) of any character from Act I Scene I.

2. With a scene partner, select a play from one of the following periods: Greco-Roman, Elizabethan, Restoration or Victorian. Choose a representative scene, write a 1-2 page detailed character analysis, prepare and perform a ten-minute scene from that play. Each presentation will be followed by a class critique.

Out-of-Class Assignments

1. Prepare and perform a two-minute audition piece consisting of one classic and one contemporary monologue.
2. Complete a detailed script analysis for a current Butte College production and present to the class.

Recommended Materials of Instruction

Michael Kostroff. (2022). The Stage Actor's Handbook. *Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, 1st.* 978-1538160435.

Other Learning Materials

Instructor handouts; production scripts

Minimum Qualifications

Drama/Theater Arts (Masters Required)

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