

DRAMA STUDIO COURSE LIST—FALL 2017

Introductory Courses 101, 201, 301 and Introduction to Dance, AU

There are no pre-requisites for these courses, and they are excellent for any student, regardless of his or her experience in acting. From students who are very shy to those who have been in many performances, these classes are a great introduction to the Studio's unique style and curriculum.

Introduction to Acting is a full year course, September–May. This course offers an exciting curriculum to introduce students to the acting process. Both 201 and 301 offer work in improvisation, movement, scene and monologue work, and ensemble building. As students advance in acting skills, they learn to take risks, work comfortably within a group, concentrate, and think on their feet. They develop skills of self-expression, awareness, and “being in the moment.”

#201 Ages 9-12: for new students

Instructor: Amelia Hays-Rivest

Section A: Mondays, 5:30-7PM, beg. 9/11/2017

Section B: Thursdays, 4-5:30 PM beg. 9/7/2017

Section C: Saturdays, 1:15-2:45PM, beg. 9/9/2017

#301 Ages 13-18: for new students

Instructor: Mat Bussler

Mondays, 5:30-7PM, beg. 9/11/2017

Introduction to Acting 101 is a great way to start "life at the Drama Studio" in the spring and will prepare students for the 201 or 301 class in the fall. Come join us for a fun introduction to the Drama Studio's theatre classes! In just one semester, we'll sample improvisation games, scenes, monologues, and ensemble theatre. Students will also receive free tickets to all productions, and the chance to attend shows as a class.

#101 Ages 9-12: for new students

Instructor: Amelia Hays-Rivest

Saturdays, 2:45-3:45 beg. January 2018

#101 Teen for new students

Instructor: Mat Bussler

Saturdays, 2:45-3:45 beg. January 2018

Introduction to Dance for Actors: No previous experience needed for this fun introduction to choreography! This course introduces students to basic dance technique, emphasizing foundations of creative movement, modern and jazz dancing. Students will grow in body awareness, strength, flexibility, and coordination as they learn basic dance vocabulary, contact technique, and choreograph their own dances.

Introduction to Dance for Actors (IDA) Ages 9-18

Instructor: Amelia Hays-Rivest

Saturdays, 10-11AM, beg. 9/9/2017

Acting Up Can't wait until age nine to start at Drama Studio? Then wait no longer! Due to popular demand, we are now offering a class for younger actors. In "Acting Up" we'll explore a fun introduction to acting through improv games, theatre play, stories-on-stage, and creative movement. Bring your imaginations as you get a head start and join us for a Drama Studio class just for you!

Acting Up (AU) ages 6 - 8 beg. 9/22/2017 for 20 weeks

Section A: Fridays, 4:30-5:30 PM.

Section B: Fridays, 5:30-6:30 PM

Instructor: Amelia Hays Rivest

Intermediate Scene Study and Continuing Acting

Character Work: Through creating and exploring different character forms, students will advance in acting skills, build scene study techniques, and gain improv experience. This course will allow students to zero in on their character work, and have the fun of creating a wide range of characters, from realistic to stylized. Through improv, monologues, stories, scenes, fantasy, and theatre games, students will have the challenge of fully investing in the characters they create and bring to life.

Character Work, (CW) Ages 10-13

Wednesdays, 5:30-7PM, beg. 9/13/2017

Instructor: Amelia Hays-Rivest

Intro to Scene Study: With material drawn from contemporary scripts, monologues, and improvisation, students learn how to approach a script, how to stage a scene, and how to bring a character to life. Students explore subtext, motivation, and relationships and learn about character development, improvisation, timing, and movement.

Introduction to Scene Study (ISS) Ages 10 –14

Wednesdays, 4-5:30, beg. 9/13/2017

Instructor: Amelia Hays-Rivest

Inside Out: Through improvisation, ensemble forms, writing, and scene work, students will develop monologues and scenes using material and stories from their own lives. The class will learn how to create a range of characters, interact in a performance ensemble, and further refine acting and movement skills. This course will create a series of pieces that highlight each student's personal narrative.

Inside Out (IO) Ages 11-15

Thursdays, 5:30-7PM, beg. 9/7/2017

Instructor: Amelia Hays-Rivest

Young Actor Prepares Prepare to advance your theatre training! What do you need in your next year of acting? In YAP each actor will have the chance to build his/her acting technique and skills through a broad range of improv games, script work, monologues and created ensemble theatre pieces. YAP allows for more in-depth individual focus on each actor's goals, as the improv games and script selections will be developed based on each actor's needs and advancement. What will your YAP year bring?

Young Actor Prepares (YAP) Ages 10 - 13

Mondays, 4-5:30 PM, beg. 9/11/2017

Instructor: Amelia Hays-Rivest

Improvisation and Comedy

Aesop's Improv: Using techniques of story theatre, students will create pieces based on the well-loved Aesop's fables. They will select fables that have meaning for them and set them in improv pieces relating to their own lives. They will gain experience in creating a range of characters, both fabled and realistic, and develop monologue, movement, and ensemble skills.

Aesop's Improv, AI) Ages 10-15

Saturdays, 11:30 – 1PM, beg. 9/9/2017

Instructor: Amelia Hays-Rivest

Questions and Acting: In Q&A at the Drama Studio, we'll combine improv training with scene work and character studies. Through improv games, scripted scenes and monologues, actors will grow stronger in all the acting questions: 'who,' 'why,' 'how,' 'what' and even some 'where' and 'when.' Q&A actors will become lightning fast with the improv exercises needed to sustain deeper work in both scripted and improvised theatre.

Questions and Acting (Q&A) Ages 10–14

Mondays, 4-5:30PM, beg. 9/11/2017

Instructor: Mat Bussler and Austin Yelinek

Improv Technique: Through exercises and games, students will build spontaneity, listening skills and physical comedy. Students will explore scene work, group games, comedy improv and comic scenarios. Improvisation helps students to be more expressive, and to use the body, intellect and voice more fully when reacting to the stimuli of a scene.

Improv Technique (IT) Ages 12-15

Wednesdays, 4:30–6PM, beg. 9/13/2017

Instructor: Dan Morbyrne

Comedy: We will explore comedy in all its many forms, including sketch comedy, comedy for the camera, Commedia del Arte, clown and mask work, and stand-up. This class will guide actors to the most dynamic and powerful ways to take comedic acting risks. The students will create completely original comic characters and explore their interior lives and motivations. In Comedy Class, we take being funny very seriously.

Comedy (COM) Ages 14-18

Thursdays, 5:30-7PM, beg. 9/7/2017

Instructor: Mat Bussler

Advanced Improv Troupe: Students will develop an ensemble approach to improvised comedy scenes, with an emphasis on long form improv and character development. *Enrollment by audition.*

Advanced Comedy Improv Troupe (TROUPE) Ages 13-18

Wednesdays, 6-7:30PM, beg. 9/13/2017

Instructor: Dan Morbyrne, Jack Kapinos

Ensemble and Movement

Intermediate Choreography Workshop: ICW is an intensive workshop class for dancers wishing more experience with choreography. Students will focus on developing small group dance pieces, working one on one with the instructor to develop the work, using choreographic principles, music, poetry, lighting, and...who knows? *Enrollment by permission of instructor.*

Intermediate Choreography Workshop (ICW) Ages 13-19

Fridays, 7-8:30PM, beg. 9/8/2017

Instructor: Amelia Hays-Rivest

Stage Combat: An 8-week course in the art of stage combat in which students will learn to perform safe and realistic violence on stage, as well as gain the tools to create original fight choreography. Techniques include unarmed combat, armed combat, and historical and contemporary fighting styles.

Stage Combat, (SC) Ages 14-18

Saturdays, 1:15-2:45, beg. 2/10/2018

(Unarmed: 2/10-3/10, Armed: 3/17-4/21)

Instructor: Dan Morbyrne

Viewpoints and Suzuki Workshop: Viewpoints trains the actor in the highest quality of listening. Students learn how to react truthfully and immediately and how to form a true ensemble where the decisions are being made by a group rather than by many individuals. Suzuki training gives the actor fierce internal strength and focus and enables them to use their body with extreme clarity. These two very different approaches to actor training complement each other brilliantly and are being used by numerous theatre companies worldwide to train their ensembles. Dress to move!

Viewpoints and Suzuki Workshop (VPS) ages 14-18

Saturdays, 11:15AM-1:00PM beg. 9/9/2017

Instructor: Dan Morbyrne

Advanced Acting

Styles: Theatre is an art form that stretches across time, culture and identity: it can embody whole worlds, from the entirely realistic to the absurdly imaginary. During this course, students will explore the many stylistic worlds of theatre from Strindberg to Brecht and Euripides to Beyoncé. Students will also gain insight into how directors, playwrights and ensembles shaped the worlds they lived in and how those artistic revolutions shape the theatre world today. Through the examination of many theatrical movements, Styles students will discover which styles of theatre inspire them and learn how to take risks to realize the imaginary world of a style within the real-world confines of a stage.

Styles, Ages 15-18

Tuesdays, 5-7PM, beg. 9/12/2017

Instructor: Dan Morbyrne

Advanced Scene Work: This class will ground the young performer in a nuts-and-bolts approach to acting. Students will learn in-depth text analysis, including how to divide a scene into beats, identify character objective, and tactics, and recognize operative words and phrases. Students will also learn how to get the most range from their natural speaking voice and how to connect with and support their acting partner. Course will include field trips to college and professional theatres.

Advanced Scene Work (ASW) Ages 14-18

Fridays, 5-7PM, beg. 9/8/2017

Instructors: Dan Morbyrne, Mat Bussler

Special Interest Classes

Playwriting: An exciting course for students interested in the craft of playwriting, based on the premise that playwriting is an extension of acting. Students will learn the basic principles of playwriting through written exercises as well as improvisation work and complete a one-act play (10-15 pages in length). Plays written on the adolescent experience will be eligible for production in the Studio's annual Winter Shorts Festival of one-act plays.

Playwriting (PW) Ages 9-adult

Mondays, 5:30-7PM beg.9/11/2017

Instructor: Doug Foresta

Musical Theatre: An intensive course in musical theatre, with the emphasis on classical American song from the period 1910-1960. Students will build repertory, explore acting choices in presenting songs and develop a musical revue of songs to be presented at the final class each semester. Private coaching is a vital part of this course. The class is limited to 8 students by audition.

Musical Theatre (MT) Ages 13-18