



777 Grandview Drive, Kalispell, MT 59901 www.fvcc.edu

**Continuing Education Center
Course Description Form (SAMPLE)**

Suggested Title: Introduction to Community Theatre

Instructor: Linda Johnson Phone: (H) _____ (W) _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

I. Course description: (Suitable for catalog and schedule – approximately 3-4 sentences.)

If all the world's a stage, you're either on the boards or behind the scenes. Learn how to be in the spotlight or how to run one. Course covers all the basics for involvement in local theatre, auditioning, basic acting, stage directions, memory and vocal work, stage falls and fights. Also set design and construction, props, costuming and stage crew.

For beginners, or veterans interested in directing. Optional involvement in current production.

II. Overall goal: To give participants a working knowledge of the theatre.

III: Learning Objectives:

- Learn how to be in the spotlight or how to run one.
- Course covers all the basics for involvement in local theatre, auditioning, basic acting, stage directions, memory and vocal work, stage falls and fights.
- Course also set design and construction, props, costuming and stage crew.

IV: Length/Format: The class will meet for six sessions. Each session will be two hours.

V. Instructor Profile: (This information may be used in publicity and may be made available to students.)

Education: 1995 - Master of Fine Arts, Southern Methodist University.

Work Experience:

I have been on the staff at the Bigfork Summer Playhouse as choreographer and director since 1979.

Additional training/experience/awards

Stage manager for the annual Playwright's Gathering at Bigfork.
Extensive background as professional actor and dancer.
Have appeared in numerous productions throughout the Valley.

| Learning Objectives The student will: | Activities | Materials/Equipment | Time Allowed |
|---|---|--|--|
| <p>Class One:</p> <p>Learn all the contributing talents required to put on a production.</p> | <p>THE SHOW MUST GO ON... BUT HOW?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introductions. 2. Distribute class outline. 3. Act out all the roles needed to present a play. 4. Demonstrate the etiquette of the theatre through bad examples. | <p>Handouts</p> <p>Supporting circle</p> <p>Whiteboard/markers</p> | <p>Introductions, overview and handout explanation 30 minutes</p> <p>Theatre games 30 minutes</p> <p>Lecture – 30 minutes</p> <p>Role play –bad examples 30 minutes</p> |
| <p>Class Two:</p> <p>Experience the world of the playwright and learn how to read a script.</p> | <p>THE PLAY’S THE THING...</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Experience writing a scene. 2. Learn how to read a script. 3. Read from a variety of scripts. | <p>Handouts</p> <p>Paper</p> <p>Scripts</p> <p>Whiteboard/markers</p> | <p>Writing exercise 30 minutes</p> <p>Demonstration of reading a script 30 minutes</p> <p>Reading scripts 60 minutes</p> |
| <p>Class Three:</p> <p>Learn basic acting skills.</p> | <p>SO YOU WANT TO BE AN ACTOR?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Actors warm-up. 2. It’s not in the words. 3. Creating a character. 4. Raising the stakes. 5. Distribution of monologues. | <p>Handouts</p> <p>Monologues</p> <p>Videos- What Is An Actor?</p> <p>TV/VCR</p> <p>Whiteboard/markers</p> | <p>Presentation/warm up 30 minutes</p> <p>Improvisation on scenes 30 minutes</p> <p>Acting demonstrations 45 minutes</p> <p>Review and discussion of demonstrations 15 minutes</p> |

| Learning Objectives The student will: | Activities | Materials/Equipment | Time Allowed |
|---|---|---|--|
| <p>Class Four:</p> <p>Exercising the voice.</p> | <p>WHAT'S IN THE WORDS???</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Vocal warm up. 2. Presentation of monologues. 3. Expanding vocal presentation. | <p>Handouts</p> <p>Tongue twisters</p> | <p>Warm up– 15 minutes</p> <p>Presentation 45 minutes</p> <p>Work through each monologue, critique. 60 minutes</p> |
| <p>Class Five:</p> <p>Guidelines for auditions.</p> | <p>LET'S SEE WHAT YOU CAN DO</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Warm-ups. 2. Handouts – Guidelines for auditions. 3. Practice cold readings. 4. Basic stage directions and audition etiquette. | <p>Handouts</p> <p>Audition guidelines</p> <p>Scripts</p> <p>Whiteboard/markers</p> | <p>Warm-ups – 30 minutes</p> <p>Presentation on guidelines – 30 minutes</p> <p>Demonstration audition and take direction 60 minutes</p> |
| <p>Class Six:</p> <p>Basics of mime and movement for theatre.</p> | <p>READ MY HIPS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Warm-ups. 2. Mime exercises – characters, emotions, encounters. 3. Saying and doing opposite things. 4. Basic falls. 5. Basic fight technique. | <p>Handouts</p> <p>Whiteboard/markers</p> | <p>Warm-ups – 30 minutes</p> <p>Exercises – 30 minutes</p> <p>Add words – 30 minutes</p> <p>Fall & fight demonstrations 30 minutes</p> |