

# TDPS Acting Training Course of Study

**TPS majors/minors audition for placement in classes. There is no assurance of admission to any course.**

## YEAR 1

*Introduces student to the basic techniques and vocabulary of realistic acting and characterization.*

**Theater 10** – An introduction to the fundamentals of realistic acting based on the Stanislavski system. Techniques for relaxation, concentration, and development of imagination are explored and practiced through exercises, improvisations, games, scenes, and monologues from contemporary American playwrights. Voice production is also introduced and practiced, including vocal placement, resonance, and projection. Taught in Fall, Spring, and Summer – maximum 20 per class. Audition for entry. No pre-requisites. Typically 4 sections.

**Theater 11** – The emphasis of the studies shifts from the development of basic skills to the development of skills necessary to the character actor. Whereas Theater 10 students are required to develop and perform characters that are close to themselves in age and background, Theater 11 students are encouraged to stretch their abilities into the development of characterization outside their personal experience. Students continue to employ the basic acting and vocal techniques introduced in Theater 10. Taught in Fall and Spring – maximum 18 per class. Audition for entry. Pre-requisite: 1 semester of college level acting training. Typically 3 sections.

## YEAR 2

*The basic techniques of acting and characterization studied in the first year are now utilized in plays from different historical periods. These plays create new challenges for the actor that relate to the heightened language, verse, American Theater Standard Speech, complex characterizations, customs, manners, clothing, and morals of the periods studied. Theater 110A and 110 B may be taken in either order. You may begin this level in either semester.*

**Theater 110A** – The first five weeks of the semester reviews the material learned in the first year, culminating in a 5-7 minute contemporary realistic scene. This review provides all continuing and transfer students a common base and vocabulary. We devote the next ten weeks to the emergence of Naturalism and Realism through plays by Chekov, Ibsen, Shaw, Strindberg, and Wilde. Students perform one 2-3 minute monologue and one 5-7 minute scene. Taught in Fall – maximum 16 per class. Audition for entry. Pre-requisite: 2 semesters of college level acting training. Typically 2 sections.

**Theater 110B** – The semester is an introduction to Shakespeare in performance. It is designed to help the student feel comfortable with both the period and the language of Shakespeare. The focus is on movement, scansion, American Theatre Standard Speech, text analysis, voice and modern acting techniques as they relate to Shakespearean drama. Two contrasting scenes and one monologue are performed. Taught in Spring – maximum 16 per class. Audition for entry. Pre-requisite: 2 semesters of college level acting training. Typically 2 sections.

## YEAR 3

*The technique of the first 2 years of training are solidified through individualized acting assignments. You may begin this level in either semester.*

**Theater 111** – This course is designed to finish the acting technique progression that begins with Theater 10. Instructor works individually with students to stretch and strengthen acting, voice, movement, speech and style techniques. Students work one on one with instructor to develop and polish audition material, resumes, and interview skills. Taught in Fall and Spring – maximum 14 per class. Audition for entry. Pre-requisite: 4 semesters of college level acting training. Typically 1 section.

**Theater 111** – May be repeated for a second semester.

## YEAR 4

*This final year prepares students for transition into graduate school or professional career. May be taken with Theater 111.*

**Theater 115** – Company class workshop with final production. Maximum 12 per class. Audition for entry.

**Theater 171** – Graduate School Prep and Audition Training. Maximum 8 per class. Interview for entry.

**Theater 115** – May be repeated for a second semester.

**Theater 171** – May be repeated for a second semester.

## VOICE AND SPEECH

**Theater 12** – This course may be taken during any year of training. This class works to strengthen, support, and vary the quality of your natural voice through practice on basic relaxation techniques, breath, resonance, articulation, and projection. The course focuses on pitch, stress, rate, quality, and inflection through a variety of material and uses the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA-narrow transcription) for clarity of speech. Taught in Spring – maximum 18 per class. Interview for entry.

## MOVEMENT FOR THE PERFORMER

**Theater 114** – Course providing basics in movement, flexibility, body awareness, physical presence, and somatics for dancers and actors. Taught in Spring. Maximum 20 students per class. Interview for entry.

9/28/12