



5055 Santa Teresa Blvd
Gilroy, CA 95023

Course Outline

COURSE: THEA 31 **DIVISION:** 10 **ALSO LISTED AS:**

TERM EFFECTIVE: Summer 2025

CURRICULUM APPROVAL DATE: 06/10/2025

SHORT TITLE: IMPROVISATION

LONG TITLE: Improvisation

<u>Units</u>	<u>Number of Weeks</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Contact Hours/Week</u>	<u>Total Contact Hours</u>
2	18	Lecture:	1	18
		Lab:	3	54
		Other:	0	0
		Total:	4	72

Out of Class Hrs: 36.00

Total Learning Hrs: 108.00

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Improvisation is a Theatre Course designed to provide the student training in body movement, voice techniques, stage presence, spontaneity, acting techniques and character development. This course has the option of a letter grade or pass/no pass.

CREDIT STATUS: D - Credit - Degree Applicable

GRADING MODES

L - Standard Letter Grade

P - Pass/No Pass

REPEATABILITY: N - Course may not be repeated

SCHEDULE TYPES:

02 - Lecture and/or discussion

03 - Lecture/Laboratory

04 - Laboratory/Studio/Activity

047 - Laboratory - LEH 0.7

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of this course, a student should:

1. Develop basic improvisational skills, including acting, vocal techniques and physicality.
2. Apply techniques of character development to create improvised scenes.
3. Demonstrate how to work with costumes, props and imagination to create various scenes.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

By the end of this course, a student should:

1. Discuss improvisation and explain different methodologies.
2. Discuss and practice techniques used for character development.
3. Identify and demonstrate how to work with props and partners to create a scene or skit.
4. Analyze Theatrics on stage in a live production.

COURSE CONTENT:

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LECTURE CONTENT:

1 Hour

Lecture: Orientation and Syllabus. Introduction to Improvisation and Theory.

1 Hour

Lecture: Background and History. What is improvisation in Theatre and Beyond. Presentation on Theatre Games.

14 Hours

Lecture: Topics/Presentations (2 Hours Per Topic)

1. Development of basic improvisational skills.
2. Techniques used for Character Development.
3. Development and discussing of ensemble work (working with others).
4. Techniques for Physicalization during improvisation and acting.
5. Description and analysis of vocal techniques for improvisation.
6. Understand how to work with props and imagination to create a scene or skit.
7. Development of strong entrances and characters for character development.

2 Hours

Final Exam

LAB CONTENT:

30 Hours

Lab: Improvisational games, skits and scenes. A variety of scenes and skits will be given and created for the students to present and perform.

8 Hours

Lab: Activity work and improvisational situations will be explored using various theatrical tools, including character development, vocal coaching, exits and entrances, physicality, costuming, sets, props and music.

6 Hours

Lab: Prepare/Rehearse for Midterm with partner. Create an improvisational scene using all aspects of theatre and character development.

2 Hours

Lab: Midterm Performance. Perform and present all materials that have been learned to date. Discussion and analysis of practical performance skills.

6 Hours

Lab: Create and develop improvisational skills by working with others on presentation skills. Develop and prepare an improvisation scene with all theatrical elements included. Prepare/Rehearse for the final in small groups, including acting, costuming, sets/props and improvisational techniques.

2 Hours

Final: Performance

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

Lecture, Discussion, Guided Practice, Video Analysis

OUT OF CLASS ASSIGNMENTS:

Required Outside Hours 6

Assignment Description

Homework: An analysis of an outside live theatre performance. An Essay (Paper) will be included.

Required Outside Hours 15

Assignment Description

Keep an ongoing journal/notebook of all class lectures and material. Video viewing and analysis.

Required Outside Hours 15

Assignment Description

Required readings from handouts and textbook. Study for exams.

METHODS OF EVALUATION:

Problem-solving assignments

Evaluation Percent 25

Evaluation Description

20% - 40%

Students will get basic direction and then create a scene or solve a problem in regards to a scene or performance.

Skill demonstrations

Evaluation Percent 25

Evaluation Description

20% - 40%

Students must perform and present weekly to demonstrate the improvisational skills they have learned.

Writing assignments

Evaluation Percent 25

Evaluation Description

20% - 40%

Students will keep an ongoing journal/notebook of all class lectures and material. Essays and quizzes will be included. Also, an outside live performance may be required, which will also include an analysis (Essay).

Other methods of evaluation

Evaluation Percent 25

Evaluation Description

20% - 40%

Students will be asked to work with others in partners or small groups through the semester, as well as for the midterm and final.

REPRESENTATIVE TEXTBOOKS:

Instructor will provide handouts/materials. No textbook needed.

Notebook or Journal

RECOMMENDED MATERIALS:

Launching the Imagination, 6th Edition or other appropriate college level text., Mary Stewart, McGraw Hill, 2019.

ISBN: 13: 9781259603631

12th Grade Verified by: MS Word

ARTICULATION and CERTIFICATE INFORMATION

Associate Degree:

GAV C1

CSU TRANSFER:

Transferable CSU

UC TRANSFER:

Transferable UC

SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:

Basic Skills: N

Classification: Y

Noncredit Category: Y

Cooperative Education:

Program Status: 1 Program Applicable

Special Class Status: N

Prior to College Level: Y

Non Credit Enhanced Funding: N

Funding Agency Code: Y

In-Service: N

Occupational Course: E

Course Control Number: CCC000584226

Sports/Physical Education Course: N

Taxonomy of Program: 100700