

## CUMBERLAND COUNTY COLLEGE

**Course: TH 208 Children's Theatre**

**Credits: 3**

**Prerequisites**

None

**Description**

This course is an introduction to the basic principals and techniques of producing theatre for young audiences. Emphasis is given to script evaluation and development, as well as the challenges associated with acting and directing for young audiences and working with child performers.

**Learning Outcomes**

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

- Compare and contrast the age-level characteristics of child audiences and illustrate script choices for each level.
- Identify and select methods of performing for children.
- Demonstrate the ability to choose and adapt a production of a play for child audiences.
- Demonstrate the ability to function as an ensemble.
- Evaluate the unique needs of theatre for child audiences.
- Perform a play for child audiences.
- Support technical needs of a play for child audiences.

**Topical Outline**

This course is designed to offer the student practical theatre experience in presenting and/or directing and writing children's theatre. The final play will be performed for elementary school age audiences as well as members of the community.

Students will gain introductory overview by selecting, planning, and modeling a working knowledge of:

- The vocabulary of the theatre, distinguishing the appropriate terminology to translate ideas in a variety of oral communication interactions.
- Audience analysis
- Use of imagination in literature and performance
- Acting for children
- Audience participation
- Selection of suitable literature
- Classification and preparation of a play
- Casting
- Set design and construction
- Costuming
- Rehearsal process
- presentation

### **Required Texts and Other Materials**

Spolin, Viola. *Improvisation for the Theater: A Handbook of Teaching and Directing Techniques*. Evanston, IL: Northwestern UP, 1999. Print.

### **Student Assessment**

Students will be graded based on preparation, meeting time deadlines, effort, enthusiasm, teamwork, memorization, prompt attendance to all classes.

### **Academic Integrity**

Plagiarism is cheating. Plagiarism is presenting in written work, in public speaking, and in oral reports the ideas or exact words of someone else without proper documentation.

Whether the act of plagiarism is deliberate or accidental [ignorance of the proper rules for handling material is no excuse], plagiarism is, indeed, a “criminal” offense.

As such, a plagiarized paper or report automatically receives a grade of **ZERO** and the student may receive a grade of **F** for the semester at the discretion of the instructor.

### **Available Resources**

If you are having difficulty with work in this class, tutoring is available through the Success Center. If you think that you might have a learning disability, contact Project Assist at 856.691.8600, x1282 for information on assistance that can be provided to eligible students.

### **(List availability of open labs and/or writing center)**

### **Before Withdrawing From This Course**

If a student experiences adverse circumstances while enrolled in this course and considers withdrawing, s/he should see an advisor (division or advisement center) BEFORE withdrawing from the class. A withdrawal may cause harmful repercussions to completion rate standards and overall GPA which can limit or eliminate future financial aid in addition to causing academic suspension.