

Syllabus
for
Bachelors Degree
in
Acting

W.E.F FROM JUNE: 2009

Syllabus for Degree Course in Acting

OBJECTIVES

To Develop a complex free personality capable of taking a holistic view of total acting process by building the course around our rich cultural heritage and aspirations of contemporary Indian society and classical works such as Bharat Natya Shastra.

To provide Acting programme with valuable insight in application, concentration, self discipline, voice and Body control, Imagination, Self Discovery.

This course emphasizes on building up sensitivity in the actors body so as to enable him to express the inner process instantaneously and effectively.

This course would help a Student:

To Discover their hidden acting potential

To get in touch with the self

To enhance sensitivity

Acting programme will enable a student to draw from his/her own creativity and attain proficiency in capturing and fascinating the audience through powerful portrayal of human emotions.

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The classes will be held on physical fitness, yoga, voice modulations, music and basic acting. Preferable in the first session of the day.

The main objective will be to provide well trained actors suitable to the growing demands of the Film and Television Industry.

Considering that the student joining the course, are fresh from schools it is important to draw their attention to the realities, they will be facing by choosing the career of Acting in Film and Television Industry.

All the theoretical topics should be supported by Practicals, Emphasis on Practical exercises for the course is essential and mandatory for scholars.

Teacher should use multimedia presentations, illustrations, stories, guided tours and any other Audio Visual means during the course. Interaction with students is also vital to make the subject interesting.

The first objective of a teacher should be to understand student ability or limitation. This will help a teacher to evaluate a student progress, both qualitative and quantitative for an assignment, or for a module or in a semester Jury.

Bachelor Degree Curriculum Acting - Ist Semester

A. YOGA –

The yogic technique is to help the comprehensive growth of personality at the physical, mental, intellectual, emotional and spiritual levels. It is essential for breathing and Voice Culture.

APPRECIATION COURSES:

The Cinema is a living and complex art form, thus it is mandatory for a student to be acquainted and appreciative to all other art forms like Music, Dance, Painting, Sculpture and Theatre. It is essential that student analyze and appreciate classic, commercial and regional films.

CINEMA: Classics, commercial and regional

MUSIC: Classical forms as well as folk.

PAINTING: From Cave Painting, to classical and modern

SCULPTURE: From Mohen-jo-daro to present master craftsman

DANCE: From Classical to modern & folk dance form

B. ACTING – Part I

A study of self and application to Acting:

This Course will endeavor to draw out, mould and redefine each individual by extending the Actor's apparatus of body and voice, focusing their imagination and sensitively with their physical and emotional recourses. Increase general awareness of (environment, experience and personality corroborated with techniques and skill in acting.)

VOICE & SPEECH –

How voice work, (why the voice does not work)

The Freeing process (The spine, the support of breath)

BREATHING –

The source of Sound

The touch of Sound

Vibration that amplify the initial sound

The channel of Sound

Releasing voice from the body – range

Breathing power, the centre
Articulation of vocal development
Relaxation & breathing
Muscularity & words
The whole voice & the using of voice
Rhythm, timing and singing

C. CULTURAL HERITAGE –

Those of us who now stay in this world are in many ways connected to all those who lived here before us. We may have new technologies and modern conveniences but we share the same heart, space and energy or life force that flowed through their bodies. The observation of life's greatest lessons is for us to read & listen to and be aware of our heritage

Indian history provides the understanding of our land, society, religion, political development from ancient to modern times and illustrate richness of our Folk Culture.

(The Discovery of India by Jawaharlal Nehru is a suitable book and the Tele serial 'Bharat ek Khoj' by Shyam Bengal can be previewed along with lectures by Historical Commentators.)

D. COMPUTER APPLICATION -

To explain in simple language how computer work and how to write a simple program in BASIC. How Computer can be made use of in various fields of human activity including in Cinema & T.V:

- Awareness about Computers and their capability
- Various components of Computer
- Flowcharts & problem solving with Computers
- Data storage & representation within a Computer
- Software describing need for Computer language
- Broad overview of application in various fields including Arts
- Making of Power point Presentations

E. LANGUAGE -

Language means use of words in an agreed way as a means of human communication; System of words of particular community, country. Faculty of speech. Style of expression.

It is necessary for any discipline but most important for an Actor as means of communication. So it is necessary to know origin of classical literature and regional literature of India, as introduction for future lessons starting with Sanskrit and classical Indian literature.

E:1 English Language Course

Details will be worked out by faculty based on standard of English – spoken & written by Admitted students.

Bachelor 1st Year IInd Semester

A. YOGA –

ASNAS
PRANAYAM

B. APPRECIATION COURSES:

Art and Beauty and the reverence that is due to all that has evoked human genius or has inspired human faith independent of creeds and common religion of all mankind:

- Introduction to Temple Arts
- Miniature Painting
- Introduction to Natya Shastra
- Modern Art

C. ACTING – Part II

1. Improvisation:

Through improvisation, silent and word oriented, students learn to see, to hear, believe, react, observe and concentrate. The focus will be on the self, The self and others and self & society

a) Its Nature & Purpose:

- What is improvising;
- Background of improvisation
- Children Play's
- An Actor's Training
- Improvisation in Theatre & its application to Cinema and T.V and other medias
- Improvisation as physical Therapy
 - Acting & Responding
 - Living & Responding
 - Growth of individual as a person
 - Growth as an Actor

b) Without using a Text:

- Beginning & Developing Improvisation
- Development of concentration & spontaneity
- Stimulating the Imagination
- Dramatic Shaping & Communication (Adaptation, emotion & sense of truth)
- Building Characterization
- Developing group relationships and extending awareness
- Exploring of Mood & Feeling
- Building a play from Improvisation (Through Practical Exercises)

c) Using Text:

- Understanding the Nature of a Dramatic Text
- Seeing the play as a living whole
- Understanding the kind of play
- Sensing the shape and rhythm
- Knowing the characters
- Creating the atmosphere
- Reality outside the text
- Collaborating the language & Imagery
- Relating visual to the text

2. Movement:

a) Body:

- Preparation of Bodily work:
- Warm up techniques
- Proper alignment
- Proper balance of Tension & Relaxation
- Understanding own body
- Understanding of personal mannerism
- Understanding basic movement like space, time, energy etc
- Understanding of mind, spirit & body connection
- Body loosening, stretching, turning laziness and
- Resistance to work freely
- Overcoming the inhibition & creation of group confidence
- Overcoming physical fear – falling, rolling, physical thrust, acrobatic balance
- Development of Stamina
- Energizing the body
- Playing with moods of energy
- Activating & loosening of spine
- Learning to use parts of body – Separately and together (All Organs)
- Elements of Facial Masks- Hair, Eyebrows, Forehead, Eyelids, Eyeball, Nose, Cheeks, Upperlips, Mouth, Tongue, Lower Lips, Teeth, Jaw, Chin

Body Rhythm & Dance –

- The dance of the Body
- Dance of an object
- Dance of a costume
- Dance in space
- Dance with text
- Rhythm of hands & feets
- Rhythm on an instrument
- Acting body improvisation with through Music & Painting

b) VOICE & SPEECH & IMAGINATION -

- **What is Voice Acting:**
Theatre, Television, Radio, Multimedia, as Actor, News Readers and Anchor
- **Taking care of voice**
Exercising Voice
Correcting speech problems and habits
Unclear diction or speech clarity
- Lack of mobility in the face, jaws, lips
- Voice & Body exercise
- Elements of voice Acting performance; Pacing; Volume; Range; Articulation; Diction; Rhythm; Timing; Phasing
- Script Analysis, Scene work and Group discussion
- Debating, Radio & T.V Speech
- Storytelling, Reading with meaning & imagination
- Reading of Script for Cinema, T.V, Radio
- Discovering & Releasing the voice within
- Embodiment of the Voice & Speech – Melody, Songs, Chant, Voice in space
- Relation of body and voice

D. SKILLS

- **Basic Knowledge of Photography.**
 - Still Camera & Processing of film negative/Positive.
Practical Photo Shooting.
 - Movie Camera.
 - TV Camera.

- **Basic knowledge of Sound Recording**
 - Sound Equipment,
Practical of Sound recording of own voice.
- **Basic Knowledge of Editing**
 - Editing & Equipment,
Practical of viewing Editing.

E. CULTURAL HISTORY & HERITAGE:

- Brief introduction of civilizations like Roman, Greek, Mahenjodaro etc (6 lectures)
- Awareness of social problems of caste, creed, religion and gender. (10 lectures).
- Awareness of Environment.
- Introduction with NGO groups.

F. LANGUAGES:

- Translations of Regional Languages plays; to give the feeling of the language, problems and characteristics of the regions.
- Reading & interactive sessions of Bio Graphics & Autobiographic of playwrights to give insight to playwrights approach to playwriting

Bachelor IIInd Year IIIrd Semester

A. YOGA & MEDITATION–

ASNAS
PRANAYAMS

B. APPRECIATION COURSES:

- Concept Beauty in all forms, (Change your thoughts and you change your world). New knowledge is most valuable commodity on Earth. The more truth we have to work with, the richer we become).
- Natya Shastra- Bhava, Rasa etc.
- Application of Film language- (Practical).

C. SKILLS

- Acting before camera (Audio & Video) (Practical).
- Comparison how screen differs from stage acting

D. ACTING (Specialization) – Part III

The Actor is to reproduce credible reality character on stage of screen by training in a systematic way. Many theories have been propounded from Bharat Muni's Natya Shastra. (Angika, Bachika, Aharya, Sawiika, Saswatiq, Rasa, & Bhawa etc.) to stanislavisky's Acting methodology, to Sanford meisener technique to increase students critical thinking skill for Actor's characterization. (Theory)

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| ▪ Game for Actor | (Practical) |
| ▪ Acting in classical Indian Drama | “ |
| ▪ Acting in classical Greek Drama | “ |
| ▪ Theatre techniques & Design | “ |
| ▪ Production Process
(Methodology of Production & Direction) | “ |
| ▪ Makeup, Costumes & Props. | “ |
| ▪ Performing Short scenes. | “ |

E. CULTURAL HISTORY & HERITAGE:

Inheritance of heritage is primarily from Religious, traditional folk forms of Music, Dance, Drama. Understanding of these forms by observing various forms gives the students the realization how spontaneously these forms are accepted by the people.

The tradition of oral myths and their rendering in various forms including the martial dance forms such as Kalariaputu, Chhau, Thanta. (Theory & Practical).

F. LANGUAGES:

- PREPARATION of Script from Regional Language plays for production (Theory).
- Production of short plays for shooting (Practical).
- Interactive session with play wrights (Practical)
- Designers & Director

Book Reference: Stanislavski “Building a character”.
Actor Training edited by Alison Hodge.

Bachelor IIInd Year IVth Semester

A. YOGA & MEDITATION–

- Demonstration by each student

B. SKILLS

- Making of Set Models, Costume & Mask etc. (Practical).

C. ACTING (Production Oriented) – Part IV

- Audition Skill – (Cold Reading, Monologues & Dialogues)
- Comedy Scenes.
- Mime & Mimicry & folk forms.
- Studio Tours,
- Sessions with Directors / Actors.
- Working on scenes for plays/ screen plays for basic concepts of approaching a scene work with Expert Acting, Film Craft & Theatre Experts.

D. CULTURAL HISTORY & HERITAGE:

- Creative Writing (Scripts). (Practical)

E. LANGUAGES:

- Writing Play Assignments for Production before Audience.

Bachelor IIIrd Year Vth Semester

A. YOGA & MEDITATION–

- Optional

B. ACTING SPECIALIZATION - Production of Play (Practical) – Part V

- Acting in full/ short play - Sanskrit.
- Acting in full play - Indian
- Acting in full play - Greek (translation)
- Acting in full/short play - Shakespeare (translation)
- Acting for Film /TV Scenes.
- Sessions with Film Director, Music Director, Cameraman, Sound Recordist & Editor (Interaction with P.G. Students).
- Visiting Studios.

C. PRODUCTION OF PLAY BEFORE THE AUDIENCE

- At various places i.e on stage/streets and other locations of the country.

Bachelor IIIrd Year - VIth (Internship & Final Project), Semester

Internship – All students to take an internship programme either at Institute studios or at any other media facility or private studio anywhere in India

Under the supervision of a guide approved by Institute, Students would act for a video programme/film programme of 10-minute duration where he/she has played a major role..

Not only this, all Acting Students must act in various degree projects undertaken by Direction Students of Master Degree Programme.