KINGSBOROUGH COMMUNITY COLLEGE The City University of New York

CURRICULUM TRANSMITTAL COVER PAGE

Revised/Augl.2018/AK



TO: Fall 2018 Curriculum Committee

FROM: Department of Communications & Performing Arts

DATE: 10/16/18

RE: Change in Course Description, THA 5200, Acting I: Fundamentals of Acting

The Department of Communications & Performing Arts is proposing a change in Course Description for THA 52: Acting I: Fundamentals of Acting

FROM:

This class introduces students to the fundamental concepts of basic acting technique including actions, beat analysis, vocal technique, emotional memory and physical awareness. Students will explore these concepts, as well as other theories and details associated with the Stanislavski acting system through lecture, readings, writing assignments and class discussion, as well as explore the actor's creative process through acting exercises and the rehearsal and presentation of scripted material.

TO:

This survey course serves as an introduction to the theories, techniques, histories and applications of modern acting. Students will study fundamental concepts associated with Stanislavski acting theory including action/objective, beat analysis, vocal technique, emotional memory and physical awareness. Students will explore and apply these and other theories through various writing and reading assignments, as well as the interpretation and performance of diverse works of dramatic literature.

RATIONALE FOR CHANGE:

Our rationale for making this change is twofold. First, we are attempting to have the course designated as a Pathways approved course (i.e., in the category of Creative Expression) and as such we want our course description to reflect the liberal arts category of dramatic interpretation in order to distinguish it from classes that focus on skills acquisition. As such our course description should emphasize that the course is a survey/introduction to understanding acting that involves studying history/theories and completing significant reading and writing assignments. Students will participate in acting exercises and those exercises will be texts that students can

write analytical papers about and be exercises that will require students to do historical and theoretical research in advance of presentation. This class is accessible to all and does not require any previous skill or knowledge of acting to participate and the new description better captures the essence of the class as it exists currently.

Second, in advance of preparing this paperwork we discovered that three other schools had already received Creative Expression designations under Pathways (e.g., Hostos, Queensborough Community College, and Bronx Community College). When reviewing these courses and their descriptions we realized that these course descriptions emphasized the study of history and theory and this helped them greatly in making the case for a Pathways designation. Thus we are making this change to make our course consistent with how the same courses appear under Pathways on other CUNY campuses.