

Program Outline

The Professional Actor 101

Program Description

The Professional Actor is a hybrid of the classic, core fundamentals used by actors for centuries with the modern, essential skills needed to work in today's professional acting industry.

Learning Objectives

Successful graduates will be able to dissect and identify the structural elements of a script. They will be able to access variations on command through grounded performances and presence exercises. They will have greater control of their body and voice so they can create different characters and sounds through the different physical resonators and positions. Students will be able set, measure, and reset short term and long-term goals to ensure ongoing creative and professional progress.

Methods of Evaluation

Students will be evaluated prior to 30% of the way into the program and again at the end of the program in each individual class. These will be a combination of written exams and performance-based evaluation. Students will receive written and oral feedback at both the first test, prior to 30%, and after the final exam.

Completion Requirements

Students must receive a minimum of 60% on their final evaluation at year end and attend a minimum of 80% of the program in order to successfully graduate.

Delivery Methods

In-class instruction

Career Occupation

The Professional Actor 101 prepares actors for careers on stage and in film and television.

Admission Requirements

To qualify for Story Institute programs applicants must have a strong work ethic and an insatiable willingness to learn. Applicants will be interviewed by a Director or member of the school's admissions team where they will have an opportunity to exhibit their ability to take direction and showcase their preparation abilities via a prepared audition piece and written or video essay based on assigned homework for the interview.

This program requires applicants to have graduated from grade 12 (or equivalent) or being 19 years of age before the start of classes.

Applicants must be able to pass the IELTS test with a minimum overall score of **6.5**, with a minimum score of **6.0** in each category for the Academic test.

Credential: Diploma

Required Text Books

- Save the Cat! by Blake Snyder
- The War of Art by Steven Pressfield
- The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People by Stephen R. Covey

Equipment Required

- Access to a computer, a printer, and the internet
- Notebook and pens
- Flash Drive
- Laptop or Smartphone with internet access

Program Duration

24 weeks

Homework Hours

Students may be required to do anywhere from 1-2 hours of homework a day, depending on their memorization abilities.

Attendance Expectations

Students must attend 80% or more of the program hours in order to graduate.

Dress Expectations

Students will be expected to dress in casual, comfortable clothing that allows for easy movement for the various physical exercises. Costumes may be necessary during certain classes and will be prescribed in advance, to be provided by the student.

Program Organization

The Professional Actor 101 consists of a total of 5 courses running over 24 weeks:

Scene Study	96 Hours
Voice-Overs	96 Hours
Audition	96 Hours
Career Development	96 Hours
Improv	96 Hours

Total Hours	480 Hours
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Each element of The Professional Actor 101 is essential to preparing the student for work. All of our instructors have extensive resumes in professional acting with recent credits in the current industry.

Delivery Method(s)

In-class instruction

Program Term by Term - The Professional Actor 101

The Professional Actor 101 (Term 1)

Audition	48 hours
Voice-Overs	48 Hours
Career Development	48 hours
Scene Study	48 hours
Improv	48 hours

The Professional Actor 101 (Term 2)

Audition	48 hours
Voice-Overs	48 Hours
Career Development	48 hours
Scene Study	48hours
Improv	48 hours

Total Hours	480 hours
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Course Outline

The Professional Actor 101 – Audition

Course Outline

The ability to interview for the job requires the same level of training and skill development as actually performing the job. Unlike job interviews in most other careers, the professional actor is often given 5 minutes or less to showcase their skills for the available job opportunity. The four key elements to every audition are be prepared, be efficient, be professional, and be capable of direction. This course will cover the technical aspects of everything from eyelines to performing multiple scenes with the organic elements of truthful emotional connection and grounded work.

Course Prerequisites

- A strong work ethic and willingness to learn. These requirements will be evaluated at the time of audition for the program.

Required Course Materials

- Audition Workbook

Course Duration

- Once a week, over 26 weeks (minus the two-weeks of vacation).

Homework Hours

- This varies from week to week and will range anywhere from 1 – 2 hours.

Learning Objectives

The successful professional actor is the one who can consistently deliver truthful and well-prepared performances in the audition room and is capable of understanding and applying new direction within seconds.

Topics covered include:

- What do you need/want from your scene partner?
- Who are you specifically talking to in the scene?
- Obstacles and Tactics
- Identifying and applying parallels
- The times of our life (period, day, life)
- Character
- Expectations
- Essence
- The beats
- Props & Wardrobe
- Eyelines
- Taking direction
- Performing multiple scenes
- Researching roles and shows
- Monologues
- Commercials

Teaching Methods

- Lectures
- Research Assignments
- Oral Presentations
- Interactive Discussions between students and instructor and/or guest speakers

Course Resources

- Handouts
- Industry Guests

Method(s) of Student Evaluation

- Formative, Summative, Process, Outcomes, and Impact.

Completion Requirements

- Students must meet the minimum attendance requirements and maintain a grade of 65% or higher to pass this course.

Course Outline

The Professional Actor 101 – Career Planning

Course Outline

A professional actor is required to put as much energy into their business as they place into their craft if they desire long-term results. The responsibility of overseeing all aspects on the actor's business from research and development to marketing to branding, to everything in between rests with the professional actor. While the professional actor will often work with other people throughout their career in the form of agents, managers, publicists, photographers, accountants, and many more they are effectively the CEO of their company and must be accountable for all areas of their career.

Course Prerequisites

- A strong work ethic and willingness to learn. These requirements will be evaluated at the time of audition for the program.

Required Course Materials

- Notebook and pens
- Laptop or Smartphone (not required for all classes)

Course Duration

- Once a week, over 26 weeks (minus the two-weeks of vacation). This course is scheduled on Mondays, when most statutory holidays occur, and thus it is slightly less hours than the other courses over the same time frame of weeks.

Homework Hours

- This varies from week to week and will range anywhere from 0 hours to as many as 4 hours.

Learning Objectives

The successful professional actor is the one who understands how to set and measure short-term and long-term goals through effective habits and planning.



Topics covered include:

- Orientation
- Building Successful Habits
- Goal Setting & Assessing
- The Casting Process
- Identifying Hits & Creating a Brand
- Unions
- Agents
- Promotional Materials – headshots, resumes, web sites, imdb, show reels
- Social Media Training & Creation
- Industry Guest Speakers
- Accounting, Taxes, & Budgeting
- Networking & Team Building
- O-1 Visas & Green Cards
- Set Etiquette & Crew Roles

Teaching Methods

- Lectures
- Written Assignments
- Research Assignments
- Oral Presentations
- Interactive Discussions between students and instructor and/or guest speakers

Course Resources

- Handouts
- Course Books
- Industry Guests
- Videos & Audio Books

Method(s) of Student Evaluation

- Formative, Summative, Process, Outcomes, and Impact.

Completion Requirements

- Students must meet the minimum attendance requirements and maintain a grade of 65% or higher to pass this course.

Course Outline

The Professional Actor 101 – Improv

Course Outline

The craft of improvisation has become primarily known as a performance showcase based on games and short-form handles like we've seen on shows like Whose Line is it Anyway? In reality, improvisation is both a showcase format as well as a explorative tool required for both preparation and performance. This skill set allows the professional actor the ability to develop an understanding of story, character, and all foundational elements to a level where they can instinctually make choices without needing rehearsal or a script.

Course Prerequisites

- A strong work ethic and willingness to learn. These requirements will be evaluated at the time of audition for the program.

Required Course Materials

- N/A

Course Duration

- Once a week, over 26 weeks (minus the two-weeks of vacation).

Homework Hours

- N/A

Learning Objectives

To understand the core elements and design of story and character that allows the actor to make spontaneous choices that serve the story.



Topics covered include:

- Goals
- Obstacles & Tactics
- Scene structure
- Story structure
- Active listening
- Multiple choices
- Accepting Offers
- Relationships
- Applying direction efficiently
- Making strong choices
- Conflict
- Status
- Primal Motivations
- Animal Work
- Archetypes
- Taking Direction
- Active Listening
- Subtext

Teaching Methods

- Lectures
- Oral Presentations
- Interactive Discussions between students and instructor and/or guest speakers

Course Resources

- Handouts

Method(s) of Student Evaluation

- Formative, Summative, Process, Outcomes, and Impact.

Completion Requirements

- Students must meet the minimum attendance requirements and maintain a grade of 65% or higher to pass this course.

Course Outline

The Professional Actor 101 – Scene Study

Course Outline

This module explores the classic foundations of acting in the form of words, actions, emotional life, and physical life. These are the building blocks in which all other modules refer back to in their development and exploration. Starting from grounding performances to emotional accessibility, to text analysis and character study.

Course Prerequisites

- A strong work ethic and willingness to learn. These requirements will be evaluated at the time of audition for the program.

Required Course Materials

- Notebook and pens

Course Duration

- Once a week, over 26 weeks (minus the two-weeks of vacation)..

Homework Hours

- This varies from week to week and will range anywhere from 2-4 hours.

Learning Objectives

To understand and implement various skills and systems throughout each stage of the process from research to analysis to the final performance.

Topics covered include:

- Grounding
- Goals
- Relationships
- Obstacles & Tactics
- Parallels
- Time (period, Day, Life)
- Character
- Expectations
- Essence
- The Beats
- Conflict
- Emotional Changes
- Subtext
- Identifying the Facts
- Creating Business
- Working with Props and Wardrobe
- The Moment Before
- Revesing Roles

Teaching Methods

- Lectures
- Research Assignments
- Interactive Discussions between students and instructor and/or guest speakers

Course Resources

- Handouts
- Course Books
- Industry Guests
- Videos & Audio Books

Method(s) of Student Evaluation

- Formative, Summative, Process, Outcomes, and Impact.

Completion Requirements

- Students must meet the minimum attendance requirements and maintain a grade of 65% or higher to pass this course.

Course Outline

The Professional Actor 101 – Voice-Over

Course Outline

This multi-faceted course has a primary focus of providing the skills needed to work in today's lucrative animation, radio, and video game industries, and also helps the actor develop the vocal range and diversity required for stage and on-camera work.

Course Prerequisites

- A strong work ethic and willingness to learn. These requirements will be evaluated at the time of audition for the program.

Required Course Materials

- Notebook and pens

Course Duration

- Once a week, over 26 weeks (minus the two-weeks of vacation).

Homework Hours

- This varies from week to week and will range anywhere from 2- 4 hours.

Learning Objectives

To develop a proper system for vocal care and repair and to diversify and solidify vocal range that can be utilized and accessed on command.

Topics covered include:

- Learning and Respecting the equipment
- Goals
- Relationships
- Obstacles & Tactics
- Parallels
- The 8 Tones of Selling
- Narration
- Walla
- Taking Direction
- Voice Matching
- Working with the Beeps
- Finding what's not on the page
- Archetypes
- Animal Work
- Exploring Range
- Building a Home Studio
- VCreating a voice-Over Demo

Teaching Methods

- Lectures
- Written Assignments
- Research Assignments
- Oral Presentations
- Interactive Discussions between students and instructor and/or guest speakers

Course Resources

- Handouts
- Industry Guests
- Videos & Audio Books

Method(s) of Student Evaluation

- Formative, Summative, Process, Outcomes, and Impact.

Completion Requirements

- Students must meet the minimum attendance requirements and maintain a grade of 65% or higher to pass this course.