

Introduction to Acting

The Actors Centre is a renowned advanced professional development centre dedicated to supporting professional actors.

Our course 'Introduction to Acting' is a fun, informative and engaging course, aimed to provide a basic introduction to the acting profession. This is ideally suited to those inquisitive about an acting career, or those looking to gain techniques to enhance their day to day communication. The workshop will be taught by a tutor from the Actors Centre's regular programme for professional actors.

Text and Scene Work

You will work with both contemporary and classic texts, exploring ways of approaching plays and developing character, motive and a compelling performance. We will explore Shakespeare's verse, unravel the clues in his text and discover how the rhythms and structures of the language inform meaning and enable the character to shine through.

Improvisation and Devising

Improvisation can be used as a rehearsal tool as well as a path to spontaneous and imaginative acting. You will grow in confidence, learn to trust others and gain skills that can be applied to rehearsal and performance. This will develop into devising scenes, and you will work with fellow participants to create a world around your character. We will explore the idea of actor as writer, and how you can build a piece from scratch.

Please wear loose clothing for all sessions, and be prepared to work in bare feet and move a lot during movement work.

TUTOR

Laurence Mitchell

Laurence trained at Drama Centre and has been working as an actor for over 18 years. Theatre work includes the National, Young Vic, Old Vic, Almeida, RSC, Soho, Lyric Hammersmith and Manchester Royal Exchange among others. He has taught at Central, Drama Centre, ALRA, Central St Martins and is a visiting tutor at the Copenhagen International School for the Performing Arts.

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

We expect that you will adhere to the same professional codes of conduct and behaviour that we expect of our members. Please read and practice the following codes of conduct during your time here. When professional conduct is jeopardised, the Actors Centre reserves the right to refuse or remove participants from the course.

1. Please arrive 10 minutes before class begins. There is no excuse for lateness, and the tutor has the right to refuse entry to the class.
2. Please read through the course structure and content and prepare any scenes or coursework that has been assigned. It is your responsibility to ensure you are fully prepared for each session.
3. If you will be late or cannot attend a class, please contact the membership department in advance or reception on the day on 020 3841 6601 so that the tutor can be informed and adjust their lesson accordingly.
4. Do remember that there are other workshops going on in the Actors Centre and there will often be a performance happening in the Tristan Bates Theatre during your course. Please be considerate when moving around the building during break times and keep noise levels to a minimum.
5. Please do not eat food in the studios or rehearsal rooms.
6. No violence, abuse, or harassment of any form will be tolerated on the premises.
7. The Actors Centre takes no responsibility for any items brought to, or left on the premises.
8. All participants must sign in and out at reception.
9. Participants attend workshops at their own risk.
10. The course is taught in a way that aims to replicate closely the professional rehearsal room and the self-discipline, creative risk-taking and professional work ethic involved in being a professional actor. As such, we ask participants to treat these sessions with professionalism, and respect the other participants and tutor. Participants whose behaviour is deemed to be detrimental to the quality of the session for the majority may be asked to leave a session.

Thank you for your interest in participating in our 'Introduction to Acting' course at The Actors Centre. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call reception on 020 3841 6601 or you can email us at: reception@actorscentre.co.uk