

Acting & Improv–Course Syllabus
2026-2027
Mrs. Fisher

Course Overview:

In this course, students will learn the building blocks of acting and comedy improvisation to build confidence, creativity, public speaking skills, and learn how to be present in the moment. For improv focused classes, we will all get on our feet and use our imaginations to play stimulating games, build scenes, and invent characters in a supportive and collaborative environment. Acting based classes will revolve around learning the fundamentals of stage acting through engaging with different acting methods and performing monologues and scenes (ranging from comedic to dramatic acting.) No prior experience necessary-acting and improv has a place for every student whether you're soft-spoken or naturally theatrical.

Areas of Study:

- Voice and body work
- Monologues and scenework from published plays
- Scene analysis
- Accents and dialects
- Introduction to various acting methods
- Comedy acting
- Dramatic/slice of life acting
- Personal reflections
- Introduction to Shakespearian acting
- Short form improv games
- Long form improv
- Pantomime/object work
- Active listening
- Support and teamwork
- Intro to sketch comedy
- Intro to clowning

Expectations:

- The students are expected to follow all policies and procedures outlined in the Torah High School handbook.
- The students are expected to be respectful of other students' performances and collaboration.
- The students are expected to practice acting exercises, monologues, scenes etc outside of class when required.

Grading:

Grades will be determined by the following components: attendance/participation, class performances, and reflections. The breakdown for your grade is as follows:

- 40% Attendance and Participation
 - One absence per semester is excused until it impacts your grade (three tardies will count as one absence). Will be flexible for extenuating circumstances.
 - **This is a participation-based class. Since the work relies on you being present and acting/improvising on your feet, it is almost impossible to make up the work.**
- 40% Class Performances
 - Grading on class performances does not mean the student is graded on how “good” they are at acting but rather how prepared and engaged they are (off-script, rehearsing outside of class, trying new things, taking risks, etc).
- 20% Written Reflections