



What to Expect in Verve's Scene Study Class

Before your first class

Buy Uta Hagen's *A CHALLENGE FOR THE ACTOR* and start reading it. Be familiar with *THE SIX STEPS* and the Exercises (Parts One and Two of the book).

Find something you would like to work on: both a scene and a monologue. Scenes should be no longer than 4 minutes and monologues should be no longer than 2 ½ minutes. All material should be from published plays. Prepare your monologue to put up at class. You are allowed to use the script at the first class, so don't panic if you don't have time to memorize and polish it. (You are strongly encouraged to have it memorized however.)

At the first class

There will be new students and continuing students in the class. Before your first class is over, we will go over the Welcome packet contents and make sure that we are all on the same page. You are encouraged to bring a notebook and tape-recorder to class. During class, new actors will put up their individual work- a prepared monologue (from a read-through to a work-through to a performance level) and actors who have already been in class will be putting up scenes or exercises/monologues. BE FAMILIAR with the entire play and the monologue. I'll be asking you a lot of questions about it. You will have an opportunity to pair up and select a scene partner for the next week's class.

After the first class

Work on your scenes, monologues or exercises diligently. If you have chosen a scene and a scene partner, exchange phone numbers and rehearse. Class is not a substitute for rehearsal – work must be memorized and prepared. E-mail Amanda@VerveStudio.net by Sunday afternoon, 2 pm every week to let her know what piece you will be putting up the next day at class and what type of room it takes place in. The scene order is posted prior to class starting.

At every class

Come prepared (work ready, props and wardrobe) and be punctual. Class will start promptly at 6:30 pm. Doors open at 6:15 pm. Bring any last minute tuition payments and/or paperwork. Expect to work right up until 9:30 pm. Bring props and wardrobe and make your space real.

Be prepared to do a self-evaluation after every piece you put up. Amanda will ask you what you felt worked, what didn't work and why. She will also share my observations. Time permitting; she will request you to do a portion of the scene again with the adjustments in mind. You may continue on the same piece (monologue or scene) for as many weeks as you and she feel is necessary. You do not need to prepare something new for each week. Monologues and Scene Work can be done for a few weeks or more, depending on your progression.

Be willing to get in touch with your emotions. Do your homework. Do not judge others or offer your own suggestions. Amanda is not a harsh coach, but is honest. And she wants you to develop a sense of honesty about your own work as well. She wants you to create truthful, organic moment-to-moment life on stage on a weekly basis. You can learn much by observing others work.

Congratulations on taking this step and welcome to class!