New School for Drama M. F. A. in Acting

Learning Outcomes:

(1) Actors will demonstrate the ability to contribute positively and productively to the collaborative process with playwrights and directors in all theatrical styles.

(2) Actors will seamlessly integrate the disciplines of acting, voice and movement, allowing them to research, analyze, prepare and execute a truthful, complete and compelling character appropriate to storytelling as outlined by a text.

(3) Actors have developed and will demonstrate a supple, strong, enlivened and expressive body fully capable of transformation, that freely, imaginatively and artistically expresses the demands of the character in any style and dramatic medium.

(4) Actors have developed and will demonstrate a resonant, supple and expressive voice that is fully capable of communicating freely, imaginatively, intelligibly, and truthfully the needs of character in any style and dramatic medium.

(5) By the end of the third year, actors will demonstrate an understanding of the professional landscape and an ability to meet the expectations and criteria of a professional actor in the casting, rehearsal and production process.
New School for Drama M.F.A. in Directing

Learning Outcomes:

Directors will be able to:

(1) Master text analysis and story structure, breaking down the action of a play through its events and characters.

(2) Work effectively and collaboratively with playwrights on the development of new plays, mastering effective skills in giving positive and useful feedback and identifying issues that exist within a new work in the midst of its development toward production.

(3) Analyze Classic texts, particularly the works of Shakespeare, work effectively to direct actors in Shakespeare and to evolve complete production concepts, including all aspects of design, for plays of Shakespeare.

(4) Demonstrate a clear understand of theatre history as it relates to the development of dramatic history from the Greeks to the present day and both traditional and non-traditional approaches to directing both in the US and Europe.

(5) Demonstrate an understanding of and ability to collaborate with actors and playwrights to create “devised” work, based on original and/or adapted material.

(6) Synthesize all aspects of their education into the direction of two full length productions; one of an extant play of their choosing and the other a premiere of a new work written by a member of the playwriting cohort. Students will be able to use all aspects of the directors craft; analysis of the script, conceiving and executing designs with a creative team within a set and limited budget, while leading and managing all artistic and technical aspects of the production.
New School for Drama M.F.A. in Playwriting

Learning Outcomes:

(1) 1st year playwrights will master techniques to access personal, emotional truths and translate them into emotionally honest, dramatically compelling work.

(2) 2nd year playwrights will write a one-act play and refine and rewrite the text in collaboration with the director and actors during the rehearsal and presentation process.

(3) By the end of the 2nd year, playwrights will be able to identify and analyze each element of a play's construction and apply that skill to the preparation, planning and outlining of their own work.

(4) 3rd year students will engage with an advisor as well as a producer or dramaturg, both in dialogue and in rewrites, in a process that closely mirrors the demands, skills and responsibilities expected of them in the professional world.

(5) By the end of the 3rd year, playwrights will demonstrate a thorough understanding of dramatic structure, as analyzed in extant full-length plays and applied to their own original full-length play.