

Addendum to Winter 2020-Summer 2021 Catalog

Revised March 20, 2020, October 29, 2020

(Italicized information indicates revisions)

Coronavirus Pandemic:

The Covid-19 Pandemic has placed the entire world into unprecedented situations, and as the rest of the world, The Lee Strasberg Theatre & Film Institute in Los Angeles ceased in-person operations on March 13, 2020. The County of Los Angeles instituted a stay-at-home order for 30 days that was then extended.

On September 30th, the State of California issued reopening protocols for higher education and a new color coded reopening tier for the State.

As of October 29, 2020, Los Angeles County remains in the most restrictive reopening tier (purple) and the Institute's operations are forced to remain online. The Institute is planning to remain completely online based on current trends for the Winter 2020 term and hopes to institute some hybrid in-person classes for the Spring 2021 term. All plans are contingent on the County meeting the requirements to move into at least the red tier where Higher Education can resume in-person instruction at 25% capacity.

The Lee Strasberg Institute is committed to your health, well-being, and training. Courage, patience, and perseverance are hallmarks of work in theatre and in all the arts disciplines. Positive attitudes are important elements in building the strength and cohesion necessary for success in any time, and especially in difficult times. Setbacks and frustrations should not daunt us, but rather teach us, and inspire ever greater success.

Current realities will not last indefinitely, our individual and collective efforts and work can and will lead us through these challenging times.

Updated Term Dates:

Spring 2020: April 20-July 2* **Summer 2020:** July 6-September 18* **Fall 2020:** September 21-December 11

*Week 12 classes will meet on the weekend

Associate of Occupational Studies (8/10/2020): Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, the Fall 2020 enrollment of the AOS degree program has been deferred until Winter 2021. The expected graduation date has not changed; however the Summer vacation period has been shortened from 3 months to 3 weeks. Find the updated Curricular Guide [here](#)

Application deadlines have also been extended: **International- Nov. 20, 2020 Domestic-December 4, 2020**

Pandemic Relief Scholarship: The Institute implemented a Pandemic Relief Scholarship fund April 3, 2020 for those students who are financially impacted by the Pandemic. The Scholarship fund is available to all accepted students. Application and deadlines are posted on the website (Current & New Student pages).

Intensives (9/1/2020): Short-term (2-week) Intensive offerings will be on hold until in-person classes resume.

Veterans (10/1/2020): From the Department of Veteran's Affairs: "With the passage of H.R.8337 - Continuing Appropriations Act, 2021 and Other Extensions Act, the special COVID rules have been extended to December 21, 2021. Among other things, Post 9/11 GI Bill students who pursue resident courses converted to an online modality solely due to COVID 19 will continue to receive the MHA rate for resident training.

We will provide more information soon via our [FAQ page.](#)"

Library: The Institute implemented an Online Library Play Database through ProQuest on September 25, 2020 for all enrolled students. This program grants students access to thousands of plays online, which is especially vital in this period where we are forced into online instruction, and students do not have access to the Institute's physical library. Even when in-person operations resume, the online library will still be available vastly increasing the students' accessibility to plays and dramatic works.

Course Descriptions (additions) 6/30/2020:

Playwrights of Color: Discovering Underrepresented Voices: Most artists' voices in the country are underrepresented. There is only one group that is readily visible and that is Caucasian males. In this class, we will explore the extraordinary Other voices in playwriting that have been recognized with Pulitzer Prize awards and nominations, circulating through works from women, Black, Latinx, Asian, Native American, and LGBTQ+ playwrights.

The purpose of this course is to discover how to read and analyze plays both as literature and from an actor's perspective. We will be exploring each playwright's intention and each play's structure, tone, style, language, and relevance. We will be discussing how to craft your own personal connection with the material and characters.

Filmmaking for the Actor: Filmmaking for Actor will empower actors to write, prep, shoot and edit your own short films, to test your ideas, to develop your voice, to write and rewrite, to consider production issues, production design, shooting, etc., to see the shooting period as another rewrite, and to do the final rewrite as you edit.

The course will not focus on the technology but rather on emotional storytelling and how to capture good storytelling imaginatively. Students will each write a short script with limited production challenges, prep and cast the script, and work either alone or within their circle to shoot their projects.

Lessons from the Harlem Renaissance: Personal Storytelling in Times of Change: The Harlem Renaissance was a time of awakening for the Black artist in America. This class ventures into and asks what the renaissance of today is for artists, inexperienced and experienced alike. Exploring the work of Black playwrights and how they told the stories of their time, students will discover their own way of relating the world around them to their art. This class will pose the question: what is the story of *this* time, as seen by young artists? And it will challenge: how will they tell it?

Policies & Procedures (additions 7/3/2020):

- **ZOOM:** By entering online sessions, I am giving The Institute permission to record and/or share video and photo of the participants (including but not limited to social media, Institute's website and other promotional material). *Please note the Institute will not share sensitive information/material.*
- **CAMERA:** Cameras should remain on during class instruction, unless otherwise instructed. If you need to take a short break or use the restroom, you can privately chat with your instructor to let them know you need to turn your camera off.
- **SPACE:** Prepare your space - make sure to clear the floor if you might be expected to lie down for an exercise. Find a space as quiet and private as possible.
- **RECORDING:** Recording and picture taking of classes is prohibited. Sharing work from class (personal or of classmates) is strictly prohibited without written permission from the instructor and Admin.
- **PRIVACY:** Parents, friends, cousins, roommates should not observe classes. No outside parties should observe.