SYLLABUS – Independent Studies
Instructor: Jackie Rosenfeld
Semester: Fall 2018
Email: rosenfelja@sfasu.edu
Course Number: THR 491
Office Hours: M/W 11-11:50; Tuesday 1-4pm, and by appointment
Office Location: GFNA 221
Meeting Room: GFNA 221
Time: Tue 4-5pm

I. Course Description
This course will include the development of a business plan for Improvisational Theatre consulting in the Austin area as well as a trial implementation of business plan pro bono for three local businesses. The student will also serve as the project lead for a “Violence Against Women” project with the Title IX Office as well as participating in “Adopt a High School” with Improv Strikes Back at a high school within 100 miles of Nacogdoches.

II. Course Objectives
Program Learning Outcomes: This course applies to the following Program Learning Outcomes as identified by the School of Theatre:
1. The student will demonstrate collaborative and/or leadership competencies appropriate to participate or take a leadership role in an effective theatrical production. (A, E, F)
2. The student will demonstrate an understanding of the component areas of theatrical creation, process, production, performance, and study, and their interrelationships. (A, E, F)
3. The student will demonstrate an understanding of the component areas of theatrical creation, process, production, performance, and study, and their interrelationships. (All degree plans.)
4. The student will demonstrate intermediate to advanced competence in one or more theatrical specialization(s). (BA)

Student Learning Outcomes: Students who successfully complete this course will be able to:
1. The student will use knowledge of theatre history to support the execution of the project at a level of effectiveness informed by this background. (PLO#2)
2. The student will effectively collaborate with and/or lead other students in the creation, preparation, production and/or performance of the project. (PLO #3)
3. The student will use an understanding of the component areas of theatrical creation, process, production and performance, and their interrelationships, to make the project effective. (PLO #4)
4. The student will use competence developed in previous courses and productions in a specific area of theatrical endeavor to contribute to the effectiveness of the project. (PLO #6)
5. The student will complete and document the project using tools such as written analyses, prompt scripts, drafting/rendering/modeling, photographs or video- or audiorecordings, journals and self-evaluations, at a level appropriate for that student’s program and classification. (PLO #8)

III. Texts + Materials
Readings will be provided as PDFs at least one week prior to the date by which the reading must be completed.
Notebook for journal reflections
IV. Class Procedures and Policies
School of Theatre Attendance Policy: A career in the fine arts demands dedication and discipline; preparation for this career requires conscientious development of effective work habits. To this end, regular and punctual attendance is expected for all classes, laboratories and other activities for which a student is registered or assigned.
It is University policy to excuse students from class attendance for certain reasons related to health, family emergencies, student working the University Series, and other situations of similar importance. Excused absences from theatre classes will only be granted upon presentation of written documentation from the teacher, sponsor or physician involved upon the first day of the student’s return. In the case of absences caused by university-sponsored events, inclusion in the university's public listing of such absences will constitute an official excuse. It is the student's responsibility to inform the instructor that he/she has scheduled the planned official absence.
A total of TEN excused and/or unexcused absences in MWF classes ... will automatically result in the student receiving a failing grade. Excessive unexcused absences will affect a student’s grade.
In the case of missed classes, the student will be held responsible for the successful completion of assigned work and/or projects.

V. Requirements
- A business plan will be developed by the student to assist in creating a consulting business for teaching Improvisational Theatre in the Austin area. (Draft: 50 points)
- Performance of planned event for “Violence Against Women” with the Title IX Office on October 30, 2018. (100 points)
- Participation in the “Adopt a High School” recruiting activity with Improv Strikes Back (50 points)
- Implementation of business plan pro bono with three local businesses (50 points each)
- A formally written self-evaluation for each session with the three business including successes, failures, and plans for change (Draft: 50 points)
- Journal reflections (no less than 15) on activities during this project including research, feedback, and performances. (100 points)
- A binder including the final draft of Business Plan, Self-Evaluation, and any research materials. (500 points)

VI. Grading Policies
Grading Scale: Final Grades are assigned as follows:
A = 900-1000  B = 800-899  C = 700-799  D = 600-699  F = less than 600

Withheld Grades Semester Grades Policy (A-54): Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of computing the grade point average.

VII. Diversity
This class engages material covering a diverse range of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, marital status, familial status, sexual orientation, and disability. While I
encourage you to formulate and express your thoughts and opinions throughout the semester, discriminatory remarks will not be tolerated.

VIII. Academic Integrity
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one’s own work when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3) incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one’s paper without giving the author due credit. Please read the complete policy at: http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/student_academic_dishonesty.pdf.
You are expected to be in full compliance with both the SFA policy and the School of Theatre policy: SFA policy: Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and plagiarism.
School of Theatre policy: The School of Theatre expects students to maintain the highest standards of academic conduct. Misrepresenting someone else's work as your own or knowingly allowing someone else to represent your work as his/hers constitutes academic dishonesty. Such behavior is antithetical to our work as scholars, as artists, and as members of a community founded on trust and mutual respect. It is an insult to faculty and an affront to honest students. Penalties for academic dishonesty may range from failure of a specific project to failure of the course, suspension from the production season for up to one year, and referral to university authorities for further action, which may include suspension or expulsion from the university.
Please Note: I will trust that you are invested in your own education and will not cheat. Hence, I will not be hovering over your shoulder during exams, etc.. However, this trust should not be confused for a lack of vigilance on my part. If you are caught, I will consider it a violation of personal trust and will not hesitate to penalize you to the full extent possible.

IX. Additional Information
If you have a disability: To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building, and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your accommodations. For additional information, go to http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/.
 Religious observance: If your observance of a religious holiday will prevent you from attending class, please contact me immediately so we can make appropriate arrangements.