Advanced Scene Study
THR 491-015 / 29441
Course Time: varies
Spring 2019

Professor: Rosie Brownlow-Calkin
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Office hours: MWF 8:30-10:30 AM or by appointment
Office: Griffith Fine Arts 225

Course Description
This class will involve the rehearsal and performance of both contemporary and classical scenes, as well as advanced coaching in Olympia Dukakis and Peter Kass’ personalization technique.

Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs)
1) The student will be able to analyze a script in ways that are necessary to a theatre practitioner or scholar/critic. (All Degree Plans)
4) The student will demonstrate an understanding of the component areas of theatrical creation, process, production, performance, and study, and their interrelationships. (All degree plans)
6) The student will demonstrate intermediate to advanced competence in one or more theatre specializations. (BA)
8) The student will be able to complete and document a major project as a stage manager, as a designer or technician, or as an actor or director, demonstrating advanced competence in the student’s specialty. (BFA)
9) The student will be able to present an effective presentation appropriate to the student’s specialization. (BFA)

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)
1) Advanced competence in the technique of personalization, with an emphasis on working deeply (PLO 6)
2) A grasp on how to approach Shakespeare (PLOs 1, 4, 6, 8, 9)
3) The ability to apply personalization to scenework (PLOs 1, 8)
4) An advanced ability to integrate Richard Brestoff’s techniques for approaching a role into the students’ process (PLOs 1, 6, 8, 9)

Grading Policy
Participation / Effort 50%
Preparation of Assignments 50%

Required Reading
None

Classroom Policies
• NO CELL PHONES for any reason. Any instance of cell phone use during class counts as a tardy.
• Please call me by my first name (Rosie) in person and via e-mail.
• No gum chewing or eating are allowed in class.
• Any drinks must be in a non-spill container.
• Wear black clothing that permits you to move freely and comfortably.
• Always come to class with writing utensil and paper.
• Warm up before class.

Guidelines for scenework and monologue work
• Memorize your lines. Memorize them better than you think you need. Set aside several days for this process. It won’t work if you try to jam it in your brain the night before, even if you spend 5 hours doing so. Especially with Shakespeare.
• Preparing for scenework involves substantial rehearsal with your partner before each work session. Preparing for monologue work involves the same, but only with yourself.
• Always read and understand the play.
• Use real props for scenes. They can be stand-ins for the actual object if necessary, but don’t mime. Try to minimize prop use for monologues. Stick to props that you might use during an audition.

Attendance/Tardiness
Because acting happens in the moment and depends on partners and observers showing up, the class suffers when people are absent, and it is impossible to make up work from home. Furthermore, because acting involves a high degree of vulnerability and concentration, latecomers can cause unpleasant disruptions. Therefore, my attendance and tardiness policy is as follows:
• You may miss one without penalty. Please e-mail me in advance so I can make a plan.
• Each absence beyond one lowers your semester grade by 5%.
  Exceptions are made on a case-by-case basis in case of serious emergency or illness and will require documentation. Please let me know if you would like me to consider an exception.
• Three instances of tardiness, cell phone use or leaving class early counts as one absence.

Diversity and Inclusion
This class may engage in material covering a diverse range of race, color, religion, national origin, 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 and may constitute disruptive behavior under the student code of conduct.

Students with Disabilities
Throughout this class you will be asked to share your thoughts in class and in writing. If English is not your first language or if you experience a speech, vision, hearing, or other learning difficulty, please bring this to my attention.

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/