SYLLABUS
APPRECIATION OF ACTING

Spring 2013
Theatre 9 - Appreciation of Acting, Section 6
T/R 2:00 - 3:15
Shasta Hall 101 (Playwrights' Theatre)
Office Hours: Monday/Wed 10:30 - 12:00
And by appointment

Instructor: Mary Robinson
Office: Shasta 140
Phone: 278-6702
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COURSE DESCRIPTION
This class is designed to give students a familiarity with the art of acting, both as an observer and as a participant. Since there is no prerequisite, this class may serve for many as an introduction to the language, terms and concepts of theatre, as well as to the specific work of the actor.

REQUIRED TEXT
The Acting Study 1 Journal - available at the Hornet Bookstore

COURSE OBJECTIVES
1. To introduce students to the language of the theatre, and of the actor.
2. To introduce the process by which actors work.
3. To have the opportunity to explore this process as an active participant.
4. To choose, prepare and perform short acting pieces before other class members.
5. To learn to critically observe and evaluate theatre performance.

ASSIGNMENTS
1. Attend 3 plays: Women of Juarez (March 14 - 24) Cabaret (April 10 - 21), and one of the student directed one acts (dates and times TBA) (go to csus.edu/dram, then click on Season for dates, times, locations and ticket prices)
2. Write a one-page essay in response to each play. Requirements for these papers will be discussed in class. Papers will be due one week following the closing date of performance.
3. Prepare and present a children's story
4. Prepare and present 30 second product commercial (format to be discussed in class)
5. Reading and acting from a published play. Play TBA
6. Prepare, memorize and perform a "given circumstance" character monologue.
7. Write a short written character analysis of your character.
7. Assignments to be discussed in class which will be completed in the Acting Study Journal. The Journal will be collected at midterm, and at the end of the semester.

Extra credit: Extra credit opportunities will be discussed in class
GRADING

Attendance/Participation............................................75 pts
(This part of your grade includes the
class character analyses
Play response papers  20 pts x 3.........................60
Children's Story Presentation..................................15
Product Commercial..................................................15
Monologue...............................................................25
Journal (midterm).......................................................15
Journal (end of semester).................................15
Quizzes 3 x 10 pts each ........................30

Total points..........................................................250 pts

A = 225 - 250
B =  200 - 224
C =  175 - 199
D =  162 - 174
F =  173 and below

NOTE:

1. Because this class uses only minimal text, and because it relies very heavily on
   participation in class activities, your attendance is extremely important. If you are
   absent, there will often be no assignment possible to make up for missing the class.
   After 3 absences your grade will be negatively affected, even if all other work is
   satisfactory. Please see me if attendance begins to be a problem.

2. All written work must be typed.

3. If fewer than 3 plays are attended, a grade of I (incomplete) may result.

Laptops, tablets and cell phones
Laptop computers, tablets, cell phones and other mobile devices may not be used during
class. I will discuss in class the exceptions to this rule. If I am aware of cell phone use,
other than the exceptions that we will discuss, you will be excused for the day, and
marked absent. This will be true even if it happens near the end of the class meeting.
Adding and Dropping a Class

Via computer registration, there may be students on a wait list for this class. If you wish to add the class, I will need to verify that there are no students already waiting to add. At that point, if there is room, you may submit an add petition.

If you decide to drop the class, you **must** do so, within the first two weeks of the class by submitting a drop request to the department office (Shasta 104). If your request is received after the first two weeks, you may need to submit documentation to support your request. **Drops are not automatic, even if you have not attended any classes.**

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Your work is the product of your energy, commitment and knowledge. It should be protected, as should the work of others. As a result, any act of academic dishonesty will be cause for serious consequences. Such acts may include, but are not limited to:

* copying from another's work
* submitting work previously, or simultaneously used in another class
* misrepresenting another's work as one's own in whole or in part

Consequences may include a drop in grade, a grade of zero for the assignment in question, or dismissal from the class, and loss of credit.

For more detailed information, please see the Sac State catalog under Academic Policies.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

If you have a disability, and require accommodations, you will need to provide disability documentation to SSWD, Lassen Hall 1008 (916) 278-6965. Please discuss your accommodation needs with me after class, or during office hours as soon as possible.