

THAR 13.1A & 13.1B | STYLES

Sections: 6150 & 5831 w Labs 5839 & 5841

Spring 2023

WHEN & WHERE:

Mon & Wed | 2:40pm - 5:10pm
129 Burbank Auditorium

FINAL:

Showcase 5/19/2023
Official Final Date 5/24/2023

**We will be holding a post mortem discussion about the showcase on the classes' final date.*

INSTRUCTOR:

Allie Pratt
Office Hours: Wednesdays 1:30pm-2:30pm & by appointment
Phone: (707) 527 - 4999 ext. 5015 (*not a good way to reach me*)
Email: apratt@santarosa.edu (*a great way to reach me*)

IMPORTANT FACTS:

Transferable: CSU and UC
Grading: Grade only

REQUIRED TEXT:

None.

THEATRE ARTS ATTENDANCE POLICY:

Attendance is mandatory.

A NOTE FROM PROF PRATT:

Attendance affects your grade. Full stop. As a current practitioner in the field, I can tell you that attendance is just as intense in the industry as the department makes it out to be. Actors miss weddings, funerals, etc. "The show must go on," and all that.

THAT BEING SAID, I do believe that this is a toxic trait of the industry and I would like to affect change. I had to miss 7 whole rehearsal days the summer of 2022 on a show because of Covid. I was still able to show up for tech week and lead the show. I believe I have worked incentives into the curriculum for you to attend and participate in all classes, but if your health (mental, physical, or emotional) are at risk, please take care of yourself and those around you. The best thing you can do is communicate your needs with me. I want you to succeed. That's why I got into teaching. To see you all succeed.

Excerpt from SRJC Policy: “A student may be dropped from any class when that student’s absences exceed ten percent (10%) of the total hours of class time.”

1. Students who fail to attend the first class meeting of a full semester course will be dropped by the instructor.
2. Students have **THREE excused absences** – that includes for sports, family obligations and emergencies. After three absences for any reason, you may be dropped from the class, or receive an F if it is after the date to drop a class. This being said, do not come to class if you are experiencing symptoms. Please communicate your needs with the instructor.
 - a. Any false documentation about an illness will result in expulsion from the class.
 - b. Please let me know if you are ill via email as soon as you can.
3. For a fourth absence, your grade will be dropped one full letter grade. After the fifth absence, you will be dropped from the class.
4. Please review with me any absence that you know you must have in the semester in the first two weeks of class.

PUNCTUALITY:

1. Class starts at 2:40pm. We will use the entire class period after the first class meeting.
2. Being late for the class will eat away at your points for the day.

OUTSIDE REHEARSALS:

- **This class requires outside rehearsals.** Failure to go to an agreed-upon outside rehearsal may result in a 0 for the entire assignment.

MAKEUP & LATE WORK:

Late performance work is rarely accepted. Exceptions may be made due to illness or emergency and this includes documentation and prior communication.

Written/online work submitted late will result in a 10% grade drop per day, **however if an assignment is closed, I’m not likely to reopen it, which results in a 100% drop.**

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

An introduction to fundamental acting techniques and concepts through theatre games, improvisations, and lecture/demonstrations. It is designed for both majors and nonmajors and it includes individual and partnered performance assignments. Attendance at both departmental performances is required. Tickets for students in this class are free. Please check the website for times that will work for your schedule. Plan ahead!

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the conclusion of this course, the student should be able to:

1. Prepare, rehearse, and perform material from plays requiring non-realistic styles, period realism and/or specialized performance skills at a beginning level for a public audience.

2. Adapt his/her character development process and performance techniques to meet the needs of a play's specific style, period, and/or specialized performance demands at a beginning level.
3. Identify and explain major historical, literary, and cultural forces that shaped the development of a play's specific style and/or period, as well the relationship of those forces to the acting techniques required.

OBJECTIVES

In order to achieve these learning outcomes, during the course the student will:

1. Demonstrate performance skills through a variety of non-realistic acting styles, period realism and/or plays requiring specialized performance skills (e.g. dialects, unarmed combat, period movement, etc.) at a beginning acting level.
2. Identify the influence of historical events, literature and culture on the theatrical practices of various periods.
3. Analyze and score scripts, applying style-appropriate and/or period-appropriate techniques.
4. Conduct research and text analysis in preparation for roles from styles and periods of plays.
5. Translate basic acting theories and analytical concepts into practical application through performance interpretations.
6. Create and sustain the distinct physical, vocal, and behavioral components of multiple characters, while adapting to the performance requirements of specific styles, periods, and/or special performance techniques.
7. Revise and enhance acting choices, objectively incorporating the feedback of others, and utilizing the rehearsal process as a period of creative exploration.
8. Define individual acting obstacles and determine individual strengths.
9. Critique the work of others, utilizing terms and concepts relating to the specific style, period, and/or specialized skill being performed.
10. Support the throughline of a composite showcase by sustaining energy, focus, and pacing, as well as creatively interpreting transitional business.
11. Work cooperatively and professionally within a high-stress environment to produce a collaborative work of art for public performance.

TOPICS & SCOPE

I. Introduction to period and non-realistic acting styles

- A. Defining style
- B. Researching a style or period
- C. Personal acting development when studying styles and periods

II. Introduction of Style Units:

Each time the course is offered, three different styles will be studied and performed, selected by the instructor using the following criteria:

- At least two non-realistic styles
(e.g. Greek, Kabuki, Commedia dell'Arte, **Farce**, **Comedy of Manners**,

Absurdism, Brechtian, Post Modernism, etc.)

- At least one from a period **prior to the 20th** century
- At least one **comedic** style
- At least one dramatic or **tragic** style
- At least one should require a **special performance skill**

(e.g. **dialects**, period movement, unarmed combat, playing a disability, etc.)

Each style unit may focus on material from a single representative play, an individual playwright's body of work, or works by multiple playwrights. A record of past units taught is kept on file by the department.

III. Performing Non-Realistic Styles

- A. Historical and/or theoretical context
- B. Script and character analysis
- C. Vocal characterization within the style
- D. Physical characterization within the style

IV. Performing Period Plays

- A. Historical and theoretical context
- B. Script and character analysis
- C. Vocal demands of the style
- D. Movement of the style

V. Specialized Performance Skills

- A. Historical and/or theoretical context
- B. Script and character analysis
- C. Vocal demands of the style
- D. Movement of the style
- E. Techniques and terminology relating to the skill

VI. Rehearsal and Performance Techniques

- A. Rehearsing with peers
- B. Script preparation
 - 1. Excerpting and cutting
 - 2. Timing
- C. Staging
 - 1. Developing a basic floorplan
 - 2. Blocking in 3/4 thrust
 - 3. Sight lines and upstaging
- D. Rehearsal costumes and props
- E. Performance costumes and props

VII. Vocal Techniques

- A. Articulation
- B. Projection

- C. Characterization
- D. Stylization (verse, rhyme, etc.)
- E. Pronunciation and dialect/accent

VIII. Physical Techniques

- A. Characterization
- B. Movement and timing
- C. Style-specific movement (period movement, etc.)

IX. Preparing for the Showcase

- A. Rehearsing a composite performance
 - 1. Order and shape of the performance
 - 2. Transitional and introductory material
 - 3. Cutting and excerpting
 - 4. Differentiating multiple characters
- B. Incorporating production elements
 - 1. Lights
 - 2. Costumes and costume changes
 - 3. Staging transitions
- C. Performance techniques in production
 - 1. Personal and group warm-ups
 - 2. Maintaining consistency and focus
 - 3. Handling nerves
 - 4. Handling audience responses
 - 5. Handling the unexpected

ASSIGNMENTS

1. Participation in group exercises during the course of study. Exercises may include:
 - A. Discussions of acting theory based on assigned readings.
 - B. Improvisations and style exercises.
 - C. Vocal exercises for clarity, projection, dialect and style.
 - D. Physical exercises for relaxation, flexibility, and control.
 - E. Period movement and manners.

2. Performance Assignments:

The student will perform a scene and/or monologue for each of the three units of study for the course, each assignment demonstrating an understanding and competence in the specific acting style and/or specialized acting skill. Each scene or monologue will be performed within a time limit suitable for inclusion in the Showcase (scenes - approx. 2-5 minutes; monologues - approx. 1-2 minutes).

3. Read 4-5 plays. (FOR YOUR SCENES)

4. Conduct assigned research and complete 3 written character analyses and/or script analyses. Analyses may be individual assignments or collaborative assignments with scene partners. Depending on the style requirements, may also be given scoring, scansion or other script preparation assignments.
5. SHOWCASE - Participation in culminating public performances of representative scenes and monologues in the styles studied during the semester:
 - A. Prepare selected Showcase material, either reviewing class assignments or rehearsing new material.
6. Attend 2-3 Theatre Arts Department productions. Participate in class discussion regarding the acting demands within each production and their relationship to course content.
7. Professionalism and Attendance

Adhere to the following standards of acting professionalism throughout the course:

 - A. Arrive promptly and prepared for all class meetings, outside rehearsals, and performances.
 - B. Maintain an amiable and supportive attitude when interacting with other members of the performance ensemble.
 - C. Participate actively in class discussions and exercises.
 - D. Work collaboratively with scene partners.
 - E. Perform each role in a conscientious and dedicated manner.
 - F. Respectfully follow director's instructions in Showcase preparation and maintain that direction in performance.
 - G. Strive to maintain good health and safety practices.
 - H. Follow the terms of the course syllabus.

BASIS OF GRADING

WRITING (20%)

Assessment tools that demonstrate writing skill and/or require students to select, organize and explain ideas in writing.

SKILL DEMONSTRATION (60%)

All skill-based and physical demonstrations used for assessment purposes including skill performance exams.

EXAMS (10%)

All forms of formal testing, *other than skill performance exams*.

OTHER (10%)

Includes any assessment tools that do not logically fit into the above categories.

DROPPING A CLASS:

If you have been in class for one class period and you need to drop, **it is your responsibility to drop yourself from the course.** Instructors are required to drop you from class if you do not attend the first class meeting. It is illegal for you to be in class without being registered for the course.

CLASS NOTES:

Because this is a class of sharing and discovery for all students, there are a few issues we need to be alertly sensitive about. In our activities and improvisations, though you are required to think impulsively, please try...

- to keep yourself cautioned against portraying offensive stereotypes particularly those targeted towards race and sexual orientation. Everybody's interpretations and humor limits vary. Please try and keep that in perspective.
- Please understand that because this is an interactive class there may be an impulse to touch and be touched by the teacher and other students. Please always ask consent to touch others and feel emboldened to ensure others ask consent of you. Asking consent is unfortunately not quite second nature for many of us. But it is becoming more and more commonplace in the industry. This is an environment to practice asking for consent, giving or denying consent, and adapting and working with any answers received.
- Occasionally scene work or improvisation may become emotionally upsetting or seem out of control. At this time any individual may stop the scene or improvisation.
- If you have any disability that prevents you from fully participating in any class exercise or assignment, please let me know so that we can work together to find accessibility.
- If a script is being worked on in class that has personally upsetting or triggering subject matter, please let me know. Your mental and emotional health is important and we want to make sure you feel safe in your learning environment.
- There is also the likelihood that class discussions could cover aspects of a character's sexuality, gender, trauma, etc. This is one of the few subjects in academia that requires personalization in this way. As we find and develop characters, please bear in mind that authenticity and respect are the two cardinal values of this class. Your boundaries will be respected.

An acting class has to be a safe and protected home for all of us in order for it to be successful.

DRESS:

Please wear comfortable clothing and shoes in which you can move easily. Please no flip-flops or heels. You will also **need to gather props and costume pieces for scenes.** You will need to bring this clothing to class and change into it prior to your scene.

CONSUMABLES:

Only water is allowed in the studio. Please do not chew gum in the studio. If you need to have a snack to maintain your blood sugar, please plan accordingly and consume outside on the break.

CELL PHONES AND TEXTING:

Cell phones and other electronic devices are to be turned off and put away at the beginning of class. Texting, phone calls, head phones and any other electronic communication devices are forbidden during class time.

CLASS EXPECTATIONS:

Preparing monologues and scenes for performance will require 5-6 outside-of-class rehearsals for each scene or monologue. You and your scene partner are equally responsible for scheduling and honoring these rehearsals.

Think of your scene partner as your best friend. You both will be depending on each other. Honor them by showing up for scheduled rehearsals and learning your lines. Be kind and patient with each other. Remember, when your scene partner shines, you shine.

If your scene or monologue is from a play that is not in the library, you may need to purchase the script in order to read it. Scripts usually cost between \$10.00 and \$15.00.

MATERIALS NEEDED:

Many scenes and monologues can be found in plays that are stocked in the library. You will also need to gather props and costume pieces for your scenes. Always bring a notebook and pencil to class.

NO GUESTS:

Please do not bring "guests" into the classroom, including children and/or friends or relatives. This is an adult level class with discussions and lessons designed for those enrolled in the class.

STUDENT CONDUCT:

"Students who register in Santa Rosa Junior College classes are required to abide by the Santa Rosa Junior College Student Conduct Standards. Violation of the Standards is basis for disciplinary sanction, including dismissal from class or from the College". If you have not done so, I urge you to review the Student Code of Conduct. Here is the link:

<http://www.santarosa.edu/for student/rules-regulations/student-conduct.shtml>.

RESPECT:

The best way to learn is through active participation; therefore, we respect others when talking by being on time, listening actively, and by being polite even when we disagree with another's viewpoint. Please turn off all electronic devices. If you use a laptop for note-taking, please sit in the front row with the sound off. No food in class please.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:

All written work is to be original; plagiarism of any kind will result in a failing grade on that assignment. Students who plagiarize or cheat may be suspended [for one or two class meetings by the instructor] and referred to the Vice President of Student Services for discipline

sanction, in cases of egregious violation. Please read the college policy/procedure on academic integrity at: <http://www.santarosa.edu/polman/3acadpro/3.11P.pdf>

ASSISTANCE WITH CANVAS:

If you have not used Canvas before and need assistance, here is a link for Student Help for Canvas: <https://de.santarosa.edu/student-help-for-canvas>

STUDENT ONLINE RESOURCES

Santa Rosa Junior College has many online resources available to students including – Financial Aid, Tutoring, EOPS, Student Health Services, Library Services, and Free Or Affordable Technology. Click here for more information about these services and many others: <https://onlinestudentservices.santarosa.edu/>

ACCOMMODATION FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

<https://drd.santarosa.edu/>

If you need disability-related accommodations for this class, such as a note-taker, test-taking services, special furniture, use of service animal, etc., please provide the Authorization for Academic Accommodations (AAA Letter) from the **Disability Resources Department (DRD)** to me as soon as possible. You may also speak with me privately about your accommodations. If you have not received authorization from DRD, it is recommended that you contact them directly. DRD is located in the Bertolini Student Center on the Santa Rosa campus, and Petaluma Village on the Petaluma campus.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLAN & PREPAREDNESS:

Register your Cell Phone with REGROUP and Nixle.

<https://police.santarosa.edu/emergency-alerts-signup>

In the event of an emergency during class that requires evacuation of the building, please leave the class immediately but calmly. Take your stuff with you. Our class will meet on THE FRONT LAWN OF THE COLLEGE to make sure everyone got out of the building safely and to receive further instructions. If you are a student with a disability who may need assistance in an evacuation, please see me as soon as possible so we can discuss an evacuation plan. There are exits from the TV Studio out of Doyle most immediately to the left on your way out of the room (leads to back of building, Elliott Ave to the right, SRJC lawn to the left).

In case of emergency, dial 527-1000: Do not dial 911 from on campus.

No student may be driven to the hospital by a faculty member. We are required by law to call an ambulance. Please notify the instructor if you have any medical condition that puts you at risk.

There are first aid kits in the THAR office, the costume studio, makeup lab, and scene shop. There are fire extinguishers either inside each room in the hallway just outside the room.

In the event of a safety emergency, the District Police will contact the closest officer to the incident to quickly respond and assess the situation. Anything out of the ordinary or unusual call (707) 527-1000 and the dispatcher will send the nearest available officer to assess the situation. Building Alarm Systems Buildings are equipped with a variety of alarm systems ranging from fire evacuation alarms, burglary alarms and fire/smoke indication alarms. It is important to notify District Police whenever an alarm is sounding in case the alarm is only a local alarm and not directly connected to an alarm monitoring company

ALERT-U Text Messaging System

AlertU is an emergency text messaging technology developed for college and university communities. Designated District officials are able to text messages about potential and ongoing emergencies and situation updates affecting students, staff and faculty in real-time. Friends and family members are also able to subscribe to receive updates. AlertU is only used in emergency situations, not for non-emergency information or general updates.

AlertU Sign Up Instructions

1. With your cell phone, text the letters SRJC to 55155 (55155 is the text phone number to the ALERTU system)
2. You will receive a 'welcome' text message
3. Reply with the letter "Y" for yes
4. Program 55155 into your phone's address book under the name ALERTU This will allow you to recognize the sender if an emergency message is sent Facilities Operations Contact Numbers

For an emergency contact the District Police at (707) 527-1000 any hour of the day or night. However, nonemergency facility and utility issues and questions can be directed to the following numbers:

Santa Rosa Campus (707) 527-4231 Petaluma Campus (707) 778-3976
Public Safety Training Center (Windsor) (707) 836-2918
Shone Farm (Forestville) (707) 535-3702
Southwest Santa Rosa Center (707) 527-4231

Title IX: Confidentiality and Responsible Employee Statement

Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC) Theatre Arts are committed to helping create a safe and open learning environment for all students. In accordance with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, SRJC prohibits unlawful sexual harassment against any participant in its education programs or activities. This prohibition applies to all students, SRJC employees, and visitors to campus. If you (or someone you know) have experienced any form of sexual harassment, including sexual assault, dating or domestic violence, or stalking, know that help and support are available. The College strongly encourages all members of the community to take action, seek support and report incidents of sexual harassment to the Title IX Coordinator, Stephanie Jarrett at sjarrett@santarosa.edu or 707-527-4822. Reports may also be filed online. If you wish to speak to a confidential employee, you can contact Student Psychological Services (Santa Rosa Campus 707-524-1595/ Petaluma Campus 707-778-3919). For more information

about reporting options and resources at Santa Rosa Junior College and the community, please visit <https://titleix.santarosa.edu/>.

STUDENT EQUITY:

<https://studentequity.santarosa.edu/>

Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC) aspires to be an inclusive, diverse, and sustainable learning community. Its mission is to passionately cultivate learning through the development of its diverse community.

What is Student Equity?

Title V California Education Code state the goal of Student Equity is "...to close achievement gaps in access and success in underrepresented student groups, as identified in local student equity plans."

In the state of California and at SRJC, we have a diverse student population from a variety of backgrounds. The data shows that students from disadvantaged backgrounds are not achieving their academic goals at the same rate as the average population. At SRJC, the Office of Student Equity is committed to supporting campus wide efforts focused on reducing these achievement gaps.

FALL 2022 IMPORTANT DATES:

Monday, January 16, 2023	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Holiday (No Classes, District Closed)
Tuesday, January 17, 2023	Departmentally Determined Professional Development Activities Day (No Classes)
Wednesday, January 18, 2023	CLASSES BEGIN
Tuesday, January 24, 2023	Last day to register/add semester length class without instructor's signature or add code
Sunday, January 29, 2023	Last day to drop semester length class and be eligible for a refund
Sunday, February 5, 2023	Last day to register/add semester length class with the instructor's signature or add code
Sunday, February 5, 2023	Last day to drop a semester length class without "W" symbol

Monday, February 6, 2023	First Census Day
Thursday, February 16, 2023	Mandatory Professional Development Activity Institutional Day (No Classes, District Closed for PDA)
Friday, February 17, 2023	Lincoln's Day Holiday Observance (No Classes, District Closed)
Saturday, February 18 – Sunday, February 19, 2023	Saturday and Sunday (Classes will meet)
Monday, February 20, 2023	Washington's Day Holiday (No Classes, District Closed)
Monday, March 20 – Sunday, March 26, 2023	Spring Break (No Classes)
Friday, March 24, 2023	Professional Development 1/2 Flex Day (No Classes)
Monday, March 27 – Sunday, April 23, 2023	Midterm progress indicators posted in student portal
Sunday, April 23, 2023	Last day to drop a semester length class with "W" symbol
Saturday, May 20 – Friday, May 26, 2023	Final Examinations
Friday, May 26, 2023	Last day to opt for P/NP for a semester length class
Saturday, May 27, 2023	Commencement Exercises
Monday, May 29, 2023	Memorial Day Holiday (No classes, District Closed)
Tuesday, May 30, 2023	Asian American & Pacific Islander Day (No classes, District closed)
Friday, June 2, 2023	Final grade rosters due
Monday, June 5, 2023	Spring semester processing finalized