

# ACTING STYLES

## Classroom Rules & Grading Policy

### Tromborg

**Acting Styles is one of the most challenging classes at RSA as it involves acting skills as well as academic skills. Students are expected to not only act in the style of the period, but are also required to read, write, and analyze the literature and the history of the time period as well.**

This class will cover the major periods of acting in the western hemisphere. Approximately four to five weeks will be spent on major periods. Each student will have a copy of ACTING IN PERSON AND IN STYLE. Students will study a period's historical significance, its art, politics, playwrights, historical significance, etc. Students will read plays from the period, do acting exercises aimed at helping the actor understand the acting techniques used, and rehearse and perform scenes and/or monologues from the major periods.

#### **PERIODS TO BE STUDIED:**

The Greeks	Commedia dell 'Arte	Shakespeare	French
Neoclassicism			
Naturalism & Realism	Restoration	Brecht	The Absurd

Pre-requisite: Theatre 1 and Acting Basics  
You must be in the magnet to take this class.  
This one-year course counts for the A-G Visual and Performing Arts Requirement, FUSD Fine Arts Requirement, and/or Elective Credit.

**A. GRADES** will be determined on:

- 1. Tests and quizzes.** Students are also expected to read the entire play his/her scene comes from and will be tested over it.
- 2. Participation.** Students will be graded on regular, active, and focused participation in class activities. Students will be docked 10 points per day regardless if the absence is excused or unexcused. Missed participation points due to excused absences can be made up with extra credit. Unexcused tardies will result in a 5 point deduction. *Good attendance is vital to the acting process as it can affect other student actors in the class. If students must miss class during rehearsal/class time, it is their responsibility to notify their scene partner(s) and arrange to make up the rehearsal time at lunch, after school, or on the weekend.*
- 3. Theatre Discipline.** Being in class, being on time and being prepared, ie, having lines, blocking, props, costumes, etc., in on time. *Students must call if he/she is going to miss a rehearsal or performance. Call the RSA office (253-5323) and ask that we be given a message. We do not receive notification from the attendance office.*
- 4. Homework.** Although, in many cases, drama homework will be of the nature of memorization, rehearsal, and planning, it is of no less importance than math or science worksheets. Coming to class unprepared will lower your grade.
- 5. Play Attendance and Criticism:**
  - a. Students will attend the three (3) main-stage plays and all of the evening senior one act plays produced at Roosevelt. See the drama calendar for dates and times.
  - b. Students must attend one play produced in the community each quarter. This can be a college or university, community, professional, or high school production.
  - c. Students must also attend two (2) brown bag performances of other theatre classes each semester.

## Acting Styles Syllabus (cont.)

- d. The student will write a critique using the writing process for each play attended. A more detailed explanation and directions on how to complete this assignment will be given to the student in class.
- e. Additional play attendance and critiques can be used for extra credit.

6. **Technical Theatre.** Students are expected to log at least six (6) hours of technical work per semester on each of the RSA plays.
7. **Portfolios/Videotapes:** Students are expected to keep up their ongoing portfolio of their acting work. Not only is this a file folder of materials that students select as their best work, but it also includes a videotape of their acting pieces. Folders will be kept in the Little Theatre. Hopefully, they will have tapes from the last two years of RSA Theatre.
8. **Performances:** Students are expected to perform before the class, before other classes, and in a "Brown Bag" performance in the evening for family and friends. There will two (2) to three (3) "Brown Bags" per semester. These performances must demonstrate an understanding of the play, character, and the scene or monologue. It must show care: has the student rehearsed enough? Has he/she grown in the role and as an actor?
9. **In-Class Assignments:** This can range from note-taking, group discussions, videos, lectures, etc. Tests will include material from these sources.

B. **LATE WORK** will normally not be accepted.

C. **MAKE UP WORK FOR ABSENCES** will be accepted for full credit for excused absences only. Students will be allowed one day for each day absent to make up work missed. It is the student's responsibility to find out what was missed and to make arrangements to make it up the first day upon returning to class. Do this before class starts.

D. **ATTENDANCE, TARDIES, and DRESS CODE** The Roosevelt High School attendance, tardy, and dress code policy will be strictly enforced.

E. **CLASSROOM MATERIALS** must be present at the start of class. Your agenda/planner is always required to write down homework assignments or to be used as your hall pass. A pencil or a black or blue ink pen and notebook paper is always required. A "bound composition" notebook to be used as a journal and for note taking is also required. Students must wear flexible and loose clothing for physical movement. Failure to participate in an activity because your clothing is restrictive will result in detention and a lower grade.

F. **MISCELLANEOUS**

- Gum chewing is not allowed.
- Radios and CD players, I-Pods, etc., are not allowed on campus.
- Sunflower seeds are not allowed.
- NO food or drinks are allowed in the classroom.
- CELL PHONES are not to be used anywhere in any of the theatre classrooms and/or the Auditorium.
- Students will be issued calendars so that they can be certain Drama obligations do not conflict with appointments or personal commitments. **If a student must miss a performance due to illness or an emergency, the School of the Arts office should be notified as soon as possible at 253-5323.**