SHOWCASE/DIRECTING
Syllabus

Showcase/Directing is the highest-level theatre class we offer at RSA. It is a culmination of all your experience in theatre arts here at Roosevelt and elsewhere. Students are expected to be self-disciplined, self-motivated, and self-directed.

Pre-requisite: Theatre 1, Acting Basics, and Acting Styles
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. **Script Reports.** Students will read a one-act play of an average of 20 – 30 pages each week and write a report on it. Reports must be typed and free from errors. Scripts fewer than 20 pages will not be accepted. Reports are due at the beginning of the class on Mondays. **Late reports will not be accepted.**

2. **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.
   - ***d.*** The student will write a critique using the writing process for each play attended. A more detailed explanation, directions, and due dates on how to complete this assignment will be given to the student in the next few weeks.
   - ***e.*** Additional play attendance and critiques can be used for extra credit

3. **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 3-point deduction.
4. **Theatre Discipline.** Being in class, being on time and being prepared, i.e., having lines, blocking, props, costumes, etc., in on time. *Students must call if he/she is going to miss a rehearsal or performance by calling the RSA office (253-5323) and asking that we be given a message. We do not receive notification from the attendance office.*
5. **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.
6. **Technical Theatre.** Students are expected to WORK ON ALL MAJOR PRODUCTIONS IN SOME CAPACITY. Students are expected to log at least ten (10) hours of technical work per semester. Make certain to sign in and out for crew calls.
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 such as homework, script reports, reviews, journals, notes, etc., 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 three years of RSA Theatre. Acting and Directing projects should be taped and evaluated.
8. **Prepare audition material and compete for the CSUF, FCC, and Amador drama competitions.**

Showcase/Directing Syllabus (cont.)

9. **In-Class Assignments:** This can range from note taking, teaching the Intro class "warm-up" activities, group discussions, videos, lectures, etc. Tests will include material from these sources.
10. **Tests and quizzes.**
11. **FALL SEMESTER: Participate in all aspects of a touring show.** This includes researching, cutting, developing a concept, casting, rehearsing, designing, booking, publicizing, working on technical aspects, touring, performance, and evaluating. KEEP YOUR GRADES UP, YOUR ATTENDANCE EXCELLENT, AND YOUR ATTITUDE EVEN BETTER. We plan to tour at least six times, including one Brown Bag show. Hopefully, touring will take place during class time, but we can't always count on it. We must stay in the good graces of teachers whose classes will be missed.
12. **SPRING SEMESTER: Direct a One-Act Play.** Three students will be chosen to direct the Evening Senior One Acts. These will rehearse after school and be given three performances each. Students will be chosen on the basis of their applications, the quality and appropriateness of the plays they submit, and their reputations as Theatre students. This includes attendance, grades, responsibility, cooperativeness, and leadership. MOST OF THE WORK ON THESE EVENING SHOWS WILL TAKE PLACE OUTSIDE OF CLASS. It is possible a fourth student will be selected to direct the "Festival Show" to compete at FCC and Amador. The rest of the class will direct Mr. Tromborg's Theatre 1 students. Most of this work will take place during class, but some after class time will be necessary. These plays will be performed twice during two class periods and once at a Brown Bag in the evening.

ALL DIRECTORS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR EVERY ASPECT OF THEIR SHOW;
FROM PLANNING TO STRIKE, IT'S ALL YOURS!

13. **Personal planning for your future in terms of college.**

B. **Topics/Assignments** *Some of the topics to be covered this year:* Research paper on a film director for style and techniques; making a directing prompt book; theatre organization and structure; the rehearsal process; blocking; stage management; guest speakers from the theatrical community; directing styles and techniques; reflective writing; organization techniques; production schedule; budgets; director's concept/vision; production teams; auditions; programs; note taking/giving.

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

D. **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.

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

F. **CLASSROOM MATERIALS** must be present at the start of class. You will need an agenda and/or planner to note homework assignments and performance dates. A three-ring binder, at least 1½", is required to hold handouts. 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 reflective writing 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. Flip flops are highly discouraged due to possible injury.

G. **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.
- BE A LEADER. Be a positive, encouraging, supportive role model for the underclassmen.
- DRAMA CALENDARS. 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.**