Theatre Project 450 – Acting

A student may request to do an Acting Theatre Project for faculty-directed Mainstage productions at any time prior to the fall and spring semester auditions by contacting the faculty director of the production for the respective semester. Feasibility of the request should be discussed but pre-casting is prohibited. The decision for approval of the request is at the discretion of the faculty director. Only 2 acting theatre projects may be accepted by a faculty director per production. The student should have completed Beginning and Intermediate Acting in which a grade of “C” or better was received. The student must register for the project credit (Theatre 450) under the faculty director’s section. Only one (1) credit hour will be given for the project and can only be repeated twice.

The acting project paper should include:

I. Journal

Use a spiral notebook for your journal. Begin the journal the day of auditions and continue to record through the rehearsal process and the performances of the play. Periodically, your advisor/director will ask to peruse the journal during the course of the process. The following items should be included and entered into your journal:

A) your reactions to the audition process,

B) your discoveries about yourself and the character in the play you are developing during the rehearsal process,

C) your reactions to the directions and comments given by the director,

D) your discoveries and observations about the acting process in general during the rehearsal and performance period,

E) any historical/dramaturgical research you have done.

II. Character Analysis (must be typewritten)

Respond to the following questions (Robert Benedetti Character Checklist or any analysis agreed upon between actor and the advisor/director):

A) What are the physical traits that influence your action?

   ◦ those specified by the playwright;

   ◦ those reported by other characters;

   ◦ those which can be inferred from the action.
B) What are your social traits?

◦ your background and education;

◦ your socioeconomic class;

◦ your attitudes and behavior toward each of the other characters; discuss your general and specific relationships in the play.

C) What are your psychological traits?

◦ Are your mental processes fast or slow;

◦ rigid or flexible;

◦ complex or simple;

◦ Are you intuitive and global, or analytical and verbal?

D) What moral, religious, or political values influence your choices?

III. Evaluation: (must be typewritten)

A) Discuss your process and evolution of your performance.

B) Discuss any problems encountered during your process and evolution of your performance.

C) Discuss your collaboration with the other actors, the director, designer, technician, etc. during the process.

D) Evaluate the successes/failures of your performance.

E) Evaluate your growth as an actor and compare this experience with other performance experiences.