PERFORMANCE TREATMENT  *Mr. Burns, A Post-Electric Play* by Anne Washburn — Due (submitted through Compass): 11pm (CT) Friday, Nov. 4th

The performance treatment assignment is meant to apply things we’ve been learning in class directly to a theatrical production created by the Department of Theatre.

QUESTIONS YOU MUST ADDRESS: We do expect formality and proper academic writing style in your answers. Any supporting outside research should be cited properly using the appropriate MLA style guide. For such a style guide you might visit the library or the Writing Center. It should be at least 2 to 3 pages in length.

1. Describe the central conflict of *Mr. Burns, A Post-Electric Play* as you understood it from the production. (See text pg. 33 for definitions.) Give specific examples to support your conclusions.

2. Examining the work of the costume designer- evaluate the effectiveness of the design choices made in the production. (See text Ch. 5 for design definitions.) Did the costume design work in supporting the production? What information could you gain from the costume design choices made? If something did or didn’t work- why or why not? Give specific examples to support your conclusions.

3. Examining the work of the lighting designer- evaluate the effectiveness of the design choices made in the production. (See text Ch. 5 for design definitions.) Did the lighting design work in supporting the production? What information could you gain from the lighting design choices made? If something did or didn’t work- why or why not? (This may spill over to use of projections if projections were used.) Give specific examples to support your conclusions.

4. Examining the director’s work- what specific elements of staging within the production stick out in your mind and what made them memorable? (See text pg. 166 for staging examples.) Be sure to include specific supporting examples from the production.

5. Describe, in specific detail, the final moments of the play in terms of actual events as well as how those events related to what you believed to be the central conflict. Was the central conflict resolved? If so- how? If not- why do you think it was not resolved? Give specific examples to support your conclusions.

6. Please offer your thoughts as to why the University of Illinois Department of Theatre would choose to produce *Mr. Burns, A Post-Electric Play*. Support your conclusions with specific examples.

7. What do you feel this production of *Mr. Burns, A Post-Electric Play* communicated to the audience? Support your conclusions with specific examples.

8. What appealed to you about the production and why? (You don’t have to “like” the whole production, but we do want you to focus on at least some things that appealed to you. Provide specific examples and explain why.)

HOW WILL I BE GRADED? This assignment is worth 200 points. 40 points will be assigned based on evaluation of format (spelling, grammar, punctuation, citations and the like). Each question will be worth 20 points. You will be evaluated by assessment of the following: Did you
completely answer the questions provided? How successfully did you apply concepts from class to practices in production through your brief answers? Is it clear you attended the production? Note: Should it be determined that you did not attend the performance; you will forfeit the grade for this assignment. By submitting a performance treatment for a production which you did not attend you will also be subject to the course academic integrity policy- please see the syllabus for details.