



THEATRE ARTS
Flower Mound High School
Fall, 2019

Class Facts:

Mr. Taylor
Conf.: 12:02-1:47pm
469-713-5192
taylorlsa@lisd.net

Theatre Arts 1

Mr. Valentine
Conf.: 2:05 - 3:35pm
469-713-5192
valentinem@lisd.net

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course is a survey of many aspects of theatre. It includes units on theatre safety, history, improvisation, pantomime, voice and diction, beginning acting techniques, technical theatre, and evaluation of drama. In addition to daily class participation and several memorized performances, students are **required to attend and critique a live theatrical performance**. The term will conclude with each student performing a scene from a play with literary merit, in which the student not only creates the character, but also provides the technical theatre elements for that scene. These scenes will be presented in a public performance.

OUTCOMES:

Through perception, creative expression performance, historical and cultural heritage, and critical evaluation, students increase their understanding of self and others, and develop clear ideas about the world. Students will learn to communicate in a dramatic form, make artistic choices, solve problems, build positive self-concepts, and relate interpersonally. Student response, evaluation, and discriminating judgment of theatre, film, and television will be developed.

In the area of perception, the student is expected to:

- A) Improvise using emotional and sensory recall
- B) Develop and practice theatre preparation and warm-up techniques
- C) Employ stage movement and pantomime consistently to express thoughts, feelings, and actions
- D) Develop and practice effective voice and diction to express thoughts and feelings
- E) Define and give examples of theatrical conventions (time, setting, fourth wall, etc.)
- F) Analyze and describe the interdependence of all theatrical elements

In the area of creative expression/performance, the student is expected to:

- A) Demonstrate the safe use of the voice and body
- B) Analyze a character from a script, describing physical, intellectual, emotional and social dimensions
- C) Portray believable characters when applying acting concepts, skills and techniques.
- D) Improvise, write and refine monologues, scenes and vignettes to convey meaning
- E) Develop and practice stagecraft skills
- F) Safely apply technical knowledge and skills to create and or operate functional scenery, properties, lighting, sound, costumes, makeup and publicity
- G) Define the director's role as a unifying force, problem-solve, interpreter of script and collaborator
- H) Define the director's responsibilities to the author's intent, script, actors, designers, technicians and the audience
- I) Perform the roles of actor, ensemble member, and director in production decision making, and collaborate with others to produce theatre with a unified production for public performance
- J) Concentrate in one or more areas of theatre production, demonstrating responsibility, artistic discipline and creative problem solving

In the area of history/cultural heritage, the student is expected to:

- A) Portray theatre as a reflection of life in particular times, places and cultures
- B) Relate historical and cultural influences on theatre, and analyze the roles of live theatre, film, television and electronic media in American society

In the area of response/evaluation, the student is expected to:

- A) Analyze and exhibit appropriate behavior at various types of live performances
- B) Develop appropriate theatre vocabulary to apply the concepts of evaluation (intent, structure, effectiveness, value) to live theatre, film, television, and electronic media in written and oral form, with precise and specific observations
- C) Identify and compare the treatment of moods in theatre, musical theatre, dance, art and music , and integrate more than one art form in informal performances
- D) Select career and vocational opportunities in theatre and describe the training, skills, self-discipline and artistic discipline needed to pursue them

Curriculum Includes:

Introduction to Theatre
Play Analysis
Stage Safety
Theatre History
Mime and Pantomime
Voice & Diction
Improvisation
Acting Exercises
Guideposts 1-3
Acting –MONOLOGUES
Technical Theatre
Actor's Showcase

MIDTERM & FINAL EXAMINATIONS

Script Subject Matter

Students are expected to use reasonable discretion in editing scripts for rehearsal and performance in a classroom setting. Please use good judgment and the following guidelines:

- Delete all profanity from your rehearsal script.
- Do not use lewd and/or "suggestive" business in rehearsal or performance.
- When in doubt...ask! Seek teacher approval for any questionable language, subject matter, business, or scene PRIOR TO PERFORMANCE regardless of what the script says.

ASSESSMENT:

30% - Minor Grades (quizzes, study guides, in-class participation, daily assignments)

50% - Major Grades (acting presentations, tests, major projects)

20% - Performance Evaluation

Performance evaluation- All theatre students are required to see a FMHS play each (one per 9 week grading period). You must attend the entire show to receive full credit for the critique. **MOST SHOWS HAVE AN INTERMISSION.** Each student is required to fill out the performance critique worksheet, one for each show, for a test grade. These critique worksheets are due within one week of the performance.

All students are **also** required to provide a formal 5-paragraph typed critique of ANY live, full length play production for a test grade. Critiques are due within 2 weeks after attending the performance. The last day to turn in the critiques is:

Friday December 13, 2019

- **Show dates: *Paws (Sept. 19-21); Stage Prents (October 17-19); Studio Prents (November 14-16).***

THERE IS NO ALTERNATE ASSIGNMENT FOR THIS GRADE. This is not a pay for a grade situation- It is meant to expose you to more theatre. If purchasing a ticket is an issue, please approach your teacher and they will assist you in attending a FMHS show.

Late exception: A critique paper may be turned in 1 day late for a 70. If you are absent, you are responsible for getting the paper to the school on its due date for full credit.

*****LAST DAY TO TURN IN LATE WORK December 13, 2019 - NO EXCEPTIONS!**

LATE ASSIGNMENTS: Late work is highly discouraged and will be graded as follows:

1 day late = 30 pt. Deduction

Every additional day = 10 pt. Deduction

Students are responsible for scheduling makeup of any and all work that is missed due to an absence, both excused and unexcused.

RETEST POLICY: If a student fails a test, that student will be able to retake the test for a maximum grade of a 70%. Tutorials will be provided in the interim, *however*, it is the **student's** responsibility to schedule tutorials and the retest.

MIDTERM and FINAL EXAMINATIONS each count as 15% of each nine weeks grade.

There will be a minimum of 15 grades counted per nine weeks; at least 3 of these will be major grades.

GET INVOLVED:

Theatre I students are encouraged but not required to come to work calls and participate in putting together our shows.

Scheduled work calls

September 8 9-noon

September 15 9-noon

October 6 9-noon

October 11 1 - 4pm

Attend our Thespain meetings - 2nd Tuesday of every month in the Black Box

Audition for our Improv Troupe - August 29 3:45 - 5pm

COURSE RESOURCES:

The Stage and The School, 8th Edition, Harry K. Schanker & Katherine Anne Ommanney

Theater: Preparation and Performance, Revised Edition, David Grote

Basic Drama Projects, 9th Edition

Digitaltheatreplus.com

Drama Projects, 9th ed.

Audition by Michael Shurtleff

“Play It Safe” – safety video

“Origins of Drama and the Theatre” – video

Improvisation Starters, Philip Bernardi

Improv Game Book II, Lynda Belt

Theatre Games for Young Performers, Maria C. Novelly

The Stanislavski System, Sonia Moore

Acting Games, Marsh Cassidy

The Right to Speak, Patsy Rodenburg

A Midsummer Night’s Dream, William Shakespeare

Stage Lighting Revealed, Glen Cunningham

Games for the Classroom, Viola Spolin

Harvard Discovery Project, group activities

Use and Training of the Human Voice, Arthur Lessac

Freeing the Natural Voice, Kristen Linklater

Designing and Painting for the Theatre, Lynn Pecktal

Stage Management Handbook, Daniel A. Ionazzi

Theatrical Design and Production, J. Michael Gilette

History of the Theatre, Glynne Wickham

A Cultural History of the Theatre, Jack Watson

Stage Makeup, Richard Corson

Costumes for the Stage, Sheila Jackson



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

We have read and understand the Theatre I syllabus provided through your teacher's school web. We acknowledge the class timeline and required assignment of attending a minimum of two live theatrical performances and turning in worksheets and critiques related to that performance.

Student Signature

Date

Print your name

Parent Signature

Date

Parent e-mail address

Best Phone # to reach you