

Instructor: Ms. Sizemore

Course: Theater

Room: 214

Email: sarah.sizemore@hsv-k12.org

Course Description

This course focuses on theatre arts and oral communication. The class involves theatre basics of voice, diction, characterization, movement, and technical aspects. We will explore all aspect of theatre for a better understanding of Theatre as an art. This course will give the student the necessary tools to have a better understanding and appreciation of theatre.

Objectives

The student will have an opportunity to develop strategies and knowledge to:

1. Use critical thinking to enhance performance and/or production choices.
2. Practice focus and concentration as it pertains to actor work.
3. Invent, develop, and portray characters and relationships.
4. Identify how an ensemble positively affects the production process.
5. Develop stage presence and voice projection through participation in performance activities.
6. Understand the technical aspects of theatrical production in relation to a performance.
7. Understand and demonstrate knowledge of the play production process.

Course Expectations and Grading

Participation: You should come to class prepared to jump right into physical, mental, and emotional work fully. You should also come ready to offer thoughtful comments and questions about all of the material addressed. This class needs full commitment to run smoothly.

Daily Standards points: I will determine your participation grade based on your attendance, in-class participation, behavior, and committed investment in the class. You will lose points for arriving late, not participating, not putting forth any effort, disruptive or rude behavior. **CELL PHONES, TEXTING AND DOING THINGS NOT RELATED TO CLASS ON YOUR COMPUTER OR OTHER WISE ARE PROHIBITED.** Each time you are caught, you will lose major participation points.

Group Projects: This class has group projects with most units studied. You will be graded on how well you work with others. It is important in theater to be a strong team member.

Projects and Homework: This class is project heavy. You will be given outlines and grading rubrics for each project, so you will know what to expect. These are meant to be fun and educational (yes something can be fun AND you can learn). I like to see your personality in them!

Grading Policy: You will be graded on your commitment in this course, but not your overall talent. Rather, graded on your range of progress and effort you put in the class. You just have to do your best and be open to new ideas. If you show me you are trying you will do fine!

Attendance: Attendance is mandatory. All students are expected to attend class fully prepared with ALL materials. Remember that if you are absent on a day your group presents you are not just hurting yourself. Make full effort to be there for your friends!

Extra Credit: You can earn extra credit by attending an optional theatre production (pending teacher approval) and writing a performance analysis.

Evaluations

A final evaluative assignment will be given for each unit of study. This evaluation may be a written examination, performance, or project, depending on the unit of study. The semester and final examination for this course will be cumulative over the entire semester's work. See student handbook for grading policy.

Food & Beverage

No food and beverages in the auditorium! You may have a snack in the lobby or the loading dock; however you must use trash cans or privilege will be suspended. Clear water bottles with cap will be permitted only. **Keep the stage and drama rooms clean—Throw trash in the trashcan. Don't leave personal items in the room or theater.**

Theater Facility – Freedoms & Restrictions

Some of the work in this class will not be done in the classroom. On certain occasions, we will be rehearsing or performing in the Auditorium. You will be required to stay with the class AT ALL TIMES. You must have permission from Mrs. Sizemore to enter the prop room or backstage area. If you are not in a designated area at a given time, you will be given a disciplinary referral and your parents will be contacted.

Classroom Rules

1. Be on time. Again, this class is based on participation, so if you are late, you are missing valuable participation time, and I will dock points from your participation grade
2. Be respectful to the teacher and students at all times. If our learning and practice of theater is to prosper, there *has* to be a positive environment. All comments must be constructive or encouraging. **I will not tolerate putting down a fellow student's performance or work.** This is a cardinal sin in my class.
3. Always know your part. A large majority of your performance projects will be group projects and the other members of your group are counting on you to complete the project to the best of your ability, as it affects the final outcome of the performance.
4. Talking while others are performing is inconsiderate and is not to be done.
5. Do not give a performance with candy or gum in your mouth. Points will be deducted from a performance when a speaker has gum or candy in his/her mouth.

Materials Needed

- o Notebook paper

- o Pens/pencils
- o Highlighters

Grades:

60% Summative Assessment which includes performance-based assessments, projects, and writing assessments

40% In-Class assignments/ Daily Standards Grades/homework

Late Work/Missing Assignments

All homework is due in your assigned class folder at the start of class unless otherwise stated. All homework not in the bin is considered late and will not receive full credit.

All late assignments will be given an automatic 10% grade reduction. For each class day it is late, the grade will be given another 10% reduction up to 3 days. After 3 days, the assignment is an automatic zero.

Make-Up Assignments

If you are absent, it is your responsibility to come to me about make-up work. There will be a location in the classroom where assignments will be placed for the day of the week we worked on it. That means if you were absent on Tuesday, it is your job to check the assignments in the Tuesday folder when you return on Wednesday and turn in your homework from Monday night. It will be recorded as a 0 in the gradebook if this does not happen during the week of your absence.

Make sure you check with me and your classmates for any work you missed in addition to checking the folder with assignments (some work may have been done on the computer or may have taken notes). You will have 3 days to make up work after the day of your absence. Any work given after 3 days will follow the Late Work Policy.

If you are absent on the day of a major due date, you must have an excused absence in order to receive full credit. If you know you are going to be absent beforehand, work with me to turn in your assignment **before** you are absent.

Summary

This will be a busy semester for you in this class. All I ask is that you be open to all activities and not be afraid to show your abilities. All people have the ability to do something in all areas of theatre. Remember that this is an elective course and that you chose to take this class.

Participation is the key to success in this course. If you participate in all activities and give to the best of your abilities, then you will not have trouble passing.

This syllabus will serve us throughout the entire school year. However, changes or alterations might become necessary as the year goes on. If this is the case, I will let you know immediately if any changes take place.

By signing below, I am acknowledging that I have read, understand, and agree to the terms of the above syllabus.

Student's printed name: _____

Student signature: _____ Date: _____

Guardian's name: _____ Relationship to student: _____

Guardian's Phone: _____ Guardian's email: _____

Preferred method of contact (circle one): Phone / Email

Guardian's signature: _____ Date: _____