

Theatre Arts I-V Syllabus

Instructor: Mr. Charles Brenner

Room: FA22

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Course Description: This course is designed for the student interested in dramatic activities with an emphasis on performance. Areas covered in depth include: vocabulary, roles in the theatre, pantomime, movement, acting (scene work and one act plays), theatre evaluation, and theatre history (from ancient Greek to the present), the reading of plays, theatre design and tech, and attendance at a live theatre performance. Students will be involved every day in some performance-based activity. There is an emphasis on memorization, working as a team, and classroom attendance. Students will be creating projects throughout the term in groups/ teams just as they would encounter in the professional theatre world.

Major Assignments and Projects: The following assignments are required for the course:

Classroom Based Assessment on Improvisation Pantomime Performances

Vocal Recitations Play Reviews and Analysis

Duo Scenes and Monologues

Technical Theatre Projects

Theatre History Presentations

Class One Act Production

Weekly Assignments: Students will be expected to complete a weekly assignment posted on Google Classroom.

Play Performances: The best way to learn about theatre is to experience it. Students are expected to see at least one production over the course of each semester and write a review of the show. This can be a show produced at PHS, or another local high school, community, or professional theatre.

VIDEO/PHOTOGRAPHY: In this course, we often video record students' performances. Contact me directly if you wish for your child to NOT be photographed and video recorded.

Environment and Safety: To have a truly meaningful experience in this course, it is important that we observe two types of safety rules: physical

and emotional. Our basic physical safety rule is no unplanned bodily contact. Without this rule someone may come to physical harm. Just as important are emotional hurts. You and your peers put yourselves on the line when you present for each other. You openly share yourself with us and then allow others to comment on your expression.

To preserve the integrity of and maintain positive feelings about your work, the following rules apply to all comments about presentations:

Respect the effort of each member of the class

Appreciate the choices made by each person

Be constructive in any criticism

Include positive responses as part of any full critique

Focus your comments to the individual presenting (i.e. do not compare people)

Limit discussion to in-class only (our work is confidential) In this class we become a family! It is essential that we care for each other well and work together for the common goal of a meaningful production.

Performance Materials: In order to establish the best environment possible it is important that all students feel comfortable being a part of the audience. Many award winning theatrical plays, scenes and monologues have objectionable words, subject matter and situations. Please don't bring material that is inappropriate for a classroom situation into the classroom. If you personally find something that is being presented objectionable in any way feel free to step outside the classroom, you may cut the material from your selection or talk to me personally so that a suitable solution can be found.

It is important that we work together to create the most creative environment possible, in which all feel comfortable and learn. Creating this classroom environment is an important task for all of us!

Rules and Regulations of the Pioneer High School Theatre: We are fortunate to have a nice performing arts facility and it takes cooperation from all of us to maintain it. Upon entering this theatre you hereby agree to abide to and enforce the following rules: ● No food, drinks, or gum in the space at any time ● No feet on the seats, seat arms or backs ● Do not climb over the back of the seats ● Persons may be backstage or onstage with permission only ● Students may only be in the space with supervision ● Cell phones are not to be used during class or rehearsal

Consequences for not following these rules: 1. Warning 2. Call Home 3.
REFERRAL TO ADMINISTRATION

THE SHOW MUST GO ON! It is essential that all students are here and on time ready to rehearse. When a player is missing, it becomes very difficult for the remainder of the cast to develop the play. Illness and appointments aren't always avoidable, so please do your best to stay healthy. Cummins
2019-2020

YEAR-AT-A-GLANCE:

Characterization

- ❖ Relationships before Issues
 - Rehearsal Partnerships
 - Theatre Games
 - Character Journal Sharing
- ❖ Memorization Techniques
 - Chunking
 - Motor Memory
 - Line Partnering
- ❖ Body
 - Laban Movement
 - Yoga & Suzuki
 - Physical Warm-ups
 - Stage directions & Body Positions
 - Curves & lines
 - Levels & planes
- ❖ Voice
 - Breathing Warm-up
 - Projection
 - Enunciation and Diction
 - Tongue Twisters
- ❖ Character Journaling
- ❖ Utilizing Stereotypes
 - Character Walk
 - Silhouette
 - Master Gesture
 - Character Voice

Costume Design and Construction

- ❖ Relationships before Issues
 - Costume Building Partnerships
 - Identifying Pairing
- ❖ Costuming Vocabulary, Tools, Fabrics, & Procedures
 - Tools recognition and uses
 - Fabric recognition and uses
 - Hand sewing
 - Stitches
 - Application of stitches
 - Threading and using a sewing machine
- ❖ Costuming in the Theatre (video)
- ❖ Costume Design (use TD play)
 - Rendering; drawing, 3D, or computer generated
 - Fabric swatches & labeling

Theatre History

- ❖ Relationships before Issues
 - Research and Presentation Partnerships
 - Sharing knowledge and discovery
- ❖ Study and Research
 - Google, YouTube.com, etc Information on Theatre History periods (Greek, Elizabethan, Japanese, Religious/Ritualistic/Tribal)
 - Create Powerpoint, Prezi, or Google Slides Presentation on research findings
- ❖ Theatre History Components
 - Model of Performance Space
 - Costume Rendering
 - Male costume
 - Female costume
 - Mask making
 - Perform a scene or monologue
 - Living habits for that culture
 - Food item
 - Typical Daily routine
 - Politics of the culture/time

Playwriting

- ❖ Relationships before Issues
 - Character Journal Sharing
 - Writing Partnerships
 - Group Performances
- ❖ Playwriting (adapting scenes from novels)
 - Utilize Freitag's Pyramid
 - Hook and Spectacle
 - Innovative Staging
 - Curves and lines
 - Composition
 - Movement
 - Levels and planes
 - Character Development
- ❖ Designing
 - Set -- planning, ground plan, & perspective
 - Costumes -- planning, rendering, swatches, and labeling
 - Properties -- planning, rendering, materials list
- ❖ Create Set, Costumes, & Properties
 - Using only free, donated, or on-hand materials build set
 - Using only free, donated, or on-hand materials build costumes
 - Using only free, donated, or on-hand materials build properties
- ❖ Cast, Rehearse, & Perform

The Culture of Theatre

- ❖ Building Relationships
 - Appreciating art
 - Collaborative Research
- ❖ Study and Research
 - Broadway Theatre
 - American/British Musicals
- ❖ Music & Appreciation
 - Study and Appreciate Theatre influenced by popular music
 - Appreciate American Musical Theatre through Film
- ❖ Films
 - Seven Brides for Seven Brothers
 - Hair Spray
 - Fiddler on the Roof
 - Oklahoma

