

Theater Arts 1 & 2 Course Syllabus

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Theater Arts 1 & 2 is a comprehensive college prep. introduction to all elements of live theater including: performance, voice, movement, improvisation, audition technique, technical theater, theatrical criticism and world historical perspectives. The year-long course fulfills the UC Visual/Performing Arts requirement and is a pre-requisite for auditioning for after school productions.

Course Objectives

Students will:

- develop an appreciation for all aspects of live theater
- improve his/her focus/concentration skills
- increase his/her capacity for taking risks
- increase his/her self confidence and ability to express thoughts and feelings
- work creatively within a group
- use multiple approaches to solve problems
- gain greater understanding and compassion for others through character study and analysis
- apply concepts covered in class to rehearsals and performances
- reflect upon his/her own performance strengths and weaknesses
- demonstrate an understanding of basic theater history
- develop appropriate theater vocabulary for evaluating live performances

Grading

Academic:

- Daily Participation (volunteering, staying focused during rehearsals etc.)
- Summary cards (noting specific concepts learned)
- In Class Projects/Performances (demonstrating mastery of concepts covered)
- Personal improvement
- Play review of Fall and Spring DP Productions: Dark of the Moon and Mary Poppins (see dates and plan to attend one.) You may also attend FREE dress rehearsals.

Extra Credit:

Successful completion of extra credit assignments can boost your grade by $\frac{1}{2}$ (ie. From a B+ to an A-).

- character journal
- attendance or performance at class show or lunchtime presentation
- review of a community theater/off-campus production

Topics Covered

Comic Movement Pieces

Improv.

Technical Theater Overview
Acting Technique
Musical Theater
Character
Makeup Film Project
Comedy Writing
Theater-related Occupational Choices
Citizenship

Students are expected to be on time and attend class daily and participate in all activities with a positive attitude. Respect for others is mandatory, including remaining quiet during direct instruction, when classmates “have the floor” or when others are performing. No make up of missed work will be allowed for **un**excused absences. Since the focus is in-class participation, most assignments can not be made up outside of class. Students with excused absences will receive a “CR” grade for the day.

Dress Requirements

Students are expected to wear clothing which does not restrict movement and/or active participation in the class (ie. NO flip-flops, pumps, restrictive dresses.) Students may bring and store tennis shoes, shorts, t-shirts etc. at the theater.

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN BY AUG. 29.

- I have signed up for each class on EDU (none require passwords)
 I have shown my parents how to use EDU and find assignments/grades for this class
 My parents have visited the dptheatrecompany.org website and looked specifically at the “support” – “how to give” page
 My parents will allow me to watch content-relevant “R” rated movies
 My parents will NOT allow me to watch content-relevant “R” rated movies

I agree to the following:

- attend (and arrive promptly at call time for all outside of school performances listed under "Mandatory Events" above
- behave in a mature and responsible way when not being directly supervised (ie. filming for a movie or rehearsing a scene) This includes, but is not limited to:
 - staying within established boundaries (ie. No catwalks unless given explicit verbal permission by Mr. Sayre)
 - not eating, drinking (except water) or chewing gum in the rehearsal areas
 - obeying school rules (ie. No cell phones/electronics etc.)
 - not disturbing other classrooms

- meeting rehearsal expectations and demands
- write thoughtful "thank you" notes for visiting guests

student's printed name

student's signature

date

parents' signature

date