

INTRODUCTORY THEATER SYLLABUS

MISS LAURA MAINIERO

Teacher Contact Information

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Office Hours: Wednesdays until 430pm

Course Goals

1. To develop an understanding of the fundamental aspects of theater.
2. To practice the performance and technical aspects of theater.
3. To actively read selections of drama—conducting character analyses, and creating appropriate technical designs.
4. To effectively critique performance pieces (ie: plays/musicals/other performances).
5. To effectively communicate and collaborate with peers.

Units of Study

Since we will be mixing classroom instruction with stage time, some of the following units will be instructed simultaneously, or in rotations.

- Stage Language and a Brief History of Drama
- Theater Etiquette and Appreciation
- Lighting, Set Design, and Construction
- Costuming and Stage Makeup
- Structure of Drama and Performance Analysis
- Improvisation, Pantomiming, and Stage Movement
- Voice and Dictation
- Stage Acting—Preparation and Performance

Writing Expectations

Through formal and informal writing, students will write for a variety of audiences and purposes (to understand, to explain, to analyze, and to evaluate).

- Journaling activities
- Research notes
- Formal character analysis essay
- Formal critique of a performance

Required Texts and Materials

Preliminary list of materials for in-class reading:

- *The Stage & the School* by Schanker and Ommanney
- One act plays—as selected
- Monologues and scenes—as selected

Materials needed for the course include:

- A dedicated section within a 3-ring binder and a folder
- Loose leaf paper (lined for writing assignments and blank sheets for sketches)
- Pencils/pens

****Keep this in your binder or folder at all times****

Final Exam

The final exam for this course will be *An Evening of One Acts*. Productions will be held after school hours, allowing family and friends to attend and enjoy the fruits of your hard work, technical and/or performance. Attendance for this final is mandatory. Please make arrangements to be present for your final production.

Spring Final Exam Productions: May 25, 2016 at 6:30pm

Grading Policy

Grades will be determined on a point system by the following modes of assessment:

1. Performances (monologues, scenes, larger productions)
2. Technical work (designs and implementations/constructions)
3. In-class assignments
4. Quizzes (announced & unannounced)
5. Writing Assignments & Critiques
6. Daily participation (includes participation in warm-ups, improvisation games)
7. Homework

Grading Scale

A+	97-100	4.3pts
A	93-96	4.0 pts
A-	90-92	3.7 pts
B+	87-89	3.3 pts
B	83-86	3.0 pts
B-	80-82	2.7 pts
C+	77-79	2.3 pts
C	73-76	2.0 pts
C-	70-72	1.7 pts
F	<70	0.0 pts

Attendance, Make-Up, and Late Assignment Policies

Attendance is EXTREMELY important, particularly when you are slated to perform or when you are part of a production. Performances dates and technical assignments will be scheduled in advance. You must be prepared to perform on the scheduled day.

If you are absent, you have 3 days to turn in an absence note. If your absences are unexcused, you will not be permitted to make up missed work, and the grade will be entered as a 0. If your absence is excused, it is your responsibility to see me for your make-up work, and to reschedule performances when necessary.

A Note about Plagiarism

For written analyses and critiques, there is zero tolerance for cheating/copy and paste work ethics. Plagiarism of any kind will earn you a zero for the assignment. All assignments may be subjected to verification/authentication to ensure plagiarism has not occurred.

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Class Contract

Student must return this page to Miss Mainiero by _____. This will count as the first graded assignment of the marking period.

I, _____ (print student name), have read and understand the above syllabus, and the rules set forth by the BASD code of conduct. I am aware that if I do not follow these rules I will have to deal with the consequences of my actions.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN: My child has discussed the rules, assignments, and classroom syllabus with me. I understand and will support these expectations.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

TEACHER: I will be fair and consistent in administering the rules and expectations for Theater.

Signature: _____ Date: _____