

Southwest Florida Christian Academy
Course Syllabus 2023-2024

Drama I-IV
Mrs. Jacquelyn Toleman
Room F206

Course Expectations: Two formal performances in front of an audience is a requirement for all students enrolled in this course. Homework will involve the memorization of lines, play readings, research & group projects. In addition, Students will also be required to prepare for two auditions. There will be several written assignments, such as character analysis, script analysis, theater critique, quizzes, and actor tracking sheets. There will also be class work based on participation, reflection, and performance. This includes scene work and monologues. If a student is absent on the day that he/she is to perform in class, that student is letting down his/her scene partners as well as hurting his/her own possible achievement. If a student has an excused absence on an in-class performance day, the scene must be performed for credit the day the student returns. Scene partners will have already performed the scene for their grade with someone reading the absent student's part. If the absence is unexcused for a performance day, the student will receive a 10% reduction in the final grade. This elective is a performance class and attendance of scheduled rehearsals and performances is mandatory. Full credit will not be given to students who miss a performance date. At times, there are additions to the calendar, but parents and students are notified of those additions well in advance of the performance. In emergency situations, an excused missed performance could result in a modified assignment. If there is an approved absence from a performance, the modified assignment will not receive a grade greater than an 80%.

Performance Dates: December 1-2, 2023 & May 3-4, 2024

Textbook/Instructional Materials: Dramatics magazines, Various scripts, monologue and scene books, Acting Video clips, clips from Broadway performances, recordings of famous plays and musicals.

Materials:

- Pencils/Highlighters
- 3-Pronged Folder

Technology: All high school students are required to have a fully charged, fully functioning laptop in class each day which may or may not be used each day during class. Cell phones, iPads, and e-readers are not acceptable devices. A portable charger is recommended as well.

Overall Objective:

Students explore various performance, technical, and administrative aspects of theatre. Students learn about basic characterization through physical activity, reading selected theatre literature, reading and writing theatrical reviews, and analysis of such tools as scripts and technical theatre aspects. Students will be expected to attend and be involved in all rehearsals and performances, some of which will be outside the school day.

Evaluation:

- 40% Performances
- 20% Attitude/Conduct
- 20% Written/Theater Assessments
- 10% Assignments/Homework
- 10% Rehearsal Attendance

A Statement on Grading in the Theater classroom:

Grades are assigned through rubrics and tests that assess measurable skills, knowledge, and understanding of the material only. Talent level of the student will hopefully rise as technique is learned. However, talent will never be a qualifier for a higher grade in drama class. The majority of a student's grade will be based on participation and interaction with peers. Quizzes will be given, and acting journals checked to assess mastery of the curriculum.

Class Expectations:

- 1) Be Respectful: Theater is a collaborative art form. Respect and be sensitive to the ideas, opinions, and property of others. No eating or drinking in class (water is permitted). Follow the Student Code of Conduct and dress code. Our class is a community that is dependent on the respect, participation and enthusiasm of each member for the success of the whole.
- 2) Demonstrate Responsibility: Take responsibility for your work and your actions. Report on time to class with all required materials. Homework assignments are due at the beginning of class when the bell rings. Assignments submitted after the collection period will be considered late and will receive a 10% grade reduction. **Late work = 10% off per day.**
- 3) Persevere: You must work inside and outside of class in order to be completely successful in this course. Accept assignments without complaints and do your best on everything.
- 4) Connect: The Bible says in Psalm 139 "For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made". Embrace who God made you to be and enjoy the process of learning more about yourself, your peers, and the world.

Restroom / Leaving Classroom Policy: Use passing periods to take care of restroom and water fountain needs. In the case of an emergency approval will be granted at the discretion of the teacher.

Gum Policy: Chewing of gum will not be permitted in performing arts classes.

Student Expectations:

- ◆ It is expected that every student will conduct himself in an orderly, courteous manner at all times with prompt and respectful obedience to all school personnel, following all adult directions without comment. If a student questions a teacher's decision, he/she should speak to the teacher privately after class. At that time, he/she should respectfully explain the situation and wait for the teacher's response.
- ◆ It is expected that every student will respect the feelings and rights of others. This includes students, teachers and visitors.
- ◆ It is expected that every student will conduct himself in an honest manner, avoiding such actions as lying, stealing and cheating.
- ◆ It is expected that every student will be on time to each class and be prepared with a proper mental attitude and all their necessary materials, books and assigned work.
- ◆ It is expected that every student understands that the teacher's desk, computer, and other personal belongings and work area is personal property and will be treated as such.
- ◆ It is expected that every student will remain in compliance with the classroom teacher's rules, policies and procedures.

Minor student disruptions will be dealt with following the secondary 4-step discipline plan.

- ◆ The student will receive a verbal warning the first time.
- ◆ The student will receive a written warning the second time that will be sent home to the parents via FACTS and a conference may be requested.
- ◆ The teacher will assign a penalty to the student in the form of a detention, written assignment, or other discipline deemed appropriate if there is a third occurrence of discipline issues.
- ◆ The teacher will refer the student to the Administration if a fourth incident arises.

This syllabus contains important information specific to this course. It is important for both parent/guardian and student to read and discuss the information.

After reading the syllabus, fill out this form and submit it on Canvas by Monday, August 14th.

This form counts as a homework grade.

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I have read the High School Drama course expectations and rehearsal schedule. I understand that I am making a commitment that requires outside of class meetings and weekend rehearsals. I commit to performing the duties outlined above.

Student Name (Print): _____

Student Signature: _____

I have read the High School Drama course expectations and rehearsal schedule. I understand that my child is making a commitment that requires outside of class meetings and weekend rehearsals, and I will make myself available to help him/her in any way I can.

Parent/Guardian Name (Print): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____