

Theatre Arts II Curriculum Guide

Course #846

Revised: May 2008

Credits: CP-A 1.12

Prerequisite: Theatre Arts I or permission from the teacher.

Course Description: The purpose of this course is to further enhance and challenge skills and knowledge acquired in Theatre Arts I. First, the students will continue to improve the communication process by participating in theatre activities designed to increase each student's organization, concentration, critical thinking, creativity, memorization, confidence, and self-awareness. Secondly, students will continue to develop and sharpen individual and ensemble performance techniques through the use of various exercises in physical and technical awareness such as improvisation. They will also become more familiar with the role, responsibility and craft of the actor, the director, and the playwright in regard to character development, blocking, play analysis, and moment to moment reality in a given production. Students will trace the history of the American musical and they will read, interpret, observe, perform, and discuss scenes and plays from a variety of periods. This is a performance class and will involve actual staging and acting.

High Point Regional High School's curriculum and instruction are aligned to the State's Core Curriculum Content Standards and address the elimination of discrimination by narrowing the achievement gap, by providing equity in educational programs and by providing opportunities for students to interact positively with others regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender, religion, disability or socio-economical status.

Course Objective: After the completion of Theatre Arts I and II, all students will have had instruction, practice and performance utilizing all of the elements of study outlined in the course description. The successful completion of all the activities will provide the student with a more advanced view of the foundations of theatre performance and study.

CCCS Addressed: Standards 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6 of the Visual and Performing Arts.

Unit 1: Theatre Games/Ice-Breakers

2 weeks

Unit Goals:

1. Observe, evaluate and perform various theatre games and exercises to stimulate a positive working environment in the classroom.
2. Review and compare objectives met in Theatre Arts I.
3. Develop classroom rules and a work ethic for study and performance.
4. Begin further development of self-awareness, confidence, energy and concentration.

Unit 2: Improvisation

6 weeks

Unit Goals:

1. Review and discuss the principles and rules of improvisation.
2. Review concepts and relevance to improving an individual's acting craft.
3. Perform, sharpen and evaluate performances within improvisational exercises ranging in various levels of difficulty.

Unit 3: Characterization and Scene Analysis

12 weeks

Unit Goals:

1. Read, interpret and analyze whole and parts of dramatic scripts, taking into account the context, and constructively suggesting alternative artistic choices.
2. Define and discuss the structure of drama. Scene and plot analysis, protagonist...etc.
 3. Analyze the physical, emotional, and social dimensions of characters found in dramatic text.
4. Define, discuss and practice the 16 steps to characterization. Internalizing, externalizing, concentrating, observing, emotional memory, projecting, motivating, stretching the character, the consistent inconsistency, playing the conditions, playing the objectives, playing the obstacles, playing the object, energy, focus and uniqueness.
5. Demonstrate and sharpen skills in listening and reacting.
6. Compare, define, observe and demonstrate various acting techniques and methods in relation to characterization.
7. Prepare, create, perform and sustain given roles/characters in various scenes.
8. Demonstrate artistic discipline to achieve excellence in a rehearsal or performance setting.
9. Constructively evaluate their own and others' collaborative efforts and choices in a performance.
10. Demonstrate improvement in skills to benefit an individual's performance in the audition process

Unit 4: Theatre History and Styles

8 weeks

Unit Goals:

1. Define and apply drama terminology.
2. Define and explain the technical aspects of the theatre.
3. Define and identify the varieties of drama (tragedy, farce, melodrama...etc.).
4. Trace the history of the Broadway American musical.

Unit 5: Production

6 weeks

Unit Goals:

Final Exam Preparation and Performance

1. Students will assume a role within an extended scene or one-act play for their final exam performance based on their class performance throughout the year. Groups will be divided based on ability, character description and scene criteria.
2. Students will be expected to memorize, analyze, costume, stage, accessories and interpret an extended scene or one-act play for performance. Each student will be evaluated with a detailed rubric appropriate to the role they are performing.

Implementation of Technology

Students will have the opportunity to have their performances videotaped, as an exercise to see themselves performing. Following each scene, the students will constructively critique themselves and their fellow peers according to the scene's objectives.

Other Requirements:

1. Students will observe and critique amateur and professional productions.
2. Students will develop appropriate rehearsal etiquette for each unit and learn to utilize each daily class period to the fullest extent.
3. Students will practice the correct use of constructive criticism as well as working effectively in a group activity repeatedly throughout the year.

Materials and Methods to be used:

1. Lecture and Demonstration
2. Stage, Television, and Film excerpts and performances appropriate to each unit.
3. Various professional texts/scripts copied for lecture, exercises and performances.

Evaluation:

Participation	30%
Tests/Projects/Assignments	30%
Mid-term Exam (Revised May 2008)	20%
Final Exam (Revised May 2008)	20%