

## Theatre Arts III Curriculum Guide

**Course #847**  
**Written May 2008**  
**Credits: CP-A 1.12**

**Prerequisites:** Theatre Arts I and II 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 and II.. First, the students will continue to build on and improve the communication process by participating in theatre activities designed to increase each students= organization, concentration, critical thinking, creativity, memorization, confidence, and self-awareness. Secondly, the students will continue to develop and sharpen individual and ensemble performance techniques through the use of various exercises in physical and technical awareness. They will also increase their familiarity and experience with the roles, responsibilities and skills 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 also explore and increase their knowledge of various technical roles in theatre such as lighting, sound, stage management, set design...etc. Students will trace the history of the theatre and they will read, interpret, observe, perform, analyze and discuss scenes and plays from a variety of periods. Once again, this is a performance class and will involve actual directing, acting, play writing, and designing.

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, II and III 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 advanced theatre games and exercises to stimulate a positive working environment in the classroom.
2. Review and discuss objectives met in Theatre Arts I. and II.
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: 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. Review the structure of drama (protagonist, exposition...etc).
3. Reinforce analysis of the physical, emotional, and social dimensions of characters found in dramatic texts.
4. Strengthen 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. Experiment with various acting techniques and methods to strengthen each individual characterization process.
6. Prepare, create, perform and sustain given roles/characters in various monologues and scenes.
7. Define and explore stage combat.
8. Demonstrate a consistent 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.

**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.

**Unit 4: Theatre History and Styles****8 weeks****Unit Goals:**

1. Review and expand drama terminology.
2. Review and role play the technical roles and responsibilities of the theatre.
3. Review the varieties of drama (tragedy, farce, melodrama...etc.).
4. Trace the history of the drama.
5. Introduction and exploration of storytelling and playwriting.

## **Unit 5: Directing**

**6 weeks**

### **Unit Goals:**

1. Identify, explore and practice the role of the director.
2. Identify, demonstrate and explore the process of blocking a scene.
3. Develop multiple interpretations and visual production choices for a scene.
4. Effectively communicate directorial choices to an actor or small ensemble.
5. Define, improve and explore performance in the audition process.

## **Unit 6: Production**

**6 weeks**

### **Unit Goals:**

#### **Final Exam Preparation and Performance**

1. Students will assume a role of either the actor or the director 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 help choose and cast, 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.

#### **Other Requirements:**

1. Students will continue to observe and critique amateur and professional productions.
2. Students will strengthen appropriate rehearsal etiquette for each unit and learn to utilize each daily class period to the fullest extent.
3. Students will continue to 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%

