

Theatre Arts IV Honors Course Outline

Course # 848.01

Level: H 1.20

Credits: 5

July 2009

Prerequisite: Completion of Theatre Arts I, II, III and Permission from the teacher.

Course Description

The purpose of this course is to educate, reinforce, challenge, perform and evaluate skills and knowledge acquired in Theatre Arts I, II and III at a collegiate level of study and performance. First, the students will target and challenge individual strengths and weaknesses in acting by participating in exercises designed to identify, improve and sharpen each performers' organization, concentration, critical thinking, creativity, memorization, confidence, and self-awareness. Secondly, the students will continue to develop and sustain individual and ensemble performance techniques through the use of various exercises in physical and technical awareness. They will also further increase and demonstrate their familiarity and experience with the roles, responsibilities and skills of the actor and the director in regard to character development, blocking, play analysis, and moment to moment reality in a given scene or production. Select students favoring technical theatre will continue to explore and challenge their knowledge of various backstage roles in theatre such as lighting, sound, stage management, set design...etc. All students will continue to 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, 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, sexual orientation, gender, religion, disability or socio-economical status.

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

Course Outline:

Students completing a full year course in Theatre Arts IV will be able to demonstrate the following skills and competencies as listed in the national standards for theatre:

- Ability to expand, define and apply theatre and drama terminology.
- Ability to trace the history of American Musical Theatre.
- Ability to research and present elements of theatre history to the class in a lesson format.

- Ability to identify key actors, directors, choreographers, playwrights, designers, lyricists, and composers in the professional field of the performing arts.
- Ability to practice and analyze individual play writing by constructing imaginative scenes and collaborating with peers to refine so that story and meaning are conveyed to an audience.
- Ability to perform and expand various technical roles of theatre (production, stage management, lighting, set designing.)
- Ability to study acting as a profession. (Equity union, summer stock...etc.)
- Ability to demonstrate skill and confidence in the audition process.
- Ability to observe and constructively evaluate amateur and professional productions.
- Ability to effectively communicate directorial choices to a small ensemble.
- Ability to prepare and perform individual and ensemble performances.
- Ability to analyze the physical, emotional, and social dimensions of characters found in dramatic texts.
- Ability to compare, improve and demonstrate various acting techniques and methods.
- Ability to create and sustain characters that communicate with audiences.
- Ability to develop and stage multiple interpretations and visual production choices for scripts.
- Ability to justify selections of text, interpretation, and visual choices.
- Ability to analyze and critique the whole and parts of dramatic performances, taking to account the context, and constructively suggest alternative artistic choices.
- Ability to honestly and constructively evaluate their own and others' collaborative efforts and choices in a performance.
- Ability to demonstrate consistency in artistic discipline to achieve excellence in a rehearsal or performance setting.
- Ability to videotape and constructively critique individual performances.

Resources

Various theatre texts with emphasis on history, terminology, technique, characterization, directing, play writing, scene/monologue excerpts and overall scene preparation.

Evaluation

Participation	30%
Tests/Projects/Assignments	30%
Mid-term Exam	20%
Final Exam	20%

Creativity is difficult to grade, but clearly some of you will be better than others. The idea is to learn from your peers, take constructive criticism from the teacher and the class and use it to make your performance better.