

**DRAMA TWO SYLLABUS** 



# Teacher: Denise Elia-Yen

Room: J-4 Performing Arts Building Office Hours: Monday through Friday 1:35-3:30pm

# This is your captain speaking...

Welcome aboard Flight 2020-2021 boldly going where no one has gone before. We are currently forging forth at ever increasing speed to new vistas of knowledge. On your right you'll find way too many ways to reach me and find us on social media. You want Parent Square? We got Parent Square. You want Instagram? We got Instagram. You want Google Classroom? We are populated!

So sit back, relax, and enjoy this course introduction. We are PUMA STRONG!

# **Program Overview**

| <u>**</u>                      | Google<br>Classroom | Code for Drama 2: 6u4pssw  |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|--|
| M                              | Gmail               | deliayen@srcs.k12.ca.us  |
|                                | Parent<br>Square    | Denise Elia-Yen  |
|                                | Remind              | Class: Drama2 (20-21)<br>Instructions: Text @yen2drama to the number 81010 |
| Ø                              | Instagram           | MCHS Arts  |
| carrilledramaclub<br>MCHS 2020 | Drama<br>Club       | <u>carrillodramaclub</u>   |
| ſ                              | Facebook            | Maria Carrillo High School Arts  |
| Jùmas                          | Program<br>Website  | mariacarrillohighschool.com/dramaandstagecraft                             |

- $\circ$  This is an advanced theatre class; I watch and give points for work and improvement. I am not here to judge talent but to develop the skill within each student for their personal best.
- We have 80 minute block class periods that include up to 30 minutes max of Zoom instruction, twice per week. *Check your class schedule for when our block(s) meets!*
- My Office Hours are by appointment Monday Friday 1:35 3:30 p.m. Just send me an email to arrange your time and I would be happy to work with you!
- Homework will be minimal as most work is done in class. Homework is usually toward a long-term quarterly or group project, or in preparation of a production or festival submission. Expect 30-60 minutes homework tops a week and advance notice of any more.
- $\circ$  I will lead lectures from home and school, provide live and recorded demonstrations, and invite professional guest artists throughout the industry to share their expertise.

# Drama 2 Course (Drama 1 prerequisite or by audition with Mrs. Elia-Yen)

This course continues the performance pathway by reinforcing Drama 1 skills. We further challenge the actor to free their individual creativity for fuller connection of mind, body, and emotion in performance. Drama 2 students will experience high quality project-based learning with opportunities for leadership and community building within class and beyond.

# New Drama 2 students will learn:

- Drama 1 recap (Commedia, History, Stand-up Comedy, Auditions, Actor's résumé, etc.)
- Advanced acting techniques for stage, and then focus on Film, TV/Commercial, YouTube;
- Explore how to prepare and conduct oneself during a callback audition with cold readings;
- Strengthen vocal techniques (diction and projection) and create voiceovers;
- Intro to Shakespeare's language through sonnets and monologues;
- Accents (British, Southern U.S., etc.);
- Script analysis for stage and screen, and how to create and perform original works;
- Connect with local talent agencies and casting directors for work in the industry.

Repeating Drama 2 students will continue the above points, plus:

- Examine and regularly perform complex modern, classical, and Shakespearean works;
- Direct monologues and scenes from various cultural sources;
- Prep for university auditions.
- All Drama 2 students will present in-class work in two showcases, fall and spring.

# **Required Supplies and Tech**

- Google Classroom, Zoom Meetings, and Remind App
- Notebook dedicated to Drama 2 (still helpful to physically write stuff down!)
- Folder on your computer dedicated to Drama 2 (to keep track of information I share)
- Pens, pencils, highlighters (for note taking and script memorization)
- Comfortable clothing that allows for free movement and close-toed shoes
- Water bottle
- Headphones/earbuds for Zoom meetings to ease Zoom's live audio demands
- Optional Printer Sometimes it easier on the eyes to look at a printed copy of a monologue or scene after using a screen all day. It is also helpful to physically underline text and make notes right on the page. If you prefer working this way but do not have access to a printer, let me know and I will have a printed copy at school available for pickup or mailed to you.

# Internet Etiquette

A high sense of mutual respect, self-respect, and integrity is expected for MCHS students at school and in online settings. All students are expected to conduct their communications in a professional, respectful manner. The use of proper Internet etiquette is expected at all times. Inappropriate language, behavior, or use of other's images/likeness without permission will result in disciplinary action.

Students are expected to behave appropriately when on a Zoom connection with other students and teachers. This includes dressing appropriately, keeping the camera on so the teacher and other students can see the student's image, using their name appropriately for identification, keeping the microphone on mute other than when directed, and using appropriate images, physical, or virtual backgrounds that do not distract and do not include racial slurs, drugs, alcohol, nudity, or other offensive images or language. In accordance with California Education Code, district policies, and guidelines, disciplinary action may be taken for any violation.

# More Rule Goodness

Our time together live on Zoom is short, so arrive on time ready to work and minimize distractions. This means putting away your cell phone and managing personal matters like using the restroom or having a meal before or after we meet.

Respect each other and each person's point of view.

Do all of your own work. Even in a group project, hold your own and ask me for help anytime!

#### Attendance

I will be taking attendance via Zoom meetings. You will be marked tardy if you are more than 5 minutes late, and will be marked as cutting class if you have an unexcused absence, which will impact your participation grade. I will also accept an assignment by 3pm each day it is due as a meaningful interaction toward attendance. However, chronic tardiness or absence may also result in disciplinary consequences. *(See Absences below.)* 

# Grading

I use Illuminate Ed for grades. A = 90-100; B = 80-89; C = 70-79; D = 60-69; F = below 60

<u>Participation 40%</u> - Participation, engagement, listening, and collaboration are key for Drama. This also encompasses attitude, behavior, and preparedness. Students are expected to have good attendance and contribute to class discussions and activities.

<u>Tests 30%</u> - Expect tests toward the end of each unit and quizzes in between. Plenty of advance notice will always be given for tests, but there may be pop quizzes! Students are required to present some of their in-class work in two showcases, one in December and one in May, that serve toward their mid-term exam and final exam respectively. Please check Calendar Dates below to accommodate this requirement among your schedules. <u>Notify me by</u> <u>September 8 if there is concern about your ability to attend a showcase, and to arrange with me an alternate time to present no later than 2 days after the showcase date. If you do not arrange an alternate date by 9/8, but you still present within 2 days after the showcase date, you will start with one full grade deduction. After that, and no-shows, receive a zero.</u>

<u>Assignments 30%</u> - Students will prepare assignments within class to make the most of the collaborative nature of our subject. Homework is rare. Support is available to assist in completing assignments by clear due dates. Turn in assignments in Google Classroom.

Extra Credit - Students can earn extra credit. See me for more information.

# Absences and Late Work

If you miss class, it is *your* responsibility to find out what you missed. I will not track you down. Check Google Classroom and Remind App for updates and/or with a fellow classmate for notes, and make arrangements with me to make up the work or test within the same number of classes that you missed. For example, let's say you were absent 2 days; you then have 2 days to do make-ups, though faster is almost always easier on you while content is freshest in your mind. Turning in an assignment or project late will result in a full-grade point deduction per day late up to two days; no assignment or project will be accepted more than two days late unless there are extenuating circumstances. See me if you have any concerns.

# \$150 \$50 Donations

The donation request is reduced by two-thirds in being sensitive to our current crisis. As part of a public school, we cannot require any type of fee, but as a specialized program that is highly materials based, donations from program participants greatly offset expenses.

Under normal circumstances, our productions, field trips, and festivals are supported entirely by ticket sales and donations. Costs include sets (lumber, paint, and decorations), computer programs for designs, technical equipment for lighting and sound, costumes, make-up, props, scripts, copyright royalties, advertising, as well as transportation, lodging, and festival registration for each participant.

Some of these items will still be necessary to purchase even as we are in distance learning, and all of these items need to keep us going when we return to in-person learning. We are planning performances online, but not having in-person shows in the meantime will definitely make an adverse impact on what our ticket sales used to be.

Please consider contributing to your student's costs. No one will be excluded because of an inability to donate, but anything you can contribute is a huge help! THANK YOU!!

#### Please mail checks payable to MCHS (with "Drama" written in the memo) to:

Attention: Mrs. Denise Elia-Yen Maria Carrillo High School 6975 Montecito Blvd. Santa Rosa, CA 95409

#### **Program Calendar**

Please note that other performing opportunities may pop up and dates may shift as we proceed.

Let's see how things go and use this schedule as a starting point.

# OCTOBER

Monday, October 26 - Saturday, October 31 - Fall Drama Production Pre-recorded Broadcast

#### DECEMBER

Thursday, December 3 – Sunday, December 6 – Winter Drama Production Tuesday, December 8 – Drama 1 and Drama 2 Winter Showcases Saturday, December 12 and Sunday, December 13 – Winter Drama Production

#### JANUARY

Tuesday, January 5 - Friday, January 8 - Auditions for Spring Drama Production

#### FEBRUARY

Lenaea Festival 2021 TBD – This festival may be held virtually this year. Stay tuned for details.

#### **APRIL and MAY**

Thursday, April 22 – Saturday, May 1 - Spring Drama Production Tuesday, May 25 – Drama 1 and Drama 2 Spring Showcases

# Volunteering

I would love to have volunteers lined up so that when we arrive at in-person learning and safety precautions allow, we can activate our helpers! Please email me if you are interested!

# A note about Mature Content

The MCHS Theatre program is committed to educating students about contemporary themes, ideas, and imagery within the larger arts community. Sometimes in our advanced Drama 2 class it is necessary to analyze and work with such material. It serves as a stepping stone in preparing students for the type of material they will encounter in the university performing arts setting and beyond. As such, students may be exposed to works of art as relevant within the context of class curriculum that include mature content. Mature content may include, but is not limited to, issues of **race, culture, religion, violence, language, sexuality, and gender.** The sophisticated and possibly challenging content of work that MCHS Drama 2 students engage with and, in some instances, produce, requires that parents and guardians consent to students' exposure to possibly controversial content.

I am a teacher. I am also a parent. It is important to me to prepare students and do so in good taste, but also to honor their comfort level and the wishes of their parents.

If you wish that your student refrains from mature content in material covered this school year, please email me at <u>deliayen@srcs.k12.ca.us</u> by September 8, 2020, and I will gladly honor the request. I will make sure that parents who have asked that their student not be exposed to mature content, and students who have made this very request themselves, are given alternative and equivalent experiences.