

TAMALPAIS UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Larkspur, California

Course of Study

Stagecraft 1-2

Introduction: Stagecraft 1-2, Visual and Performing Arts, 3rd year Drama, year-long course

Schools where course is taught: Tamalpais High School, Redwood High School, Sir Francis Drake High School.

Length of Course: One year

Subject Area and Discipline: Fine Arts- Drama

Grade Levels: 11, 12

Is this course an integrated course? No

Course Description

This course is designed to expose students to basic theater production elements and design. During the year students will learn basic stagecraft techniques, sound production and operation, lighting design and theater electrics, fundamentals of prop and costume design and implementation, projection technology, backstage practices, and stage management. Students will learn the basics of front of house and theater management, including box office, house management, and fundraising, concessions, publicity, and creation of programs. Students learn safe working practices, to be accountable for their time, and to maintain a clean and organized workspace.

Prerequisite skills and knowledge:

Prerequisites are Drama 1-2, Drama 3-4 and/or consent of the instructor.

Co-requisites: Concurrent enrollment in Drama 5/6.

List of program goals/learning outcomes:

Program Goals to be addressed in this class:

- Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work
- Organize and develop artistic ideas and work
- Refine and complete artistic work
- Analyze, interpret and select artistic work for presentation
- Develop and refine artistic techniques and work for presentation
- Convey meaning through the presentation of artistic work
- Perceive and analyze artistic work
- Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work
- Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work
- Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art
- Relate artistic ideas and work within societal, cultural and historical context to deepen understanding

• *The 21st Century Skills that will be included in this class are: critical thinking, collaboration, creativity, risk-taking and problem solving.*

Suggested textbook(s), materials, equipment and resources

There is no single text, but many references and sources will be used including:

Books:

Theater Production and Design
Scene Design and Stage Lighting
The Empty Space

J. Michael Gillette
W. Oren Parker and R. Craig Wolf and Dick Block
Peter Brook

Students enrolled in Stagecraft 1-2 are involved in projects with professional theater practitioners who provide significant mentoring in addition to individual work with course instructors.

These books and materials have previously been approved by the board

Requirements satisfied: Elective

Example Assignments:

Unit #1

Safety and Operations

Description:

Running the theater facility, storage systems, safety and maintenance of equipment, understanding and implementing safety protocols, organization and general knowledge of theater operations and equipment, including clean up.

Program Goals:

- Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work
- Develop and refine artistic techniques and work for presentation

21st Century Skills: *Collaboration, Critical thinking and Problem Solving*

To that end, the student will demonstrate his or her understanding by:

- Maintaining a journal portfolio of work
- Reflective writing on his or her process
- Producing renderings, drafting, cue sheets and other content specific documentation of their ideas and processes

Sample Assignment: Cleaning and inventory of lighting equipment. Students are required to correctly identify, clean and store four to six discrete types of instrument, implementing safe working practices.

Students attending the maintenance call are mentored in one of the disciplines and procedures necessary to bring the project to completion.

Skills Acquired:

Collaboration: working within a team.

Communication: Articulating tasks and issues that arise within the team.

Problem solving: Analyzing and addressing needs of the production and developing a plan of action.

Creativity: Finding a way to meet the often bizarre or unusual needs of certain plays within the parameters of the performance space.

Assessment:

Students complete a set number of hours for a particular production and within a particular discipline (lighting, construction, sound, costume, props). Students track their hours and write reflectively about their experiences and are able to articulate their achievements and their challenges.

Unit #2

Description:

Collaborative Work in Production:

Students work in teams led by peers and teachers and/or guest artist mentors creating all elements of the production: lighting, set, sound, costumes and props. They must manage a timeline in tandem with the rehearsal process for the production leading up to the public performances.

Program Goals:

- Organize and develop artistic ideas and work
- Develop and refine artistic techniques and work for presentation

21st Century Skills: Collaboration, Critical thinking and Problem Solving

To that end, the student will demonstrate his or her understanding by:

- Maintaining a journal portfolio of work
- Reflective writing on his or her process
- Producing renderings, drafting, cue sheets and other content specific documentation of their ideas and processes

Sample Assignment: Lighting crew. Students will work in teams under a peer lighting designer, spending 15-30 hours hanging, troubleshooting, patching, coloring and focusing a light plot for a specific production.

Skills Acquired:

Collaboration: working within a team.

Communication: Articulating tasks and issues that arise within the team.

Problem solving: Analyzing and addressing needs of the production and developing a plan of action.

Creativity: Finding a way to meet the often bizarre or unusual needs of certain plays within the performance space.

Assessment:

Students complete a set number of hours for a particular production and within a particular discipline (lighting, construction, sound, costume, props). Students track their hours and write reflectively about their experiences and are able to articulate their achievements and their challenges.

Unit #3

Front of House:

Description:

Students work in groups under the supervision of peer leaders, teachers and/or guest artists to learn procedures and protocols for House Management, Concessions and Box Office Sales. Students organize supplies needed, track financial profit/ loss, and present a professional demeanor when serving the public.

Program Goals:

- Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work
- Refine and complete artistic work

21st Century Skills: Collaboration, Critical thinking and Problem Solving

To that end, the student will demonstrate his or her understanding by:

- Maintaining a journal portfolio of work
- Reflective writing on his or her process
- Producing renderings, drafting, cue sheets and other content specific documentation of their ideas and processes

Skills Acquired:

Collaboration: working within a team.

Communication: Articulating tasks and issues that arise within the team.

Problem solving: Analyzing and addressing needs of the production and developing a plan of action.

Creativity: Finding a way to meet the often bizarre or unusual needs of certain plays within the performance space.

Sample Assignment:

Students prepare tickets for sale, organize pre-sales, track number of tickets sold at various price levels, and compute properly the sums needed for official forms. Students learn professional customer service.

Assessment:

Students complete a set number of hours for a particular production and within a particular discipline (lighting, construction, sound, costume, props). Students track their hours and write reflectively about their experiences and are able to articulate their achievements and their challenges.

Course Materials:

Lighting, Sound and Video Equipment, design plans and/or work drawings, tools, craft supplies, sewing equipment, construction supplies, etc.

Reference sources include the internet, magazines and published how-to manuals and books such as Theatre: Art in Action (ISBN-13: 9780844253077, Publisher: McGraw-Hill Professional Publishing)

Course Authors: Britt Block, Peter Parish and Susan Brashear- Drama Instructors in the Tamalpais Union High School District.

UC (f) Approved
BOT Approved 5/10/16