

COURSE TITLE	Theatre Arts I
INSTRUCTOR	Mr. Simpson
DEPARTMENT	Fine Arts
MEETING TIMES	Periods 1, 2, 3

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course, designed as an introduction to the theatre, includes voice and diction, movement, improvisation, theatre history, introduction to technical theatre and theatre production, and play analysis.

REQUIRED MATERIALS

- Notebook
- Textbook (provided)
- Pencils
- Erasers
- Highlighter

GRADES & SCORING

PARTICIPATION / DAILY WORK – 40%: This includes punctuality, having proper materials, and use of class and/or rehearsal time. /

This also includes a daily warm-up journal. You will write and answer a warm-up prompt everyday for a grade. Warm-up journal checks will take place every Friday.

EXAMS/MAJOR WORK – 60%: This includes any written or oral exam and/or papers/criticisms, major projects, and performances. Criteria for grading all performances will be received by the students at the time the project/performance is assigned.

Work within the class will be rehearsal/performance oriented. You will receive information before each assignment that details exactly what is expected but points will always be received based on two criteria.

1. **Involvement and self assessment** – You will take part in assigned exercises and critique your personal performance.

2. **External assessment** – You will watch another group of students perform and critique their performance. (e.g. What worked, what didn't work and why it did or didn't work)

Because acting is not only individual, but a team sport, classroom participation is important for not only each individual's student's growth but also for the growth of classmates. Students will be expected to participate on stage in front of the class and in the discussions following the performances.

Assessments (on-going, formative and summative):
Students will be assessed in multiple ways.

On-Going

- The assessment process is ongoing as part of the teaching and learning cycle, and is used to diagnose, monitor, and summarize student learning.

Formative

- auditions, teacher observation and assessment, student self-assessment, descriptive feedback to and from students

Summative

- performances, presentation, self- or peer-assessment, written responses, use of rubrics, technical exams and technical demonstrations, class discussions

QUIZZES, TESTS & EXAMS

There will be one major exam per semester covering everything learned from the beginning of the course to that point in time. Exams are scheduled during the school wide exam period.

There will be tests on every unit of the syllabus. Tests will be preannounced. All tests are worth a minimum of 100 points.

Quizzes may or may not be preannounced and will take up to 20 minutes to complete. They will be small in the scope of material that they cover.

Most major grades will be performance based with the criteria given to each student in rubric form prior to the assignment.

PAPERS & PROJECTS

View **TWO LIVE THEATRE EVENTS** (at least one per semester) during the course and evaluate the performance. (See guidelines for writing the reviews.) Please see the TEKS for the objective for viewing live theatre and being an audience member.

Each viewing shall equal a major grade. **You shall have a program and/or a ticket stub attached to the written critique of the viewing experience** within a 24-hour period of the play attendance. The play will be one which you have seen during this course.

“Live theatre” includes plays, operas, and dance events such as a ballet.

“Live theatre” is NOT a videotaped event, TV show, movie or concert.

You may substitute one approved play report or project for a live performance during the year.

ATTENDANCE & TARDINESS POLICY

Refer to student handbook

Be Prompt, Absence and tardiness will not make your teacher and/or your group fonder.

Text and Recommended Reading

Text - The Stage and The School, Basic Drama Projects