Deer Valley Unified School District

Teacher: Laura Nardone

Course Title: Advanced Performance Theatre

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Course Description:
Welcome to Advanced Performance Theatre at Mountain Ridge High School! Theatre is a collaborative art form. Particularly in the advanced levels of theatre, it is essential that students are free to create, take risks, and perform on a daily basis; mutual trust is vital to the success of the class and the furthering of student potential. This class, Advanced Performance Theatre, is aligned with Arizona College and Career Ready Standards and/or national standards and supports school-wide efforts to increase student achievement.

Course Objectives:
Advanced Performance Theatre is designed to expand students' knowledge of the various aspects of live theatre. By the time the student completes this course of study, the student will know or be able to:

1.) 1.1.102- Cooperate in the dramatic process.
2.) 1.2.305- Develop and maintain a portfolio of best personal works that exhibit and reflect growth and knowledge as an actor (e.g., DVD of performances, photographs, resume).
3.) 1.2.403- Compare and demonstrate various acting techniques and methods (e.g., stage, on-camera, film), individually or in an ensemble, to create and sustain characters that communicate with audiences in formal/informal theatre, television, film/video, and other electronic media productions.
4.) 1.3.310- Design and/or implement technical elements for theatre, film/video, and electronic media productions based on designs from a concept and collaboration with a director.
5.) 1.4.404- Compare and integrate art forms by analyzing traditional theatre, dance, music, visual arts, and other art forms.
6.) 1.5.402- Problem-solve independently and collaboratively during the rehearsal/production processes.
7.) 1.5.404- Conduct rehearsals demonstrating a variety of directorial methods leading to a public or filmed performance.
8.) 2.1.402- Show exceptional leadership skills in the collaborative process.
9.) 2.4.302- Research a variety of sources to enrich the understanding and development of original characters, and analyze how a playwright's cultural background influences his/her character choices.
10.) 3.4.301- Evaluate the overall artistic merit of written dramatic work by oneself and others.

Classroom Rules and Consequences:
Students in Advanced Performance Theatre are expected to adhere to the following rules:

1.) Abide by all school rules as outlined in the MRHS Student Handbook.
2.) Show respect for yourself and others at all times. Be respectful of all people, property and points of view. **Please remember that such respect includes use of technology and that use of electronic devices is limited to teacher approved times. Electronics used outside of approved times may be confiscated.**
3.) Enter and leave the classroom in an orderly fashion.
4.) Absolutely no food, drink, or gum is permitted in any theatre classroom.
5.) Come prepared.
6.) Be here and be yourself. You have something valuable to contribute to our class!

Potential Consequences:
(1) Verbal warning, (2) Removal from class, (3) Parent Contact, (4) Seating Change, (5) Referral, (6) Removal by security staff

Grading:
Grades are based on a percentage of all possible points.
(100%-90%=A, 89%-80%=B, 79%-70%=C, 69%-60%=D, 59% and lower=F).

The Deer Valley Unified School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. For any inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies contact the Superintendent's Department, 20402 N. 15th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85027. (623) 445-5000.

Grades will be earned on work in the following areas:

1.) Daily participation/rehearsal points
2.) Projects
3.) Class performances
4.) Written evaluation, including class notes, calendars, vocabulary, quizzes, tests, and reports
5.) Final exam (comprises 20% of the student's grade)

Late work will not be accepted in Advanced Performance Theatre. There are no extra credit opportunities at Mountain Ridge. There are no test retakes in Advanced Performance Theatre.

Report Cards
In an effort to conserve resources and harness the capacity of our electronic grade reporting program (PowerSchool) district schools will no longer print hard copies of report cards unless requested by individual parents. To request a hard copy of your student's report card, please contact the front office at 623-376-3000. To receive your PowerSchool login, please stop into the office with a valid photo ID.

Power School Online Access:
Grades and attendance may be accessed 24 hours a day online with your Power School access code. Access codes are available in the Counseling Office or Front Desk Monday – Friday 7:00 AM– 3:30 PM. You may check student progress regularly on the PowerSchool site using the same login for one or more students. For Mountain Ridge parents/guardians without home computer access, a computer with guest log-in capability is available in the Counseling Conference Room.

Academic Assistance/Office Hours:
In addition to the Academic Prep times built into our schedule each week, additional assistance/tutoring is provided on a weekly basis both by MRHS and individually by instructors. These office hours will be posted in the classroom and/or on my website at the start of each week. I will demonstrate to the students how to find my availability each week. I also encourage your son/daughter to write down my availability each week in their Mountain Ridge planner (provided by the school) so that you, too, are aware of my weekly availability.

Makeup Policy and Long Term Project Policy:
In the case of a student absence, it is the student's responsibility to obtain make-up work from the teacher and complete this work according to policies in the student handbook. Upon return to class after excused absences, a student has one school day for each day missed to make-up work/tests regardless of the number of days absent. Long term projects are due on the date and time assigned, as defined in writing in advance by the teacher. No exceptions. This supersedes the make-up policy. If the student is absent or the class does not meet that day, the project is still due on the day assigned.

Excused and Unexcused Absences:
Attendance is vital in this class! Much of Advanced Performance Theatre consists of practices, performances, and group work. Others are depending on the student's attendance in class. However, in the event of an excused absence, students may make up their participation points by completing extra performance reports or other make-up work as provided. After an **excused absence,** a student has one school day for each day missed to make up work/tests, regardless of the number of days absent. If many days were missed, please schedule an appointment with me to formulate a plan for the completion of make-up work. Make-up work for extended absences (over 3 days) may be requested through the Counseling Office and picked up there.
Class work missed as a result of an **unexcused absence** will result in a zero for that day. This includes quizzes, tests, labs, projects, participation points, etc. that were completed that day. **Also attached is a calendar of events in which Advanced Performance Theatre students are expected to participate.** These performances are considered long term assignments. Advanced Theatre follows all policies for excused and unexcused absences as stated in the MRHS Student handbook.

Recommended Supplies for this Course: Notebook, paper, writing utensils, highlighters, make up kit

Technology: Because we are becoming a technology rich campus, we are expanding the use of technology as a learning tool. Electronic devices will be increasingly integrated into the curriculum to reinforce critical thinking, collaboration, and cognitive engagement. I will designate during which activities students may use an electronic device, and I will articulate how the device should be used appropriately. If a violation of the stipulated use occurs, consequences will be enforced in accordance with the Mountain Ridge Student Handbook. While we strive to maintain a safe environment, Mountain Ridge is not responsible for lost or stolen devices brought from home., consequences will be enforced in accordance with the Mountain Ridge Student Handbook.

Extra Help/Opportunities:

Membership in the Trap Door Society, the MRHS drama club, is available to every student involved in theatre classes and/or productions. Meeting dates will be announced. Students are also encouraged to audition or work on a crew for any or all MRHS Theatre productions.