

Theatre I Syllabus

Course Description/Goals:

Theatre Arts I is an introductory acting course designed to develop fundamental performance skills for the stage. Students will explore the core techniques used by actors to bring characters to life, including methods of characterization, role preparation, and research. Emphasis is placed on building essential acting tools such as setting objectives, taking action, and analyzing scripts. Vocal exercises are introduced to strengthen vocal ability, projection, and articulation, with introductory training in dialect work. This course encourages creativity, collaboration, and self-expression, and students will have opportunities to apply their learning through performance projects throughout the year.

Course TEKS/Objectives:

The **Theatre Arts I TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills)** are organized into the following reporting categories, each emphasizing a core area of theatre education: Foundations: Inquiry and Understanding, Creative Expression: Performance, Historical and Cultural Relevance and Critical Evaluation and Response. These categories work together to provide students a comprehensive introduction to the art of theatre and help them build the foundational skills needed for continued study and performance.

https://tea.texas.gov/system/files/Theatre_HighSchool_FirstDraft_June2012.pdf

Course Outline:

Semester 1	Semester 2
<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Introduction to theatre vocabulary and terminology-Exploration of the elements of drama (plot, character, setting, conflict, theme)-Overview of theatre roles: actor, director, designer, technician, and audience	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Survey of theatre history: ancient to modern-Introduction to world theatre traditions and genres-Exploration of cultural influences on theatrical styles-Discussion of how theatre reflects and shapes society

- Introduction to stage directions, blocking, and basic technical theatre
- Observation and reflection on theatrical works
- Fundamentals of acting: body, voice, and imagination
- Improvisation techniques and theatre games
- Character development: objectives, tactics, obstacles, and relationships
- Scene work and monologue performance
- Script analysis and role preparation
- Introduction to vocal technique and articulation
- Basic training in dialects and vocal characterization
- Ensemble building and performance collaboration

- Reflective writing and journaling on personal growth and performance
- Peer and self-assessment using theatre vocabulary
- Viewing and critiquing live and recorded performances
- Participation in class discussions about theatrical work