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Course Syllabus

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Course Description: Drama combines the literary arts of storytelling and poetry with the world of live performance. As a form of ritual as well as entertainment, drama has served to unite communities and challenge social norms as well as vitalize and disturb its audiences. In order to understand this rich art form fully, students will study and discuss a sampling of plays that exemplify different kinds of dramatic structure. Among many projects and assignments, students will research and present upon the history of the dramatic arts, critique performances, and write their own screenplays.

Curricular Information

Required Analysis: *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Oscar Wilde); *Les Miserables* (Film: 2012)

Additional Resources: Google Classroom

Supplies Required for this Course: Spiral notebook, pencils/lead, 2-3 red, blue, OR black pens, 2-3 highlighters

Daily Time and Effort Expectations: Discussion and writing assignments are graded heavily. Students must be able express comprehension through verbal and written language. Students must learn to use class work time efficiently and turn in assignments on time. Students who use their class time productively should have little to no homework besides reading and preparing for class discussions.

Google Classroom: Google Classroom is where students will sometimes turn in assignments, find readings, and see upcoming deadlines or quiz dates. Students should see Google Classroom if absent for makeup work (and email with questions as needed). **Google Classroom is a tool. It does not take the place of instruction.**

Course Schedule

Topics	Major Assignments	Timeframe
Unit 1	Structures and Variety of Drama: Aristotle's key elements of a play	3 weeks
Unit 2	Theater History: Ancient Greeks, ancient Romans, Elizabethan/Shakespearean, 19th century Melodrama, Modern theater in the United States	3 weeks
Unit 3	Symbolism in Theater and Plot Chart: the importance of symbolism in theater; elements of a plot chart; students write their first screenplay in groups	3 weeks
Unit 4	Film Analysis: <i>Les Miserables</i> : identify element of plot chart and symbolism	2 weeks

Unit 5	Voice Acting: <i>The Importance of Being Earnest</i> : an introduction to acting: tone, pacing, enunciation, preparedness	2 weeks
Unit 6	Final Exam: Writing and performing a screenplay	4-5 weeks

Course Evaluation:

The percentage breakdown for semester grade calculation will be as follows:

Skills Practice 35%

- Plot chart practice, rough draft screenplays, practice performances

Assessments 50%

- Unit Quizzes, final screenplays and performances, final analysis on plays/film

Final Exam or Project 15%

Grading Scale

Grade	Percentage	Proficiency descriptors
A+	97-100	<i>Assignments are fully completed in a timely manner and of excellent quality; the student shows superior level of initiative and seeks to <u>go beyond the minimum requirements</u>. Errors are rare or nonexistent.</i>
A	93-96	
A-	90-92	
B+	87-89	<i>Assignments are fully completed in a timely manner and typically of above average quality; the student is conscientious and meets all requirements with few errors.</i>
B	83-86	
B-	80-82	
C+	77-79	<i>Assignments are generally complete (met minimum requirements) and of good quality; assigned tasks have occasional errors.</i>
C	73-76	
C-	70-72	
D+	67-69	<i>Assignments are generally incomplete or of poor quality; the student makes frequent errors in work.</i>
D	63-66	
D-	60-62	
F	0-59	<i>Work is poorly done, if at all. Overall performance is inadequate to pass the course. Note: No name = No credit Illegible = No credit Late = No credit (*will <u>STILL</u> complete and submit the assignment)</i>

Classroom Policies and Expectations: Students are expected to adhere to the classroom rules set by the teacher in their assigned classroom, and in accordance with expectations found in the North Idaho STEM Charter Academy Student Handbook and Technology Policy.

Academic Honesty Code of Conduct:

“On my honor, I will maintain the highest possible standards of honesty, integrity, and personal responsibility. This means I will not lie, cheat, or steal, and as a member of this academic community, I am committed to creating an environment of respect and mutual trust.”

Violations of this code include, but are not limited to:

- Copying another person’s work or allowing your work to be copied (plagiarism)
- Allowing someone other than yourself to complete work in your name
- Using unauthorized assistance on an assessment or assignment
- Falsifying or manipulating data
- Submitting the same work for multiple courses without instructor’s permission
- Giving answers to other students
- Lying to an instructor
- Tampering with or destroying the work of another student
- Using responses found on the internet, or created with the use of technological means (ex artificial intelligence, etc)

*****Any outside sources used on an assignment should be referenced and cited appropriately.*****

Consequences for Academic Dishonesty: At the instructor’s discretion, the student **will** lose partial or full credit for the assignment. The student will be on notice that the incident will be recorded in the gradebook and his/her parent(s) will be informed. Future academic dishonesty incidents will result in a grade of zero for the assignment, a meeting with the principal, and possible loss of credit, suspension, or expulsion. Direct copying is plagiarism. Only original work may be submitted for this (and any other) academic course. If you have any questions about avoiding plagiarism, please visit the [OWL at Purdue's "Avoiding Plagiarism" web page.](#)