

Theatre Arts I

Department: English

Department Chair: Kaylin Johnson

Credits: 0.5

Course Length: Semester

Requirements:

This course is open to all students Grades 9 -12.



Course Description:

Theatre Arts II is open to students who have successfully completed Theatre Arts I and wish to study the subject in depth and with more focus. Units include the study of movement through a series of focused exercises, script development and analysis, the study of the elements of comedy, an examination of acting theory, and several performances, and directing projects. The final exam consists of several memorized and contrasting monologues, one of which must be written by the student, presented in a single memorized performance. Students selecting this class must be willing to participate fully on a daily basis and do the necessary preparation outside of class. Participation in and completion of all components is necessary for success in this course. May be taken to satisfy Fine Arts graduation requirements.

Essential Questions:

- How does the study of movement via focused exercises help an actor become more aware of their character's physicality
- How does the understanding of acting theory help an actor effectively convey a wide range of contrasting characters?
- How can a student's performance experience influence their style as a director?

Related Frameworks/Competencies:

- PHS Learner Expectations ([Found on pg. 5 of the newest iteration of our Program of Studies](#))
- Are members of a safe, supportive, and accepting community
- Have unique talents to contribute
- Are responsible for teaching and learning
- Have access to a diverse, verified and reliable curriculum with authentic learning opportunities
- Have opportunities to explore ideas and achieve
- Will be college and career ready

Course Outcomes/Power Standards:

At the conclusion of this course students will be able to:

- RL.9-10.3: Analyze how complex characters (e.g., those with multiple or conflicting motivations) develop over the course of a text, interact with other characters, and advance the plot or develop the theme.
- W.9-10.1: Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.
- W.9-10.3: Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.
- SL9-10.1: Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grades 9–10 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.
- SL9-10.4: Present information, findings, and supporting evidence clearly, concisely, and logically such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development, vocabulary, substance, and style are appropriate to purpose, audience, and task. .

Course Expectations (Attendance, Participation, & Preparation):

Participation/Preparation for Class: In order to benefit from the course, students are expected to engage in the viewing of each film and participate in class discussions.

Attendance: Students are expected to attend all classes throughout the semester. Attendance will be taken each class. YOU are responsible for making arrangements with a classmate to get notes, assignments, directions, or announcements for missed classes. The teacher will help provide clarity on such issues, but should not be your first resource!

If an absence is deemed “unexcused” the student will not be allowed to make-up any graded classwork/quizzes/exams administered during the missed class. If you have ANY questions please see the classroom teacher and/or read the policy outlined in the most recent iterations of the Student-Parent-Teacher Handbook.

Late Work Policy:

- **Homework:** Typically your homework will be one page reflections. For full credit, the reflections must be submitted on time. For every school day late, I will deduct 1 point. If absent, please pass work on the **day you return to school**.
- **Assessments/Quizzes:** For missed quizzes and assessments, students will have 5 school days to make up this work. After 5 school days, the quiz and/or assessment becomes a zero.

Course Communication: Our primary methods for class communication will be through personal conversation, school email, and Google Classroom. The best way to contact the teacher is through use of

these methods. From time to time messages and/or assignments may be posted in Google Classroom. For this reason students should check Google Classroom early and often.

Electronic Devices: While students are allowed to possess cell phones in school, all cell phones must be placed in the designated, wall mounted phone pockets at the beginning of each period. *Students who do not "turn-in" a cell phone at the beginning of class and are found to have one on their person/in their possession will be subject to disciplinary consequences.*

In the rare instance that a student requires access to their cell phone as indicated by a 504 plan, IEP (Individualized Education Program), or Multilingual Learner services. If you have ANY questions please see the classroom teacher and/or read the policy outlined in the most recent iterations of the PHS Student Handbook.

Academic Dishonesty: It is paramount that you do your own work; provide appropriate references to all assignments; and abide by the Portsmouth High School academic honesty policy. Students who violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary action. If you have ANY questions please see the classroom teacher and/or read the policy outlined in the most recent iterations of the PHS Student Handbook.

Students may not use any work generated by an AI program as your own. This includes, but is not limited to, programs like ChatGPT, Grammarly, Paraphrase, Quillbot, etc. When revising your writing you should not be using any software that rewrites or paraphrases your words. All student work must be original and completed on a Google Doc that includes a detailed revision history. Any assignment that is submitted that does not include this revision history will not be assessed. AI detection tools may be used in conjunction with a conference with the student if there is a concern regarding originality.

Grading:

- Performances - 40%
- Projects/Written Assignments - 30%
- Participation/Classwork - 20%
- Responsibility - 10%

GRADING SCALE:

A	93-100%	B	83-86%	C	73-76%
A-	90-92%	B-	80-82%	C-	70-72%
B+	87-89%	C+	77-79%	D	65-69%
				F	< 65%

**Note: Grades > .5 will be rounded up (i.e. 93.5 will be rounded up to a 94... 92.4 will not be rounded up to a 93)*

*** In order to receive credit for the course, you must pass with at least a "D"*

SCOPE & SEQUENCE

* Please note that the Scope & Sequence provided below outlines the closest representation of course topics and timelines. Depending on the circumstances of any given school year, the order and inclusion of these topics may be subject to change.

Timeframe	Topics to be Presented
First Quarter	- Unit 1: Monologue Analysis/Monologue Performance #1 - Children’s Book Reading and Performance and Audition Techniques - Unit 2: Drama Study/Reader’s Theatre (<i>Harvey, Deathtrap, The Boys Next Door</i> or <i>I Hate Hamlet</i>) - Script Development, Acting Theory and Elements of Comedy - Unit 3: Scene Analysis/Scene Performance #1 - Movement, Stage Combat
Second Quarter	- Unit 4: Directing - Acting Theory - Unit 5: Make-Up Character/Theatre Poster Design Project - Unit 6: Mask Design and Performance - Commedia Dell’arte - Unit 7: Scene Performance #2