

Introduction to Theatre Arts

Instructor e-mail: christopher.bujold@sau57.org

Introduction to Theatre Arts serves as a base theatre class that is meant to acquaint students with a basic exposure and appreciation of various forms of theatre as an art form. The course covers major historical aspects of theatre such as important periods and written works, types of theatre, and the various jobs and duties within the theatre business. Some of the areas that are discussed include technical theatre, performance, playwriting, directing, and current theatrical practices.

Theatre Arts Competencies

Creating (20% of Quarter Grade):

- Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.
- Organize and develop artistic ideas and work.
- Refine and complete artistic work.

Performing (20% of Quarter Grade):

- Select, analyze and interpret artistic work for presentation.
- Develop and refine artistic techniques and work for presentation.
- Convey meaning through the presentation of artistic work.

Responding (30% of Quarter Grade):

- Perceive and analyze artistic work.
- Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work.
- Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work.

Connecting (30% of Quarter Grade):

- Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art.
- Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural and historical context to deepen understanding.

Assessments will be wide and varied: presentations, tests, performance, and written responses.

SHS Performing Arts Mission:

The performing arts hold transformative potential and we are committed to serving students with the highest quality, most impactful, and authentic performing arts education possible. We strive to support student learning through the discovery and development of each individual's unique skills and talents and by providing a comprehensive curriculum charged with robust, rich, and meaningful experiences.

SHS Theatre Department Mission:

Our mission is to provide a comprehensive and collaborative theatre arts education, through creating, performing, responding and connecting to theatrical works. Our aim is for all students in the program to develop empathy, cultural appreciation, and artistry.

Why Theatre? Not just “why take this class,” but why study theatre in the first place? This is a class brainstorm. Take down any notes we discuss in class:

Essential Questions for Theatre Arts

Connecting:

- What role does critical awareness, social responsibility, and empathy have in theatre?

Creating:

- How, when, and why do theatre artists' choices change?

Performing:

- Why are strong choices essential to interpreting a theatrical piece?
- What can Theatre artists do to fully prepare a performance or technical design?

Responding:

- How can the same work of art communicate different messages to different people?