

ROCKLIN HIGH SCHOOL

COURSE: Theatre Arts IV

TEACHER: Mrs. Toepke

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This one year course is designed as a professional training class. The actors will have three major assignments during the school year. We will open the year with the Mask Characterization unit, which will show the actors how to develop a character through physicalization and serve as a great bonding exercise for the class. In the Fall and Winter, the class will write and prepare an original project to be performed at the LENAEA THEATRE FESTIVAL. While they are doing this, they will also be researching, writing, and rehearsing their own One or Two Person Show. The One/Two Person Shows will be performed in the late Spring.

COURSE OBJECTIVES: In order to pass the class, the student must demonstrate mastery of the following skills:

- The student will demonstrate the ability to create and prepare a theatrical work. This will include an understanding of playwriting, rehearsal procedures, publicity, and all technical elements, including lighting and sound design, set building and painting, costume design, stage makeup and effects.
- The student will demonstrate an awareness of a variety of theatrical styles.
- The student will demonstrate that theatre both reflects and influences culture.
- The student will demonstrate the ability to be responsible and to work successfully with his/her peers.

HOMEWORK: Homework will consist of researching information about their character and the time period they are setting their show in. Actors will be expected to do writing assignments outside of class if they are unable to complete the assignment within the class period. Additional rehearsal time outside of class will be required to prepare for the festival and for their one/two person show. The student must be available to perform at the Lenaea Festival.

METHOD OF EVALUATION: Grades will be based on accumulated points earned. Class participation, graded performances and other assignments will be given a point value based upon their importance. Students are NOT graded on their talent. Their scores are based on the effort they put into a project and improvement seen over the course of the semester.

GRADING POLICY: Progress Reports will be sent home approximately five weeks into each quarter. The quarter grade is a grade in progress and will be issued at the halfway point in the semester. The semester grade is the official transcript grade. The semester grade will be based on the following scale:

A+= 100% A=90-99% B=80-89% C=70-79% NC= (No Credit) Below 70%

At this level of Theatre Arts, the students are expected to treat the class as a professional theatre job. They have “ultimate” deadlines that cannot be extended. If a student is unable to meet one of those deadlines, such as being ready to perform their one person show, they will not receive credit in the course.

PLEASE NOTE...STUDENTS WHO DO NOT TURN IN THEIR ONE PERSON SHOW DRAFT ON THE LAST DAY OF THE FIRST SEMESTER WILL BE DROPPED FROM THE CLASS. STUDENTS MAY ALWAYS TURN IN THEIR DRAFT EARLY BUT LATE DRAFTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

MAKEUP WORK: It is the student's responsibility to find out what was completed in class during his/her absence and to make up any missing assignments. If the student has a scheduled absence coming up, it is best to prearrange with the teacher to receive assignments. Those assignments will be due upon the student's return. All work missed during unscheduled absences will be due according to the number of class periods missed. For example, if a student misses two class periods in a row, he/she will have two class periods to make up the work.

EXTRA CREDIT: Extra credit will not be offered at this level of Theatre Arts. A Theatre IV student shouldn't need extra credit!

ATTENDANCE: Regular attendance is critical for success in this course. Any student arriving after the final bell must have either a signed note from another teacher or an excused note from the office. Students who arrive late and without a note will be sent to the office for a tardy slip.

MATERIALS NEEDED: At this level, the students need to keep a Theatre Arts folder. Students will be required to make or find costumes for their one or two person shows. They will also have to design, build or find all necessary props and set pieces. Theatre Arts IV students are the only ones who have the privilege of using RHS costumes and props when possible.

THEATRE RULES: These rules were established for the safety of the students and to keep our beautiful facility looking great.

- NO FOOD, DRINKS, GUM OR CANDY IN THE THEATRE COMPLEX.
- NO RUNNING UP AND DOWN THE AISLES OR JUMPING OFF THE STAGE.
- NO UNAUTHORIZED USE OF THEATRE EQUIPMENT (THIS INCLUDES THE LIGHTING AND SOUND EQUIPMENT, THE TOOLS IN THE SCENE SHOP, THE LADDERS, THE CURTAINS, THE VIDEO SCREEN, THE CAMERAS, THE PROPS, ETC.)

****GENERAL RULE – IF IT DOESN'T BELONG TO YOU, THEN DON'T USE IT!**

I find it sad to even have to state these rules for Theatre IV. However, I have found that my Seniors are the ones who feel the most at home in the theater, and therefore are the ones most tempted to break these rules. Students who refuse to follow the rules will be referred to the office and a call home will be made. Remember, these rules were made for your comfort and safety.

**STUDENT / PARENT / GUARDIAN
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM**

We have read the THEATRE ARTS IV course description and expectations concerning grading, absences, tardies, extra credit, makeup work, and theatre rules.

PLEASE CHECK ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING AND SIGN BELOW...

___ We understand the above and look forward to making this a great year!

___ We understand the above and would like to help in the following area:

___ Parents to help sell the intermission snacks during the plays

___ Parents to help sew costumes for the plays

___ We understand the above and have the following questions, comments or concerns:

Printed Parent/Guardian Name

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date _____

Printed Student Name

Student Signature

Date _____

To contact Mrs. Toepke, please email her at ctoepke@rocklinusd.org For Theatre Department announcements and updates call (916) 632-1600 Ext. 333.

Students may also contact us by email to inform us of absences and other concerns.

THANK YOU!