



DRAMA



FORESTHILL HIGH SCHOOL

MRS. COTTINGHAM

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COURSE OBJECTIVES AND DESCRIPTION

DRAMA PROMOTES LEARNING THE ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY AND PROCESSES OF THEATER AS WELL AS READING, WRITING, RESEARCHING THEATER LITERATURE, AND PERFORMING. ACTING EXPERIENCE IN THIS COURSE INCLUDES EXPLORING THE CONCEPTS OF SELF, BODY AND VOICE WORK, IMPROVISATION, ACTING TECHNIQUES, AND READING AND WRITING RELATED TO THEATER STUDY. IN ADDITION, STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT AND REFLECT ON VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THEATER THROUGH HISTORY, AS WELL AS THE VARIOUS FORMS OF DRAMA AND STAGE-RELATED MEDIA. THIS COURSE DEVELOPS CREATIVITY AND SPONTANEITY IN THOSE STUDENTS WANTING TO EXPLORE THEATER. STUDENTS WILL ALSO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR A NUMBER OF PERFORMING ACTIVITIES, SUCH AS DRAMATIC INTERPRETATIONS, PANTOMIMES, MONOLOGUES, SCENES, AND ONE-ACT PLAYS- WITH THE ULTIMATE GOAL OF PUTTING ON A PRODUCTION AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL SEMESTER.

GRADING POLICY

HIGH SCHOOL ELECTIVE CLASSES ARE INTENDED TO GIVE STUDENTS INDEPENDENCE, CREATIVITY, AND SELF-CONFIDENCE. PLEASE KEEP IN MIND THAT YOUR EXPERIENCE IN THIS CLASS IS IN YOUR OWN HANDS- CHOOSE YOUR OWN ADVENTURE! YOU ALSO EARN YOUR GRADE, I DO NOT "GIVE" IT TO YOU. ALL STUDENTS BEGIN THE SCHOOL YEAR WITH AN "A". IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO MAINTAIN IT. THIS IS A PROJECT-BASED COURSE AND MOST PROJECTS WILL TAKE SEVERAL DAYS IN CLASS TO COMPLETE. THERE ARE TWO GRADING CATEGORIES-

ENGAGEMENT AND PERSISTENCE- 60% YOU ARE HERE TO WORK ON YOUR THEATER ABILITIES- NOTHING MORE, NOTHING LESS. YOU ARE EXPECTED TO BE PRACTICING AND APPLYING YOUR SKILLS FOR THE DURATION OF CLASS TIME. YOU WILL EARN POINTS WEEKLY FOR PARTICIPATING IN DRAMA! YES, JUST LIKE P.E.!

PROJECTS/ASSIGNMENTS - 40%

THE WORK FOR THIS COURSE WILL BE GRADED ON A SCALE OF 1-4. THIS GRADING IS BROKEN DOWN AS FOLLOWS:

- 1- DOES NOT MEET THE STANDARD
- 2- NEARS THE STANDARD
- 3- MEETS THE STANDARD
- 4- EXCEEDS THE STANDARD

STUDENTS WILL BE REQUIRED TO GAIN MASTERY FOR EACH ESSENTIAL LEARNING OUTCOME OR SKILL FOR THIS COURSE. IF A STUDENT DOESN'T EARN AT LEAST A 3 OR 4, THEIR WORK WILL BE RETURNED TO BE REVISED UNTIL THEY EARN A 3 OR 4. IF IT IS A PERFORMANCE, STUDENTS MAY HAVE AS MANY CHANCES NEEDED WITHIN THE SEMESTER TO IMPROVE THEIR SCORE. STUDENTS WILL BE EXPECTED TO EARN AT LEAST A 3 OR 4 FOR "ENGAGEMENT AND PERSISTENCE" AS WELL.

STUDENTS AND THEIR ADULTS ARE ALSO ENCOURAGED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE AERIES PORTAL. IN ADDITION, ANYONE SHOULD FEEL WELCOME TO E-MAIL OR CALL MRS. COTTINGHAM TO DISCUSS ANY ISSUES.

THE ESSENTIAL LEARNING OUTCOMES OF THIS COURSE INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO-

DEVELOPING DRAMATIC ABILITY- THIS WILL OFTEN CONSIST OF A PROJECT-SPECIFIC SKILL SUCH AS LEARNING TO USE A STAGE VOICE. AS THE SEMESTER PROGRESSES PROJECTS AND THEMES WILL BECOME MORE CHALLENGING.

LEARN TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES CREATIVELY

OBSERVE- STUDENTS SHOULD TAKE IN INFORMATION REGARDING THEATER AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY

REFLECT ON WHAT HAS BEEN LEARNED- STUDENTS MUST ANALYZE THEIR OWN WORK IN AN INTELLIGENT WAY AND APPLY NEW KNOWLEDGE TO SUBSEQUENT PROJECTS.

STRETCH AND EXPLORE

BETTER UNDERSTAND THE WORLD OF THEATER

CLASS EXPECTATIONS:

RESPECT-

YOU WILL BE EXPECTED TO RESPECT OTHERS, ME AS YOUR TEACHER, PROPERTY, AND YOURSELF. THIS IS A HATE-FREE CLASSROOM- INSULTS, DEROGATORY LANGUAGE OR ANY OTHER FORMS OF DISRESPECT WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. YOU WILL ALL BE TREATED AS YOUNG ADULTS AS LONG AS YOU BEHAVE THAT WAY. HAVING RESPECT INCLUDES RESPECTING PROPERTY- THAT INCLUDES OUR SUPPLIES, CHAIRS, TABLES, AND OUR BEAUTIFUL CAMPUS. PLEASE SHOW YOUR RESPECT BY TAKING CARE OF THESE THINGS.

RESPONSIBILITY-

AS YOUNG ADULTS, YOU MUST BE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOURSELF. BE ON TIME AND PREPARED. IF YOU'RE NOT ON TIME AND PREPARED, ACCEPT THE CONSEQUENCES WITHOUT COMPLAINT. WHEN YOU ARE ABSENT OR MISSING ANY ASSIGNMENTS IT IS UP TO YOU TO CHECK GOOGLE CLASSROOM AND MAKE-UP THE WORK! IT IS YOUR JOB TO DO YOUR BEST AND BE RESPONSIBLE, AND IT IS MY JOB TO GUIDE YOU TO GREATNESS!!!!

"OTHER" POLICIES

BATHROOM- STUDENTS MAY USE THE BATHROOM ONE AT A TIME AND NEED TO TAKE THE PASS. LET THE INSTRUCTOR KNOW WHEN YOU LEAVE AND DO NOT ABUSE THIS POLICY, IT MAY BE REVOKED.

FOOD/DRINK- FOOD AND BEVERAGES ARE ALLOWED IN THE CLASSROOM AS LONG AS THEY ARE NOT DISTRACTING AND YOU CLEAN UP AFTER YOURSELF. IN THE THEATER HOWEVER FOOD IS NOT ALLOWED.

CELL PHONES/CHROMEBOOKS- ALL DEVICES MUST BE PUT AWAY WHILE THE INSTRUCTOR IS TALKING/AND OR GIVING ASSIGNMENTS. USING YOUR PHONE/COMPUTER AS A MUSIC PLAYER WHILE INDEPENDENTLY WORKING IS ALLOWED, BUT THERE IS TO BE NO TEXTING, GAME PLAYING, OR OTHER DISTRACTING USES OF YOUR PHONE OR COMPUTER IN CLASS. CHROMEBOOKS ARE A GREAT TOOL FOR RESEARCHING BUT WILL BE TAKEN AWAY IF YOU ARE NOT USING THEM FOR EDUCATION AS AGREED UPON IN YOUR "APPROPRIATE INTERNET/COMPUTER USE" AGREEMENT.

USE OF CLASS TIME- CLASS TIME IS EXPECTED TO BE SPENT WORKING ON ASSIGNMENTS. STUDENTS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO DEFER COMPLETING PROJECTS/ASSIGNMENTS AT A LATER TIME. ONLY WHEN STUDENTS ARE DONE WITH ALL THEATER ASSIGNMENTS WILL THEY BE ALLOWED TO WORK ON HOMEWORK FROM OTHER CLASSES OR ANY OTHER SCHOOL-RELATED TASK. YOU ARE HERE TO IMPROVE YOUR SKILLS FOR LIFE, NOT FOR ONLINE GAMES. WORK ON BEING THE BEST POSSIBLE VERSION OF YOURSELF WHILE YOU'RE HERE.

THE THEATER PROGRAM AT THIS SCHOOL IS RUN IN A RELAXED AND CREATIVE ATMOSPHERE. THIS WILL ONLY WORK IF STUDENTS ARE RESPECTFUL AND RESPONSIBLE AND BEHAVE LIKE THE YOUNG ADULTS THEY ARE. THERE WILL BE TIMES WHEN YOU WILL BE GIVEN THE RESPONSIBILITY TO COMPLETE TASKS, REHEARSE, SET BUILD, ETC. WITHOUT MY DIRECT PRESENCE. I EXPECT YOU TO BE SAFE AND MATURE AT ALL TIMES. DO NOT TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE TRUST I AM GIVING YOU.

YOU MAY BE REMOVED PERMANENTLY FROM THIS CLASS IF YOU DO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:

- * DANGEROUS OR DESTRUCTIVE MISUSE OF TOOLS/SUPPLIES/PROPS/SETS-
- * LEAVING THE AREA YOU ARE EXPECTED TO BE IN- THE THEATER OR CLASSROOM.
- * THIS SHOULD GO WITHOUT SAYING BUT FIGHTING, OR ANY DANGEROUS PHYSICAL "PLAYING", "WRESTLING" OR CLIMBING ON SETS/THEATER STRUCTURES.

IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT I HAVE ABSOLUTE TRUST IN THIS ATMOSPHERE!

PARENTS/GUARDIANS-

PLEASE UNDERSTAND THAT THIS CLASS WILL HAVE TIMES/OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS TO WORK INDEPENDENTLY IN THE THEATER IN AREAS (BACKSTAGE, ETC.) WHERE I WILL NOT ALWAYS BE DIRECTLY PRESENT (THE THEATER IS LARGE). IF YOU HAVE ANY CONCERNS ABOUT YOUR STUDENT BEING SAFE AND RESPONSIBLE WHEN THEY ARE INDEPENDENTLY WORKING PLEASE DISCUSS OTHER CLASS OPTIONS WITH OUR COUNSELOR. THANK YOU.

Film/Series Resources used*:

Film *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty* [Common Sense Media Review](#) (CS is a paid site but allows 3 free views a month)

Film *Hunt for the Wilderpeople* [Common Sense Media Review](#)

Film *Arsenic and Old Lace* [Common Sense Media Review](#)

Film *Clue* [Common Sense Media Review](#)

Film *Princess Bride* [Common Sense Media Review](#)

Film *Willow* [Common Sense Media Review](#)

Series/single show *Community*- S2E9 *Conspiracy Theories and Interior Design*

*STUDENTS WILL SOMETIMES RESEARCH ONLINE TO FIND EXAMPLES OF SPECIFIC ACTING TECHNIQUES ON THEIR CHROMEBOOKS INDEPENDENTLY