

Drama Class Guidelines

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Patriot Theatre students learn the 4Cs of creativity, critical thinking, collaboration, and communication - the 21st century skills that every college- and career-ready student needs.

Length of Course: 1 Year **College Prep:** Yes **Grades:** 9-12 **Credits:** 10 **Prereq:** None
Meets UC/CSU "F" requirement, EUHSD Elective Credit and Fine Arts/CTE Requirement

Drama I - This course is designed as an introduction to the theatre and to performance. The class uses a variety of exercises to isolate and develop each of the actor's physical and interpretive "tools". Class projects include pantomime, improvisation, character interpretation, two-character scenes, and one-act plays.

Drama II/Advanced - In these courses, students participate in activities and experiences that will build upon the knowledge and skills they experienced in Drama I. Students will develop the skills needed to create powerful and effective characters. Students will prepare and perform monologues, modern/classical scene studies, directing, playwriting and auditioning skills.

THE BASIC RULES (All school rules and policies will be followed at all times)

- 1. Be Present** – Attendance is a very important part of any theatre course because of the active nature of the class, and many activities cannot be made up. Class begins when the bell rings. Be inside the classroom and finished with all external business, or you will be marked tardy. Students will lose ten points for each absence and five points for each tardy.
- 2. Participate** – Do your best, every day! Your success in this class depends on your full participation and positive attitude. Students will receive up to 10 points per day for good effort and participation. There is no way to make up these points. You cannot earn participation points if you aren't here, even if it is "excused" (school related, sports, illness, etc.).
- 3. Be Prepared to Play** - Bring all materials to class with you every day (3-ring binder, dividers, two blue or black ink pens, pencil, eraser, highlighters, calendar/planner, and current script and handouts). Also, be ready to play every class with a positive attitude. **Be ready to rehearse**...be memorized, be prepared with your supplies, which may include costumes and props.
- 4. Respect Everyone** – In theatre, we all need to feel safe when performing and taking risks. Respect for your classmates and teacher is of utmost importance. We are a team and this is a safe environment. Be kind and supportive to everyone.

5. Respect the Environment - Many of our things are expensive and can be easily damaged, but not easily replaced. Do not touch anything that does not belong to you, unless directed to by the teacher. Please put things back where they belong after use. Always keep theatre spaces clean – No food or drink is allowed in class except water. Throw away food and drink outside.

*** Electronic Devices** – Cell phones, ipods, games, etc. are not permitted in class without teacher permission. You are not allowed to text, use earbuds, etc. Parents can call the front office at 760-291-5000 for emergencies. Also, leave your valuables at home and don't leave personal items behind.

*** Safety - Important:** Due to the special nature of this class, all students must exercise absolute responsibility regarding school rules and class guidelines. **Safety should be our primary concern. Any lack of concern for safety (i.e. horseplay, etc.) will not be tolerated and will be cause for an immediate office referral** and possible removal from class.

*** Grading Policy** – Grades are earned through written work, performance, and participation. Written assignments must be neat and legible, and submitted in the proper format for credit. Late work will not be accepted for a grade. If you are absent, work is due on the day you return.

MAJOR REQUIREMENT #1 (Showcase Performance): THEATRE IS A PERFORMING ART, SO SCHOOL PERFORMANCES WILL BE A MAJOR PART OF YOUR GRADE. Participation in outside of class time activities such as rehearsals, performances, and other educational enrichment events is required. **Students will participate in after-school rehearsals/performances for our Fall Drama Showcase on 12/6, 12/7, and 12/8. Please mark your calendars now to avoid potential conflicts.**

MAJOR REQUIREMENT #2 (Play Review): Theatre Arts students are required to see two shows per semester –

1. Our mainstage production on 11/2, 11/3, or 11/4 – Theatre Arts students may sign up to work on our technical stage crew, or may see the show as an audience member.

2. A community play or musical at the high school level or above. Concerts, TV shows, or movies in any form DO NOT count. This objective is to see and review LIVE theatre. Opportunities will be offered during the semester to see theatre for free. Any student choosing not to take advantage of these opportunities will need to see a suitable play on their own time for this requirement. Students will take a photo at the show, then turn in their show program and ticket with a play review.

*** EXTRA CREDIT (*Limited to two plays per semester*):**

1. Extra Play Review: Students can earn 25 points extra credit for each additional show they see during the semester and writing a play review. To earn these points, students must bring a program and ticket and complete a play review.

Permission for PG-13/R Rated Movies:

At times, we will also be watching, analyzing, and discussing videos that are related to the material being taught. Some of these may be rated PG-13 or R, and thus, need parent permission to view. When signing the acknowledgement page, your parent/guardian may give permission for you to view PG-13/R rated movies related to the curriculum.

*** Communication ***

Good communication between teachers, students, and parents/guardians is essential to maximize student success. **Please sign up for Remind.com** to stay informed about classroom assignments and requirements. If you have any questions or concerns, **email is the best way to reach me at jveitch@euhsd.org**. Please put your student's name in the subject line.