



INDIANA AREA SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Course Syllabus

[Video Introduction](#)

Course Name and Number:

Drama I (033)

Teacher:

Mrs. Leah Lyons

Email Contact:

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Course Description: ([IHS Course Description Handbook](#))

Drama I is a theater arts class which is offered during the first semester of each school year. While it is a performance art class, it is NOT an acting class. It is designed for those students wishing to learn and review the fundamental basics of acting, stagecraft, script analysis, and theater history from the ancient Greeks through the Renaissance. Students will be instructed in vocal production and projection technique, imagination expansion through improvisation and improvisational skills, and performance through a series of readings, games, exercises, and scene study with an emphasis on the performer. Students will learn and review the basics of stagecraft and stage safety. Practical hands-on experience is offered in the areas of scene design, set painting and dressing, lighting, make-up and costume preparation.

This course is designed for those individuals interested in the actual physical functions of the dramatic arts.

Course Prerequisites: ([IHS Course Description Handbook](#))

n/a

Course Outline: ([IASD Secondary Planned Courses by Subject](#))

Introduction to the Stage
Stage Safety and Stage Etiquette
History of Theatre: Origin of Western Drama: the Greeks – Middle Ages
Interpreting the Drama
Production, Performance and Exhibition of Theatre Arts
Improvisation and Theatre Games
Pantomime and Movement
Vocal Performance—using vocal expression and articulation



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Performing the Monologue
Performing the Scene
Performing the Monologue
Performing the Scene

Primary Learning Objectives/Outcomes (SWBAT): ([IASD Secondary Planned Courses by Subject](#))

Strand: Introduction to the Stage

Big Idea: The skills, techniques, elements and principles of the arts can be learned, studied, refined and practiced.

Strand: Stage Safety and Stage Etiquette

Big Idea: The skills, techniques, elements and principles of the arts can be learned, studied, refined and practiced.

Strand: History of Theatre: Origin of Western Drama: the Greeks – Middle Ages

Big Idea: Humans have expressed experiences and ideas through the arts throughout time and across cultures.

Strand: Interpreting the Drama

Big Idea: Artists use tools and resources as well as their own experiences and skills to create art.

Strand: Production, Performance and Exhibition of Theatre Arts

Big Idea: Artists use tools and resources as well as their own experiences and skills to create art.

Strand: Improvisation and Theatre Games

Big Idea: Artists use tools and resources as well as their own experiences and skills to create art.

Strand: Pantomime and Movement

Big Idea: Artists use tools and resources as well as their own experiences and skills to create art.

Strand: Vocal Performance—using vocal expression and articulation

Big Idea: Artists use tools and resources as well as their own experiences and skills to create art.

Strand: Performing the Monologue

Big Idea: Artists use tools and resources as well as their own experiences and skills to create art.

Strand: Performing the Scene

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Strand: Performing the Monologue

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Strand: Performing the Scene

Big Idea: Artists use tools and resources as well as their own experiences and skills to create art.

Career Readiness Relevance of Course to Students:

Reading, writing, speaking and listening are all elements of any job a student may apply for and/or



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obtain. This course will focus on the ability to present ideas in a clear and creative way. Drama is also an excellent class for students to refine the skill of collaboration.

Student Learning Philosophy:

As a participant in Drama students will work collaboratively to create performance art. All students are welcome to “play” together to make our art. Each student has something valuable to add to our productions.

Types of Assessments:

Performance based assessment Objective quiz
Group performance of stage
Cooperative activity
practicum
Research presentations
Choral reading presentation
Performance-based
Participation
Rubric to assess how well the student incorporated critical vocabulary into the review
Student Evaluations
Instructor Evaluations

Texts/Resources:

Stage (actual physical space)
Textbook: The Stage and the School
Textbook: Drama Projects
YouTube Videos
Drama Teacher Academy
Scripts

Grading:

Your overall grade will be determined by your ability to perform in all aspects of the classroom most activities in this class will be graded. While I do my best to set you up for success, the grade you earn is ultimately up to you. I update PowerSchool several times per week. It is *your* responsibility to check PowerSchool and to know your grade. All missing grades will be entered as “zero” until the assignment is submitted, along with an attached note.
Active Participant Points: Students will have the opportunity to earn 4 points for a class period.
Points will be earned for the 5 P’s.



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- Be Prompt- Make sure you are making it to class or the next activity on time.
- Be Prepared- Bring all necessary class materials, examples: movement or paint clothing
- Be Positive and Polite- Theater is a collaborative art: be kind and constructive
- Be Productive- It will take all of us to create a great show

You may accumulate 4 excused absences before you must start making up your missed participation time. Class time can be made up at home, through a theatrical article review (or, at school, through time spent in practicum in production- This will depend on COVID restrictions)

Make-up/Late Work Guidelines: ([Student Handbook](#))

Excused absence due to illness or extenuating circumstances (as per district policy)

Make-up work for EXCUSED absences is to be completed in a timely manner. This is considered to be one day per day of absence to a maximum of three absences. For example, if you were out one day, you have one day to get the makeup work and an additional day to turn it in. Assignments collected on days your absences were UNEXCUSED will be worth zero points.

If you miss a major assignment, such as an essay, test, or quiz, you must schedule a time to make it up in my classroom within one week (email Mrs. Lyons to set up a time). If you do not make the effort to do so, the assignment will be worth "zero" and you will not be able to make it up.

Revision: If a student is unsatisfied with a grade received on a coursework essay, they may revise that paper within the grading period in which it was assigned. Due dates for each revision will be given for each individual revision. This policy excludes late papers.

Arriving Late to School and Assignments

If you are absent from class but are in school, whether it is due to a field trip, athletic event, or just being late for 1st period, all work due that day must be turned in by the end of the school day or it will NOT be accepted. This specifically applies to arriving late to school. If your late arrival is NOT excused, any assignments collected during that period will NOT be worth points.

Class Attendance/Tardiness Guidelines: ([Student Handbook](#))

While Learning in the Building:

1. Be on time to class and be in your assigned seat at the start of class. Beyond three unexcused tardies, the consequence will be a detention. You are to take care of personal needs before entering the room. I will not review any material you missed if you are late.
2. Be prepared for class. This means that you have all your materials with you, including your Chromebook and charging cord. I will supply extension cords if you have a low battery. Being prepared also means you have read any homework assignments and also you have thought about the assignment.



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3. Participate in a positive manner—disrespect shown to the teacher, substitute, or others in the room will not be tolerated.
4. Raise your hand before speaking to avoid chaos (and so all voices can be heard).
5. No cell phones. It is against school policy to have a cell phone in class. Phones are to be placed in bags and left there for class. Any phone found out of a bag (either in or on your desk) will be handed over to Mrs. Lyons for the remainder of the class period. Refusing to hand it over will result in an automatic after school detention. Your parents will be notified if your phone is confiscated more than twice in the school year.
6. Students should wear headphones/earbuds ONLY when instructed to by the teacher.
7. Chromebooks will be used everyday. Upon taking your seat please log on to the Google Classroom. Be a good digital citizen: do not deviate from the prescribed web pages and always keep chat conversation appropriate and relevant to the class topic of the day.
8. Stay awake. If you are so tired that you cannot stay awake for class, I will inform the nurse/call parents or guardians.
9. Objects should be used for their intended purposes.

While Learning at Home:

1. Be logged in to our Google Classroom as well as the Google Chat/Meet and ready to learn at the start of class. Being "late" for class online is the same as being "late" to a real classroom. Any work that you miss during class will *not* count as points unless you have a valid excused absence.
2. Stay actively engaged in Google Chat and all other classroom activities. I will take attendance at random times during the period. Any work collected during class will count towards attendance/participation. I will call on you randomly to answer questions to be sure you are engaged in the lesson.
3. The best way to ask questions or to participate during class is to use the comment box while class is in session. Comments and questions must be classroom appropriate and related to the lesson.
4. Minimize distractions. Being on a cell phone or listening to music while class is in session is not permitted. Being a distraction to others in the class will also result in discipline. Remember, if you wouldn't do it in a regular classroom, don't do it online.

Attendance/Participation

Your participation in activities counts towards your daily attendance. Bell ringers, exit tickets, and short responses will be used at random times to ensure you are actively learning.

Failure to Complete Work Guidelines: ([Student Handbook](#))

Assignments not Submitted on Time

Assignments and related attachments will be posted to Google Classroom; due dates and times will be posted. I will also begin each class period with a Daily Agenda to review what is due and assigned each day. This daily agenda will also be posted to Google Classroom as well as on my teacher website.



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It is your responsibility to check and make sure your pacing will allow you to complete projects on time.

Assignments are due on or before the date and time posted to Classroom.

- If you were present when the assignment was posted and when the assignment was due, but you turned it in "late", you may still get credit for it, but the most that late work will be worth is 92%.
- Late work will be accepted at 92% for 10 school days.
- Late work submitted after ten days, but prior to five days before the end of the quarter will be worth 70% of full credit. After that, it's worth zero points.

Turning in a blank document on Google Classroom will result in the student earning a zero on the assignment and that assignment will not be able to re-do the assignment.

I understand you may sometimes not understand *one or two* questions on a homework assignment. I still expect you to "Submit" your assignment by the time and date I posted to Classroom. At the beginning of the class period, I will give everyone the opportunity to ask questions about the assignment. If you wish to modify *one or two* responses, you may "Unsubmit" the assignment to make corrections and then "re-submit" it. I will randomly check your editing history to ensure you made a genuine effort to complete the majority (98% or more) of the questions on time. If your editing history shows that you had less than 98% of the questions completed at the time it was due and used class time to scramble and get them done, then you will lose points.

- ★ Assignments turned in on time will be graded promptly. Assignments turned in "late" will be graded *any time during that nine weeks*. This may affect your athletic eligibility.
- ★ No late work will be accepted five school days prior to the end of the quarter.

Cheating/Plagiarism Guidelines: ([Student Handbook](#))

Academic Integrity: If a student is found cheating he/she will receive a zero for that assignment and will be subject to disciplinary actions. Cheating includes, but is not limited to the following: copying another student's work, allowing a student to copy his/her work, plagiarizing from a website, not citing the appropriate source, venturing to another website when using the chromebook for an assessment/assignment. (Please see the IHS Plagiarism Contract)

Best Strategies/Preparation for Succeeding in this Class:

Need to Know:



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If anything is affecting your ability to complete your school work, please let me know. Unless you give Guidance permission to share personal information, we do not know if there is something serious happening in your lives. Anything you choose to share with me will be handled in a professional manner.

Exceptionality Adaptations: I have a learning disability so I know what it is like to struggle in school. If there is ever a time that you are struggling please come to me as soon as possible so that accommodations can be made. We will work together to find a common solution that will ease your struggles. Please do not wait until too much damage has been done or until the end of the marking period to ask for help. Remember, your teachers are here to help you.

Other:

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