

# Theatre Syllabi

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Conference Period 1:07-1:57

**Tutorials: Tuesdays and Wednesdays 7:30-7:55**

Course Description: Theatre in the high school is both an academic discipline and a performing art. A study of theatre motivates students to study and develop ideas, insights and values. The primary components of theatre-dialogue-provides a uniquely effective method for studying the communicative functions of human language.

Theatre also provides a unique kind of learning through a vicarious experience known as empathy. Empathy is one of the most effective modes of learning through discovery because it involves students in an exploration of the thoughts and feelings of other people.

Opportunities to participate in both improvisation and formal theatre offer students diverse opportunities for self-expression. These creative experiences must be provided so that high school students will develop the ability to communicate through the art form. Communication raises self-expression in theatre to the level of an art.

## Supplies

- Writing Utensil (blue or black pen or pencil)
- 1 inch Binder
- Other supplies to be announced as needed.

**You will be required to have all of these supplies every period, no exceptions.**

## Expectations

As a student in this class, I expect you to be motivated to learn. I will try to present the material in a way that is understandable and interesting. If it is not, please come talk to me, raise your hand in class, or email me. If you do not understand, there is probably someone else in the classroom who doesn't understand either. **You will be required to perform in front of the class and sometimes guests. We will also be producing an evening public performance.** I understand stage fright and I am willing to work with you. We will discuss your options further into the year.

## Classroom Procedures

### **Before Tardy Bell:**

- Please do not enter my classroom unless I am in the room. **No one should enter the classroom if I am not there.**
- Turn in your cell phone to the cell phone holder. No exceptions or excuses.
- The warm-up will be on the board when you arrive in class. As soon as the bell rings, you should start working. I do not need to ask you to get started. This will be completed in your notebook most of the time. Sometimes you will receive a notecard or a sticky note.

### **During Class:**

- If a student is tardy to class, the student will be marked tardy. Please do not disrupt class to argue your case. We will follow the guidelines from the student handbook. You must be past the silver plate in the doorway in order to not be counted tardy.
- Restroom- Students are not allowed to leave during instruction. When you are working individually is when I might allow a student to go.
- **Classroom participation is extremely important and it will be expected of each student.**
- I expect students to be familiar with and follow the rules outlined in the Brazos High School Student Handbook and Code of Conduct.

### **Class Dismissal:**

- I will release you to get your cell phone from the cell phone holder 3-5 minutes before the bell rings.
- I will release the students from class, not the bell.
- Do not get in my bubble. That means no gathering at the door.

## Consequences for not following daily procedures and school rules

To ensure an environment conducive to success and learning for all students, there will be consequences for disruptive, disrespectful behavior. This process is outlined in the Brazos High School Student Handbook and Code of Conduct. I will do my

best to communicate with parents before referring a student to the office for discipline; however, severe infractions will result in an automatic referral.

### **Grades**

A minimum of two grades per week will be taken per grading period.

No one grade or assignment can count more than 20%.

Performances / projects / participation will be graded based on a rubric that was given with the assignment.

Daily Work: 60%

Major Grades: 40% (at least 2 major grades will be given per grading period)

### **Homework**

Students are expected to meet their due dates on all assignments.

1 day late = 10%, 2 days late = 20%, 3 days late = 30%

These deadlines may be adjusted for special education and 504 students with the extended time accommodation.

### **Retakes**

You may retake a major test (performances) / project / essay / quiz if the grade is a 69 or below. Students will receive the test and an individual progress report simultaneously so the student understands how their grade is affected. All requirements to raise an exam score as given by the teacher must be completed by the student by the end of the grading period. The highest grade a student can earn on the retest is a 70. The student must make an appointment with the teacher to schedule their retest appointment.

### **Cheating**

**Cheating will not be tolerated at any time for any reason.** If a student is caught cheating, they will receive a phone call home and a zero on the assignment. If a student is caught more than once, all previous consequences apply as well as consequences from administration. If you have any questions about cheating, please refer to the Student Code of Conduct Handbook. **These policies will be strictly enforced. This includes the misuse of AI**

### **Attendance / Make – Up Work**

Make every effort to be in class. When you are not here, class will be going on as usual. It is **YOUR** responsibility to pick up your missed work. Work will be posted in Google Classroom on a daily basis. If you need a paper copy of the assignment, please see Mrs. Nolen. **Any missed test or project that was already assigned before the absence is to be made up or turned in the first day you return to school.**

**Illness:** If you are absent due to an illness, please have someone pick up your assignments for the day. According to the student handbook, you have two days to make up assignments after returning from an absence. This applies only to new work assigned during your absence. Any previously assigned work is due the day you return. Keep an eye on Google Classroom for your assignments. They will be posted for your daily. Performances will be scheduled. The show must go on. If you are absent on a scheduled performance day, your group will perform with an alternate. If your group is willing to perform when you get back then you may perform with your group. Otherwise, you will have an alternate assignment as a make up assignment.

**Planned and Extracurricular Absences:** When you know in advance you will be absent or participating in an extracurricular activity, you are expected to request your assignments prior to leaving. **Previously assigned homework is to be turned in before you leave.**

**Telecommunication Devices:** Brazos High School Student Handbook Page 63 of 155

If a student uses a telecommunications device without authorization during the school day, the device will be confiscated.

Consequences are as follows:

1st Offense- If a student uses a telecommunications device without authorization during the school day, the device will be confiscated. The student or parent may pick up the confiscated telecommunications device from the principal's office for a fee of \$15, or the student may wait three days and pick the device up without paying the \$15 fee.

2nd Offense- The device will be confiscated and the will be kept for three days and the student or parent may pick up the device from the principal's office for a fee of \$15, or the student can wait eight days and pick up the device without paying the \$15 fee.

3rd Offense and subsequent- The device will be confiscated and will be kept for six weeks and the student or parent may pick up the device from the principal's office for a fee of \$15, or the student can wait an additional two weeks and pick up the device without paying the \$15 fee.

**Course Structure:** The course will be divided into the following units:

**I. Theatre Games**

*Sensory Awareness, Creative Movement, Mime & Improvisation*

Focus on: imagination, trust, relaxation, concentration, believability, cooperation, voice, acting essentials

**II. Acting**

*Voice, Monologue & Scene Work*

Focus on: character, memorization, voice, movement, rehearsal process, analysis, evaluation & audience etiquette

**III. Musical Theatre**

*History, Choreography, & Appreciation*

Focus on: history, related topics, dance, singing, & performance preparation

**IV. Script Writing**

*Monologues & Scenes*

Focus on: character development, writing skills, creativity, analysis, and acting basics

**V. Design**

*Design Project - Costume*

Focus on: staff, terminology, play analysis, design, drawing, building and history

**VI. In Class Production**

*Performance for Original Play Festival (evening performance)*

Focus on: all elements of production and performance.

**ALL STUDENTS MUST PARTICIPATE IN THE FESTIVAL!**

\* Additional units will be added based on student interest. Past additional units have included: puppets, Shakespeare, stage combat, clowning and makeup design.

## Student/Parent Information Sheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

ID# \_\_\_\_\_

Your Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Your Cell #: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Day #: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Day #: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Email: \_\_\_\_\_

With whom do you live? \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Students:**

I have read and understand the Theatre Arts Syllabus and class guidelines and I understand what is expected of me in this course. I am aware that I will need to attend a performance or rehearsal in the fall and answer questions on that performance or rehearsal. I also understand that I will participate in the 2023 Original Plays Festival with my classmates. I will keep a copy of this syllabus in my notebook and do my best to adhere to the required expectations.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Parents:**

I have read and understand what is required by my child in Theatre Arts this year. I know that my child will need to attend a performance or rehearsal in the fall. I am aware that he/she will participate in a class performance in the spring.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this form within 3 days of enrolling in Theatre Arts**