

**Instructor: K. Thompson**

Dunbar Magnet

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**Intro to Drama I Syllabus**

Welcome to Mrs. Thompson's Drama One class. This sheet can be found in the class folder at all times since it contains important information about the class. Below you will find all the rules of the class and a proposed syllabus of what you can expect us to cover over the course of the year.

The purpose of Drama 1 is to give you a chance to become better performers, theatre scholars and critics. This introductory course is designed to expose students to the process of creating theatre. Students explore acting techniques such as voice projection and movement, dramatic literature, marketing, set design and costumes. The course includes a showcase production that allows students to apply the skills and knowledge obtained throughout the course. This course is general introduction to drama including acting technique, improvisation, characterization, and basic blocking. A Virtual performances will be required throughout the year. Formal performances will count as major assessments. All performances are MANDATORY! This course is designed to enhance theatre appreciation.

**Course Description:** This is an introductory level course that focuses primarily on the performative aspects of theater. Students will participate in the theatrical process through improvisation, mime, and text analysis. Students will engage in theatrical performances of monologues and scenes via Google Meets or Webex. The course will include the critique and evaluation of pre-recorded theatrical performances.

**DAILY SUPPLIES:**

- Theater Notebook/Binder
- Writing Utensil
- Open Mind

**CLASSROOM POLICIES:**

- Students will respect the class environment, the teacher and each other.
- Student will login to class on time. Classes will be recorded for those who need to view them at a later time.
- Students will approach the theater discipline with an open mind and with respect. Rehearsal time and work time will be utilized in class.
- Students will participate in class activities and exercises on a regular basis!

**GRADING**

Categories: Participation, Virtual Projects, Journals, Virtual Performances

**GRADING SCALE**

A= 90-100    B= 80-89    C= 70-79    D= 60-69    F= 0—59

**Major Assessments- 60% of Grade**  
(Virtual Performances, Test)

**Minor Assessments- 40% of Grade**  
(Virtual Activities, bellringers, etc....)

**Grades will be updated weekly. Students will be notified of when major assessments will be given.**

**CLASS PROCEDURES AND EXPECTATIONS RESPECT:**

You are expected to act in a mature and respectful manner towards your classmates and teachers during remote learning. An environment of trust and safety is essential to the success of this class. Have a positive attitude and contribute to a positive learning environment. If you see somebody struggling in class, offer encouragement! Treat others even better than you wish to be treated. Give your full attention to each performance (and give applause **AFTER EVERY PERFORMANCE**). Inappropriate language, including profanity and/or insults, will absolutely not be tolerated—negative behavior and attitude destroys the safe environment. This class requires you to perform with and for your peers. You may find this to be challenging, but don't get discouraged! Take academic and performative chances: participate in class discussions, and raise your hand to volunteer an answer to a question. It is ok to make mistakes; that is how learning happens.

**IF YOU HAVE A QUESTION, ASK IT!**

Directions for the beginning of class can be found in the Unit Folder, make sure to check it every day!

**PROMOTION POLICY:**

“Students’ success in earning credits toward promotion shall be determined by attendance in class as well as by performance on academic assignments. Therefore, students who have unexcused absences in 20% or more of the classes in a particular course during the period for which a unit of credit is earned shall not pass the course and shall receive no credit towards promotion.”

**Class Participation:**

Login to class on time, watch recorded lessons if needed, use classroom time effectively, and contribute to classroom activities and discussions.

**Process Journal:**

Each student is expected to maintain a Notebook/Binder. You should use this as a written record of the development of your artwork as well as your own development as an artist. It should also be used for recording your work. It is the record of your work and provides evidence of your investigations, creations and reflections.

**Virtual Performance**

Virtual theatre is something new and unexpected for everyone—including educational theatre. Given that newness, there is a lot of experimentation going on to figure how to best create meaningful stories that work for actors, playwrights, audience members and everyone else involved in making this magic happen.

**Summative and Formative Assessments:**

These assignments will serve as the capstones of each unit, allowing you to go in depth with the subject matter and express yourself through performance and writing. Summative assessments will be evaluated according to rubrics provided by instructor. Formative are based on group participation and interaction.

Knowing and Understanding, Developing Skills, Thinking Creatively, and Responding. Students will receive Summative Assessment prompts and rubrics well ahead of performance deadlines. Plagiarism is not tolerated. If you plagiarize, you will receive an automatic zero, and your plagiarism will be reported to administration! No exceptions.

**Theatre Hours:**

Drama is a collaborative art. As such, it is essential that all theatre students contribute to Dunbar’s virtual dramatic productions. Every Dunbar Drama student is required to perform during their assigned Showcase program. Performances are considered test grades and alternative assignments are at the discretion of the instructor.

**We will be following the MCPSS pacing guide. All dates and events will be posted with each assignment given and should be viewed in the calendar tab.**

**All grades will fall under two categories this year: 60% major grade and 40% minor grade. Each student will be given one 40% grade each week and one major grade every three weeks.**

**Students will be counted absent if they do not log onto Schoology each day of the school week. If a student logs onto Schoology and interacts with my class, they are counted present that day. If they do not interact with my class from 12 a.m.-12 a.m. on any given day, you are counted absent for that day.**

Read and sign below:

**I understand that there is a fee of \$35.00 (t-shirt included) for Drama 1 this year. Due to Covid-19 and Remote Learning, t-shirt order and distribution will be held once we return to in- person learning.** I understand that theatre requires self-costuming for some assigned roles. I understand that behavior inside and outside the classroom is an important factor of being in an Arts Classroom therefore, any behavior that demonstrates a lack of honesty, integrity and commitment (bullying, inability to get along with others, other disruptive behaviors, etc.) will be grounds for dismissal from both performances and the class.

**I have read and understand the course syllabus.**

Student signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_