

Name _____

Date _____

Block _____

Course: Advanced Theatre - Technical

Book: *Technical Theater for Nontechnical People*

Teacher: Mr. Butcher

Email: m butcher@spsmail.org

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Advanced Theatre - Technical is an advanced study of drama where students will participate in the areas of directing, scene design, light design, and make-up design. Students will be involved in the production of a musical play. The class is production oriented. Third year drama students are expected to take on a leadership role and have added responsibilities in addition to the public performance activities.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of the course, the student will:

- *Develop and apply skills to communicate ideas through theatrical performances.
- *Select and apply theatrical elements to communicate ideas through the creation of theatre.
- *Develop and apply skills to explain perceptions about and evaluations of theatre and theatrical performance.
- *Develop and apply skills necessary to make connections between theatre and other non-arts disciplines.
- *Develop and apply skills necessary to understand cultural diversity and heritage as they relate to theatre.

COURSE OVERVIEW

The following tasks and materials will be covered with allowances made for the factor of time:

I. Play Production

- A. Make-up
- B. Costume
- C. Construction
- D. Lighting
- E. Sound
- F. Personnel

II. Play Analysis

- A. Dramatic criticism
- B. Theatre criteria
- C. Plot, structure, theme, and mood
- D. Play attendance
- E. Play reading and presentation

GRADING

If a student fails to complete a task or fulfill responsibilities satisfactorily and on time, the assigned point values will be lost.

Quality and effort will be significant contributors for establishing whether a student has fulfilled his/her responsibilities to the fullest. When a student is absent from class for any reason other than a school related activity, he/she will lose participation points.

Students in Drama II/III/IV Technical are required to participate in the Fall Production. Because of the performances, there will be required student attendance after school and on weekends. If a student is unable to fulfill his/her responsibilities in these areas, the student is encouraged to drop this course. In the case of an unexpected crisis, alternative assignments will be given that can be done on the student's own time.

Each student will compile a technical portfolio for their responsibilities that they are assigned.

Students will serve as the directors and staff for the middle school production.

Students must participate in the ad campaign for the fall production.

Students are expected to use complete sentences, proper grammar, and correct spelling in every written performance.

GRADING

Grades for the course are weighted and will be determined by assessment in the following areas:

- 1. Projects (assigned performances, additional tech hours after school, and rehearsals) will equal 40% (35% during 2nd quarter) of a student's overall grade (the students will turn in a portfolio of their individual work by December 12 to validate their accomplishments).**
- 2. Daily Work (work done in class on a daily basis) will equal 40% (35% during 2nd quarter) of the student's grade. Must be in attendance and participating without being disruptive to earn these points. Quality and effort will be significant contributors for establishing a grade. Students will only earn participation points when they are in class participating in the daily activities.**
- 3. Quizzes will equal 20% of the overall grade.**
- 3. Final Exam (2nd quarter only) will equal 10% of a student's grade.**
- 4. Students may attend local play productions for extra-credit points. (2 points each*)**

***No other extra-credit opportunities will be provided in this course.**

The following percentages will be used to determine a student's grade:

A	93-100	C	73-76
A-	90-92	C-	70-72
B+	87-89	D+	67-69
B	83-86	D	63-66
B-	80-82	D-	60-62
C+	77-79	F	0-59

MID-QUARTER GRADE CHECKS

(Note to Parents/guardians - Please ask your student for these.)

Grade checks will be sent home approximately every third week of each quarter to inform parents/guardians of their student's progress. Students and their parents/guardians should review and sign the grade check. Each student is responsible for returning the signed grade check to class.

ASSIGNMENTS AND PROJECTS

In this class students will participate in the fall production; I will make the final decision as to who will fulfill specific responsibilities. This whole process is somewhat competitive as is the real world and the world of theatre. Informal interviews may be conducted to determine who is best for a position. I will do my best to assign the best people for each position throughout the course. To some extent, everyone will be involved in the fall production and planning for future productions, but the level and type of involvement will vary. If this type of management is upsetting to you, you should probably look into taking another course.

REQUIRED OUTSIDE OF CLASS TIME

Students are required to work a total of **40 hours** (on the fall musical production) after school on tech days; usually there are about 16 available hours a week that a student could work. As an example to show that this is not overwhelming, **this would be approximately 4 hours per week**. When a student reports to work, they should login on the computer. When a student leaves they should logout on the computer. If a student fails to login or logout, the hours that they worked will not count. **Performance dates do not count toward these 40 hours. In addition to the 40 work hours, students are required to attend all assigned rehearsals involving tech and their specific jobs and all performances. 20 of the 40 hours must be accumulated by the end of the 1st quarter to earn full credit for the 1st quarter grade in the class.**

In addition to the fall musical, students in Drama II Technical will assist with the middle school production. Students are expected to accumulate **10 hours** in assistance outside of class time **prior to the end of 2nd Quarter**. Performance dates do not count toward these 10 hours. Those assigned directing and management positions are expected to fulfill all production responsibilities following the end of the quarter. The 10 hours **must be logged and recorded** the same as the 40 hours for the fall production.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Homework - The student should expect to have activity homework from this class in addition to production work, and rehearsals. **This includes quizzes, a technical portfolio for the fall musical, and following, maintaining, and turning in your completed notebook for your specific responsibilities for each production.**

Final - The final will be a significant part of the student's grade. The final exam will be 10% of the student's grade. The final will be given during the final exam time at the end of the course in accordance with the school district policy.

Late Work - Late work is not acceptable. We will function as a real production team with real deadlines. In the case of an excused absence, alternative assignments will be given that can be done on the student's own time.

In addition the following stipulations are made and every student is expected to abide by them:

1. Students are expected to treat other students and the teacher with respect.
2. The student is expected to get in his/her seat after the bell rings.
3. Students should not use profanity, obscene language, or obscene gestures.
4. Students are not to make remarks deemed suggestive or crude by the teacher.
5. Make-up Work - Students are responsible for obtaining and completing make-up work. Assignments given to the student prior to their absence must be turned in or completed the DAY THE STUDENT RETURNS TO CLASS.
6. Students may have snacks and beverages that have been purchased from the machines at Kickapoo. However, the only area where food and drinks will be allowed is in the classroom, not the shop, dressing rooms, or any area within the theater house. To maintain this opportunity, students must properly and courteously clean up all trash, soda cans, and wrappers. Students who make messes or who cause classroom disruptions with snacks or beverages (i.e. passing drinks or snacks around to others, loudly crumpling a soda can or tossing trash during class) will lose the privilege to have snacks or beverages during class.
7. Passes are a disruption to the learning process. Permission must be obtained from the teacher if the student needs to leave the classroom for any reason. The teacher will determine if the reason is valid. The teacher will also determine if a student leaves class when requested by a pass from the office or another teacher.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

The rules in all Springfield Public Schools regarding electronic devices read as follows:

"The possession of laser pointers and other unsafe electronic items are prohibited in the school building. All other electronic devices, such as, but not limited to, cell phones, pagers, PDA's, head phones, IPODs/MP3 players may be in the student's possession as long as they are not disruptive of the educational process or in violation of site use procedures. The school district will not be responsible for lost or stolen items."

Cellular Phones

Students are not allowed to use or display cell phones during the class time. If they choose to disregard this rule, they will be disciplined according to site scope and sequence.

If a parent has a need to reach a student during the school day, he or she should call the office and we will make every attempt to deliver the message. If parents have a need to call on a student's cell phone to leave a message during the day they are free to do so. However, students cannot check for messages during class time.

If a student is in class or in the hallway during class time and remembers that the cell phone is turned on, the student should approach the teacher and ask permission from the teacher to turn it off. Providing the student has followed the appropriate procedure, the teacher should allow the student to turn off the phone without penalty.

If a student forgets to turn off a cell phone and it rings or vibrates during class, the student should ask the teacher's permission to turn it off. The student may also be subject to the teacher's classroom discipline procedures.

ACADEMIC HONESTY STATEMENT

Academic honesty is expected in all classes at KHS. Cheating will not be tolerated. Violations of academic honesty include, but are not limited to, copying, allowing someone to copy your paper, using cheat sheets, using technology to transmit or receive information with the intent to commit academic dishonesty, not grading correctly, plagiarizing, and self plagiarizing.

Plagiarism is the theft of ideas, writings, or words of another person and passing this information off as one's own. Self plagiarism is completing an original paper for one class assignment, then turning in that same paper to another teacher for another class assignment without permission.

Papers may be checked by the teacher using plagiarism detection software. Any student cheating will be subject to academic and/or disciplinary penalties. Consequences may include: reduction in grade on assignment, repeat assignment, no grade (zero) on assignment or others as deemed appropriate. Academic dishonesty will be reported to a school counselor and a parent will be notified.

Chief Time (student intervention/privilege time) will take place for 30 minutes one time a week during this class: 1st block on Thursday; 2nd block on Wednesday, 3rd block on Tuesday and 4th block on Monday. Students who have earned privileges will be allowed to travel for those 30 minutes UNLESS the class is during 3rd block. All students may travel to the library, academic lab, or another teacher for assistance IF they have obtained a pass previous to the start of class. Students will be expected to either work on school work or read during the designated 30 minutes of Chief Time.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

1. Truancy - an elective absence which was not approved in advance by parents or by school officials. Work missed because of a truancy may be completed for credit. Truancy is a violation of state statutes as well as school regulations and may result in suspension or other disciplinary action.
2. Suspension - an absence required by school authorities as disciplinary action for inappropriate student behavior. Work missed because of a suspension may be completed for credit. Students will not be excluded from final examinations because of suspensions. Special arrangements may be necessary.
3. School Activities - students represent their schools in a variety of athletic and academic activities. When a student serves as an authorized representative of his/her school, the student is not considered absent. Students who choose to participate in extra-curricular activities resulting in classes missed are to make up all assignments missed.
4. All other absences - all absences, including those approved in advance by parents or school officials, except those for school sponsored activities, will count against a student's days absent. The student should be careful in the use of absences because excessive absences may affect a student's class participation grade.
5. Make-up Work - Students are responsible for obtaining and completing make-up work. Work missed must be made up the DAY THE STUDENT RETURNS TO CLASS.

6. Class Participation - the semester grade in this class is greatly determined by class participation. Class participation in Drama II includes such factors as attendance, punctuality, student preparation and contributions to the class learning environment and a cooperative attitude. There are some assignments that cannot be made up as they are performance oriented, or are assigned and completed within one class period of time. Students who miss such assignments will need to investigate possible extra credit to fill in those points missed.

TARDY POLICY

Students should find their seats at the conclusion of the tardy bell and remain in their seats during the taking of attendance. A student that is tardy to class will lose half of their daily participation points for that day. What constitutes a tardy to class is the same as the school-wide policy. In order to be present, a student must be in the classroom before the last tardy bell rings. **This policy will be strictly enforced.**

ATTENDANCE INCENTIVES

100% Attendance – If a student has 100% attendance in a class for the entire term, 10% will be added to his/her final exam grade

95-99% Attendance – If a student has 95-99% attendance in a class for the entire term, 5% will be added to his/her final exam grade

Eighth semester seniors may opt out of any final if they have an “A” or “A-“ in the course prior to the final examinations.

INTERNATIONAL THESPIANS

International Thespians is an honorary group of students who have exemplified themselves to be worthy of the title of THESPIAN. Students chosen to be Thespians are the leaders of the department and help administer the theatre season. Students gain entrance to this international society through work on productions and by competition in acting festivals. Students must be members of DRAMA CLUB. After a student has acquired 10 points through 100 hours of excellent work, the student will be invited for initiateship. After the student works through the initiation process, then Thespian status is awarded at the end of the year. Thespians have a variety of social and theatre activities apart from those offered by the Drama Club.

SEALS OF EXCELLENCE

Seals of Excellence are awarded to those Seniors who meet the following criteria:

1. have a 4.0 grade point average in drama
2. have completed at least Drama I and II
3. have participated in at least 3 theatre productions
4. is a member in good standing in Thespians

VIDEOS

It is Board Policy that “instructional materials are to enrich and support the curriculum.”

The policy further states:

“If a video with a rating of PG or PG-13 is used, parents will be notified and asked to provide permission in order for their child to view the video.”

With this in mind I am providing you with a list of videos that I may use in Drama.
I assure you that any of these videos that I use are in support of the course's curriculum.

The Actor's Studio

Camelot

Cats

Chicago

The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)

Cyrano De Bergerac

Death of a Salesman

The Good Doctor

Hamlet

Into the Woods

Jekyll & Hyde

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

Kiss Me, Kate

Les Miserables

The Little Mermaid (Stage and Disney Versions)

Man of La Mancha

The Man Who Came to Dinner

Much Ado About Nothing

Oklahoma!

Our Town

Pippin

The Pirates of Penzance

Sunday in the Park with George

Sweeney Todd (Stage Version)

Taming of the Shrew

Tarzan (Stage and Disney Versions)

Victor Victoria

Whose Line is it Anyway

Student's Name _____
(Please Print)

AGREEMENT OF TERMS OF SYLLABUS

I have read and understood the policies and principles set forth in the attached syllabus for the Advanced Theatre - Technical class. I agree to follow the directions set forth as they guide my participation in this class.

Student's Signature

Parent's Signature

Date _____

Date _____

To better facilitate communication between us, could you please supply me with the following information:

Your Name(s)

Relationship to Student

Address

Home Phone

Work Phone

Cell Phone

E-mail

VIDEO PERMISSION

I give my child permission to view any of the videos listed in Mr. Butcher's class syllabus.

____ Yes ____ No