

Advanced Drama Syllabus 2011-20012

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I. Course Description

Students will write a scripted play their spring production. They will perform a character analysis, determine necessary props and work on stage blocking for the play. Students will create stage setting and paint necessary backdrops. They will participate in the marketing of their play and create the program cover. They will hone acting and speaking skills as well and work on a final project.

II. Course Objectives

Students will learn components of a well-written script.
Student will become confident acting in front of an authentic audience.
Student will understand how to create a believable character.
Student will develop concentration and observation skills necessary for line memorization and acting on stage.

III. Assessments

Student's grade will be determined as follows:

Minor Assignments 50% (includes daily work, skits, program cover)
Major Assignments 50% (script writing, character analysis, performance)

IV. Grading Scale

93—100 A
85—92 B
77—84 C
70—76 D
69 and below F

V. Class Text Book

Theatre Arts: Dynamics of Acting, Dennis Caltagirone, National Textbook Co., 1997.

VI. Rules for Student Behavior

Respect others
Participate fully in class
Pay attention and follow directions
No food, drinks or gum in class
All other school rules are outlined in RMS handbook

VII. Consequences for Violating Rules

- 1st offense—Verbal warning
- 2nd offense—Phone call or email to parents
- 3rd offense—Teacher detention
- 4th offense—Teacher detention
- 5th offense—Disciplinary referral

VIII. Student Procedures

Student must come to class with Drama Folder (pocket folder), paper and pencil.

Student must be on time to class.

Student must participate fully in all assignments, activities and assessments.

IX. Communicating with Parents

Teacher will communicate with parents by email, phone, or letter.

Student will receive progress reports and report cards.

Parent will be notified if significant drop in average.

Parents can contact me at 355-7946 or hkurtz@greenville.k12.sc.us

X. Units of Instruction

Introduction to an Audience—Getting comfortable in front of people

Understanding the Power of Observation—Seeing objects in a new light and learning to use imagination

Stage Directions and Terms—Knowing where to go on stage and terms frequently used on stage

Script Writing— an idea for their play, developing a storyline and then writing a script that will work for their class

Blocking—Working on entrances, exits, placement and movement on stage as dictated by the script

Voice and Diction—Using pace, clarity, breathing techniques to improve projection

Warm-ups—Exercises specifically created to loosen up the body and voice for stage—creating a student who is balanced, calm and focused

Character Analysis—Creating their character for the play, understanding their background

Acting—Setting the scene, getting on stage, use of blocking, vocal acting, memorization, and use of characterization

Costuming—Creating the costume their character will wear

Critiquing—Learning to observe and give positive and constructive feedback on performances

Set Design—Creating a small scale set for a current play or musical

*Syllabus subject to change.